

Together Collective

England & Wales · Charity number 1083390

Details

Other names	BRIGHTON AND HOVE IMPETUS, BRIGHTON AND HOVE COMMUNITY IMPETUS, BRIGHTON AND HOVE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE, BRIGHTON AND HOVE COMMUNITY INITIATIVES, Together Co
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	03895574
Registered	2000-11-13
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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Projects
The Lanes
Nile House
Nile Street
Brighton

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Website www.togetherco.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY IN BRIGHTON AND HOVE AND THE COUNTIES OF EAST SUSSEX AND WEST SUSSEX, AND IN PARTICULAR THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION, THE FURTHERANCE OF HEALTH AND THE RELIEF OF POVERTY, DISTRESS AND SICKNESS.

Activities: We are a loneliness charity that creates connections to change lives. We do this through award winning befriending, social prescribing and a range of volunteering programmes. We help people increase independence, confidence & wellbeing.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, Economic/community Development/employment, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** BRIGHTON AND HOVE
- Brighton And Hove
- East Sussex
- West Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£738,963	£754,961	£211,939	18
2024-03-31	£885,957	£831,437	£227,937	20
2023-03-31	£746,462	£775,906	£173,417	22
2022-03-31	£769,148	£798,255	£202,861	27
2021-03-31	£896,696	£837,523	£231,968	30

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alexander James Tindal		2022-11-30
Anne Belinda Grant		2023-02-22
Anthony Charles Sutton		2025-12-04
Clare Helen Cole		2025-12-04
Dr Christopher David Odedun		2025-12-04
Emma-Louise Naef		2022-11-30
Jennifer Brooks		2025-12-04
Jonathan Hyman		2017-02-10
Natalie Orringe		2016-03-08
Stephanie Joy Hubbard		2025-12-04
Vivienne Judith Benson		2023-02-22

Together Collective

England & Wales - Charity number 1083390

Accounts

Charity registration number 1083390 (England and Wales)

Company registration number 03895574

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Natalie Orringe Jonathan Hyman Ruth Bradley Emma-Louise Naef Alexander Tindal Gemma Baldwin Vivienne Benson Anne Grant
Secretary	April Baker
Chief Executive Officer	April Baker
Charity number (England and Wales)	1083390
Company number	03895574
Registered office	Projects The Lanes Nile House Nile Street Brighton BN1 1HW
Independent examiner	Michelle Westbury FCCA West & Berry Limited Nile House Nile Street Brighton BN1 1HW
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 28 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ Co-Operative Bank plc 164-165 Western Road Brighton East Sussex BN1 2BB

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)".

Objectives and activities

Together Collective, operating as Together Co, is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The company was incorporated in December 1999 and is governed by its Articles of Association.

The objects of the charity are to promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community in Brighton and Hove and the counties of East Sussex and West Sussex, and in particular the advancement of education, the furtherance of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

We do this through our befriending, social prescribing and volunteering services and by sharing our ideas and expertise locally and nationally. We believe that no one should be lonely or socially isolated. Together, we can make sure no one is.

We operate by providing services that are designed based on insight into what is needed and will have greatest impact. Our services include:

- **Befriending:** one-to-one and group-based support to reduce isolation.
- **Social Prescribing:** linking individuals to services, groups and activities that boost wellbeing.
- **Connection Hub:** a single point of access to help people find tailored navigation and support.
- **Volunteer-led Programmes:** including our Connection by Letter and Connector schemes that are flexible, inclusive and community-based.
- **Advocacy and Influence:** campaigning to raise awareness of social health using research, policy outreach, and partnerships.

The ages of the people we support range from 18 - 104, and 99% of the people supported by Together Co reported a positive change in at least one area of their lives, while 73% said their sense of wellbeing improved.

In 2024/25 we continued to deliver critical services to people living in the city, using our core delivery of befriending and social prescribing to reach people, including those living in some of the most deprived communities. This included emotional support and practical assistance, which contributed to a better quality of life.

Public benefit

During 2024/25, Together Co delivered services that prevented and alleviated loneliness and social isolation and wellbeing. We continued to adapt the delivery of our services to test and pilot new ways of engaging with our community and were able to respond with flexibility to the changing needs of those accessing our services.

Our programmes continued to retain focus on the needs of those we support, and services were provided free of charge. The people we support expressed high levels of satisfaction and appreciated the personal connections with volunteers and the positive impact our services had on their lives.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

Connection Hub

In response to increasing demand and direct feedback from people using our services, we developed the Connection Hub to offer a more responsive and efficient way of managing referrals and enquiries. Staffed by two experienced link workers, the Hub acts as the front door to Together Co's services, providing skilled triage for all incoming referrals. This enables us to deliver immediate, person-centred support, make timely decisions about signposting or onward referrals, and serves as a key point of contact for professionals seeking information, guidance, or collaborative input.

The Hub handles a range of functions, including:

- Managing all incoming enquiries and referrals
- Assessing each referral through initial conversations to explore needs and preferences
- Providing one-off support and signposting where ongoing involvement is not required

In December 2024, the Connection Hub expanded its remit by taking over the UOK Central Access Point, strengthening its role within the city's broader support landscape. This includes:

- Providing information about UOK services
- Considering other appropriate resources or services available locally for people seeking mental health support
- Making direct referrals to UOK partners, streamlining access and improving continuity of care

In 2024/25 the Connection Hub provided one-off signposting support to 450 people.

The development and success of the Connection Hub demonstrates our commitment to innovation, collaboration, and ensuring that people receive the support they need as quickly and effectively as possible.

Together Co Social Prescribing

Social prescribing (SP) helps people find the places and people they need to be happier and healthier. Skilled link workers at Together Co help the people we support to navigate local services and identify activities that could benefit them.

"[The link worker] was amazing and took so much trouble to help. I've gotten involved in some of the activities and I'm now very busy." – SP Client

Link workers take time to understand people's needs, identify priorities, address barriers to action and agree goals. Social prescribing takes a holistic approach, recognising social, emotional and physical health needs. It increases people's connection with their local area and communities.

"[The link worker] was so supportive and really went out of her way to help. I felt she really heard me and sent easy to understand resources that were very useful. She was very friendly and I am extremely grateful." - SP Client

Community Social Prescribing

In 2024/25, we remodelled some aspects of our service design and delivery, and we further developed our Community Social Prescribing (SP) offer to reach more people in targeted neighbourhoods. Outreach work in the second half of the year allowed us to provide SP to more people who may not otherwise have been linked with us in different spaces in their local community. The team provided SP at foodbanks, community centres, community markets, sheltered housing, community libraries, lunch clubs, churches and family hubs. Much of our health and wellbeing is determined and shaped outside of health care settings, our Community SP provision therefore supports 'health outside of health' and prevention. Being available in the places people are already visiting helps to reduce barriers to access and allows us to provide support at pivotal points.

"Thank you so much. I have made the phone calls and we feel like we now have a plan at least." – SP client following outreach support at a foodbank

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Number of outreach/community events that SP was on offer - 62

Number of referrals and on-the-spot support at outreach events - 135 with conversations held with many more people, helping to build relationships and encourage additional referrals in the future.

Integrated Community Teams

Our Community SP team aligned to support the delivery of the Integrated Community Teams (ICT) approach in Brighton & Hove, with our link workers assigned to each of the three neighbourhood areas. Together Co has been part of the three ICT area leadership groups and nominated link workers have been regular attendees at the neighbourhood health forums, sharing insight and identifying opportunities for joined up working. The SP team continued to develop professional and community links for collaboration and to explore future outreach opportunities – especially where SP need or gaps in SP provision were highlighted. We began a Test & Change pilot, working with Deans & Central Brighton PCN, Trust for Developing Communities (TDC) and Adult Social Care, to look at how the experience and outcomes of care home residents can be improved through joint working and the provision of SP.

Community SP referrals we received from each ICT area:

Central - 86

East - 162

West - 115

Out of area - 15 (one-off signposting is provided wherever possible)

Unknown - 55 (usually because of quick intervention at an event as asking for a postcode is not appropriate)

City provision for Social Prescribing

City-wide referral routes into our Connection Hub meant SP referrals were received from organisations and professionals including adult social care, housing, hospital teams, substance misuse services, healthy lifestyles team and other Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations. This ensured that people did not need to visit their GP for SP support and could be linked at any time. It also meant that any adult, aged 18 and over in the city could self-refer for SP support. In 2024/25, 251 people self-referred into our SP service.

We continued to develop our pathway and joint working with adult social care. Our link workers attended the Inclusive Job Fair and a MSK Appointment Day, to provide on-the-spot SP to people attending. Our Community SP team worked with the University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust to design a pilot for the provision of social prescribing to patients awaiting surgery – with the aim of improving their health and wellbeing by addressing the social and everyday factors that influence it, for example, housing, activity levels, emotional support and lifestyle factors. This pilot is continuing into 2025/26.

As part of our Ukraine support partnership, we established a link worker-led weekly drop-in at the Jubilee Library, Brighton, working with Sussex Interpreting Services (SIS) to provide a consistent space for Ukrainians to come and get support and information (following the end of the council's Community Hub sessions).

We continued to work in partnership with Deans & Central Brighton Primary Care Network (PCN), providing their patients with SP support via our Connection Hub and PCN link worker. We further embedded SP by having our PCN link worker work within the GP practices on a regular basis. Working collaboratively with both our Community and PCN link workers we have supported the PCN's outreach activity, helping them to reach their patients in different settings and offering support within the community.

Expanding volunteering and the wider SP 'workforce'

We have dedicated time and link worker expertise to developing our SP volunteering capacity, taking on three new volunteers to support new SP delivery models and the increasing levels of need we are seeing.

We trained a new cohort of SP Champions, who in their volunteering roles across the city are able to offer brief interventions as well as promote and refer people in their communities into social prescribing.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Supporting the city's Social Prescribing infrastructure

We brought together social prescribers from across the city through the Social Prescribing Provider Network meetings for all social prescribers in the city. These in-person sessions brought organisations together to talk about their SP work, to share learning and receive updates on key developments in the city, including on ICTs and the development of community mental health teams. The network offers continuous professional development (CPD) opportunities for social prescribers, aligning with requirements set out in the NHS Workforce Development Framework. We hosted a session from Switchboard's Trans, Non-binary, Intersex link worker aimed at increasing knowledge and awareness of supporting LGBTQ and TNBI people.

SP Plus

Together Co continued to lead a partnership of five local VCSE organisations to deliver social prescribing support, with a shared aim of tackling health inequalities and improving access across the city.

Friends, Families & Travellers (FFT) provides SP through active outreach to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. Brighton & Hove LGBT Switchboard (Switchboard) delivers SP specifically for trans, non-binary and intersex people. Sussex Interpreting Services (SIS) supports people with language needs through its Bilingual Community Navigators and volunteer-led triage service. Trust for Developing Communities (TDC) offers SP for ethnically diverse communities. Together Co's SP Plus team focuses on referrals involving complex needs and supports residents living in areas of deprivation.

Each organisation draws on its specialist knowledge and trusted community relationships to understand unmet needs and provide culturally sensitive SP, overcoming barriers such as language and identity through lived experience and established local connections.

In 2024/25, there were 394 referrals into SP Plus (an average 33 per month).

On average, SP Plus supported 64 people every month (the average in 2023/24 was 59 supported per month), highlighting the important role that this partnership continues to have in addressing local health priorities.

Social Prescribing Impact

Referrals and Service Activity

In 2024/25, Together Co Social Prescribing and SP Plus partner services received a total of 1,180 referrals, leading to the delivery of 2,867 sessions, supporting 1,276 people. In addition, the introduction of our Connection Hub has streamlined our response, enabled one-off support and signposted at first contact for those not needing ongoing involvement.

Our link workers made an impressive 4,358 onward referrals to at least 472 different agencies, reflecting the breadth of our partnerships and the complexity of need we respond to.

Demand for Our Services

Throughout 2024/25, we experienced a mixed picture in referral trends:

- Community Social Prescribing saw a 13% increase in referrals, demonstrating growing demand and awareness of our offer in this area.
- SP Plus partners, including FFT, SIS, Switchboard, and TDC, received 288 new referrals, a modest decrease of 2% on the previous year.
- Deans & Central PCN referrals were down by 7%, however, the number of people supported in this area increased significantly by 50%, from 243 to 365.

We seek feedback from the people we support through evaluation calls, an opportunity for us to listen, adapt and improve our services. It also gives us a chance to assess progress and any remaining support that is needed. On average, the people we support rated the usefulness of the SP service as 4.4 out of 5.

They also reported very positive outcomes following social prescribing support from Together Co and SP Plus partner services:

99.1% reported a positive change in at least one area of their lives

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

60% said their satisfaction with the amount they socialise had improved

62% said they were more able to access local activities

92% felt better informed about what was available to them

69% said they had more of the support they needed than before

60% felt they needed less support to cope with issues than before

73% reported improved wellbeing

Targeted Outreach and Insight Development

We continue to assess the reach of our Social Prescribing (SP) services, with a focus on areas experiencing the highest levels of deprivation, including the city's 29 CORE20 areas, a focus on the 20% of the population in the lowest deprivation quintile. To support this, we have developed improved reporting systems that monitor SP activity and outcomes across Brighton & Hove. This data-led approach enables us to identify under-represented neighbourhoods and direct our outreach and collaboration efforts to reduce health inequalities.

In 2024–25:

- We received referrals from 27 out of 29 CORE20 areas, indicating strong coverage across priority locations.
- 330 referrals (28% of the total) were for people living in CORE20 areas.
- 57 referrals (5%) were for people with no fixed address.

We are actively reviewing referral trends on a quarterly basis to identify areas where referral numbers are lower than expected. This helps us understand where additional outreach may be needed and ensures we are responsive to gaps in access and provision.

Throughout the year, we have worked closely with our SP Plus partners to build a co-ordinated and comprehensive picture of service impact. These insights are shaping targeted outreach efforts and helping to ensure that support reaches those who need it most.

Together Co Befriending

Our Befriending service has gone from strength-to-strength over the past year, offering more people more ways to connect than ever before. In 2024/25, we supported 579 people through befriending services, including in-person, telephone, and group befriending. We are also connecting people through short-term connector matches and letter writing matches, and we have seen more of our befrienders using technology, for example WhatsApp to enable video calling, with their matches.

“M has said the calls help her and make her laugh.” - Together Co volunteer

Our three befriending groups offered a range of outreach activities, advice and information across the year, including Brighton & Hove Energy Services Co-op advice, Rise Life seated sports and Citizens Advice outreach. The drop-in group at the Fitzherbert Hub in Kemp Town is now two years old and has seen its average attendance steadily grow, despite the absence of dedicated transportation, as it is ideally placed in the heart of the community and near to public transport.

Our regular, in-person volunteer induction training has enabled a steady stream of befriending matches to continue across the year, and we continually receive wonderful feedback as new bonds are created.

“I feel that R so looks forward to my visits. As she opens the door she's beaming which is a delight to see. A lovely lady.” - Together Co volunteer

Volunteers are matched carefully with people on shared interests, location and availability, and this meticulous approach ensures the best possible connections and provides personalised support throughout the process, fostering relationships that truly make a difference.

Many volunteers report an improvement in the mood of the person they are matched with after their time together.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

“Every time I meet D he seems to become more and more confident with less anxiety. We laugh together and I feel we have a really great bond together.” - Together Co volunteer

Physical health can also benefit as people experience increased confidence in going out in the company of their befriending volunteer. This can enable a wider range of experiences such as group attendance or being able to access public transport.

Some of the many ways in which befrienders have helped over the last year include booking GP appointments for their match, noticing a general decline in their health and wellbeing leading to referrals to other NHS and adult social care departments, passing on concerns with paying fuel and household bills so they can receive help, and raising concerns about falls prevention.

Together Co Connector Project

The Connector Project helps the people we support to build connections with people and places in their community to improve their social health, giving people confidence and practical support with tasks and goals, including one-off support, so they can feel part of the community.

“I feel a lot more confident since having F’s help. Having someone to meet made me feel thought about, especially because I was waiting to hear from my GP about some medical issues.” - person supported by Together Co

Each match is tailored to the needs of the scheme member, with a volunteer supporting them for up to six weeks. Goals are varied, from joining local groups and activities, to building confidence with local transport.

“F was absolutely lovely. She was instrumental in getting me to the group.” - person supported by Together Co

The project offers volunteers flexibility, with people able to offer their time and then take a break. The role can also be a great stepping stone to more regular volunteering.

In 2024/25, 41 people were involved in the Connector Project, 27 Connector matches were made, and 192 sessions were delivered.

Connection by Letter Project

The aim of the project is to create connections and reduce loneliness and isolation by creating meaningful connections through the art of letter writing.

We started a six-month pilot in June 2024 in association with Best of British Events. The pilot was a big success with lots of lovely feedback.

“Personally, I think its invaluable especially with these unprecedented times (lockdown, etc). I'd never heard about it before but used to write letters to a friend in the Army and whilst I was at boarding school, but didn't have a reason to do it in later life. It's great for me right now because I can't get out and meet people due to my health and disabilities.”

In 2024/25, the Connection by Letter project made 39 matches between 76 people. People are matched based on hobbies and interests and many of the matches are intergenerational.

“It’s good to look forward to the next letter. Getting to know and make another friend.”

“It’s great to hear things from the perspective of a young person.” -intergenerational match

“I feel very connected to others. I am connecting with someone I wouldn't normally speak to, and I think there is something really incredible about that.”

Together Co Partnerships

Throughout 2024/25, collaboration and partnership working has remained central to Together Co’s work and continued to provide wonderful opportunities.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

We have grown our corporate partnerships and welcomed volunteers from Levis, Sussex Innovation, Nestle and Moda Homes. Our Winter Warmer in December 2024 saw corporate support and engagement from local organisations including Silverstone Communications, Brighton Palace Pier. Legal and General took on a headline role and we welcomed more than 40 corporate volunteers on the day. Volunteers benefited from opportunities to connect and engage with the people we support and were able to play a key role in making the Winter Warmer a day of enjoyment and warmth. The Winter Warmer also gave Together Co an opportunity to celebrate befriending and connection across Brighton & Hove. It was wonderful to be able to welcome volunteers from SIS, Lunch Positive and Time to Talk Befriending, and some of the people they support.

As well as corporate partnerships we have continued to work closely with the University of Brighton, providing placement opportunities for students and supporting the university's Wellbeing Week in 2024 and Student Volunteering Week 2025. Volunteering with Together Co provides students with the opportunity to develop vital skills and gain experience, helping connect them to their communities and wider networks across Brighton & Hove.

The Ageing Well Partnership and Brighton & Hove City Council Befriending Links Partnership saw Together Co collaborate with and work alongside several local organisations. Partner meetings have provided opportunities to share best practice, learn from one another and enhance our offer to support local people.

One of Together Co's key partners in the Ageing Well Partnership is Time to Talk Befriending. We continue to work together across the city to offer befriending services.

Together Co Volunteering

Together Co's community of volunteers provided immense support in 2024/25. Their kindness, commitment and dedication remained vital to our mission and without them Together Co would not achieve its goals.

In 2024/25, volunteers gave 13,415 hours of support. We were incredibly lucky to welcome 94 new regular volunteers and 75 corporate volunteers to our community. We continue to welcome volunteers from all backgrounds including students, working professionals, parents and carers, and retirees.

"It's been incredibly rewarding to witness someone grow in independence and access spaces they previously felt unable to without support. Thanks for existing and creating these opportunities for meaningful connections." - Together Co volunteer

Many volunteers have said their reasons for joining us include their own experiences of loneliness and the desire for more connection. We believe it is important to create a community for our volunteers and provide various opportunities for connection and support. In 2024/25, we hosted socials and events as an opportunity to connect and catch up, and to thank and recognise them for their work.

"It's a great feeling to know that I am making a difference in someone's life." - Together Co volunteer

A new Volunteer Experience Lead joined the team in July 2024, to focus on volunteer management, and developing and enhancing Together Co's volunteering programme and journey. By continuing to innovate and expand our volunteer programmes, we strive to create an even stronger, more connected community.

"...It didn't take long before I realised that this whole volunteering experience was helping me too... My heart slowly got bigger and bigger, and the more I got from it, the more I wanted to give back. It's truly amazing and something you can only understand once you experience it for yourself." - Together Co volunteer

In 2024/25, we worked on expanding and diversifying our volunteer programme, creating new opportunities within the Social Prescribing Team, Connection Hub and Volunteering Team. We also launched micro-volunteering opportunities as part of a time pledge campaign over the Christmas period.

In 2024/25 Together Co:

- Had 492 volunteers across the organisation
- Increased corporate volunteer hours, ran 10 corporate volunteering days, and received 510 hours of corporate support

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

“This was one of the best days I have had at work. It was so heartwarming to see the reaction from people as we delivered their Christmas hampers. I’m really looking forward to supporting Together Co again this year.” - Corporate volunteer

“It was a wonderful experience and we left feeling inspired. Thank you so much for having us we all loved spending the morning with you guys!” - Corporate volunteer

Together Co’s Volunteer Working Group (VWG) continued to develop, meeting bi-monthly to ensure that the volunteer voice and experience was at the heart of development and delivery. This feeds into Together Co’s organisational strategy and there are plans to increase representation at the group in 2025.

Together Co is committed to providing an exceptional volunteer experience. Two key developments to help with this in 2024/25 were:

- The development and implementation of our Volunteer Handbook - this resource is designed to act as a companion for volunteers throughout their time with us. It is available electronically and on paper.
- Further training opportunities were organised for volunteers based on their feedback.
- Together Co developed Mental Health Awareness and Mental Health First Aid training for volunteers. This was piloted in February 2025 and feedback has informed what we offer in 2025.
- Volunteers were also able to access Dementia Awareness Training and Bereavement Training, thanks to our partnership with Time to Talk Befriending.

Together Co’s wider impact and influence

Together Co’s coverage, outreach and influence has continued to expand in Brighton and Hove throughout 2024/25, through continued brand awareness and creative partnerships which have allowed us to tell our story.

Campaigns included our Be Together necklace, designed in partnership with Posh Totty Designs and marketed on their website and through our Good Gift Guide, the Campaign for Social Health and legacy giving.

As Together Co looks to make changes in the way it talks about community and loneliness, we have concentrated on promoting the benefits of social health, the ways we can connect with our community in order to feel a sense of belonging.

We believe using positive and solutions focused language will help in destigmatising loneliness as well as empowering people so they can integrate into their communities.

The Campaign for Social Health is part of this journey in recognising the need for human connection and communication in order to thrive. Our communications strategy was very much focused around this in 2024/25, and this is set to continue in 2025/26.

We also created a legacy giving campaign and video which tells the story from the perspective of one of our volunteers, David McDermott, and why he decided to leave a gift in his will to Together Co. The video formed part of the wider ongoing campaign which saw us partner with Cognitive Law who were offering people advice around making a will, safeguarding, power of attorney, and other advice.

Following his long-term involvement with Together Co, David agreed to become an ambassador for our charity.

We were also pleased to welcome two more ambassadors to Together Co during 2024/25. Social health expert Kasley Killam whose wealth of experience on the subject has proved invaluable to the work we do, and Derrick Evans MBE, also known as TV’s Mr Motivator.

Derrick agreed to become an ambassador for our charity after collaborating with us during Loneliness Awareness Week 2024 where he brought The Motivational Experience to Brighton Palace Pier, helping to raise our profile across the city and beyond.

TV presenter Gail Porter continued to be a huge support to Together Co as a charity ambassador, attending many of our events, including The Motivational Experience, Summer Party and Winter Warmer.

Media coverage was extensive during 2024/25, and we were featured on multiple occasions on BBC South East Today, the BBC News website, BBC Radio Sussex, ITV Meridian News, ITV X, The Argus, SussexWorld, GScene,

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Radio Reverb, Latest TV, Sussex Business Times, MSN, Raring2Go, and blogs on the BozBoz website, one of our corporate supporters, and Sussex Interpreting Services, one of the partnerships we work with in Brighton and Hove.

Our Connection By Letter scheme, which matches people as pen pals and has been hugely successful, was included in a collaboration with The Old Market, a theatre in Hove which was hosting a three-week run of the play Please Right Back, a stage show involving letter writing. The scheme was also included in news bulletins on BBC Radio Sussex in February 2025.

Our CEO was a guest on several podcasts including the Leading Lights podcast, a series interviewing charity CEOs and about their leadership stories, as well as speaking at events across the city which raised brand awareness and generated new corporate relationships.

Our social media channels have continued to grow and help to raise awareness of Together Co with Instagram and LinkedIn being our most successful. Our general and volunteer newsletters saw a steady increase in subscribers, with more than 1,400 between them.

Our continued outreach work and coverage means that Together Co is becoming more widely known throughout the city and beyond, and we are using this momentum to continue building our presence.

Community Fundraising Highlights

In 2024/25, community fundraising reached new heights, powered by our dedicated supporters.

Our first-ever gala at Brighton Palace Pier in October 2024 was a huge success, raising more than £18,000. Featuring entertainment from Ray Lewis, former lead singer of The Drifters, this event marked a milestone in our calendar and strengthened our connection with the local community. The event would not have been possible without our sponsors Lawton & Dawe Properties, Prolific 10, Best of British Events, Extech Cloud, Upfix, Brighton Palace Pier and Backbone Studio Ltd.

In June 2024, Loneliness Awareness Week brought Together Co into the spotlight. One of the most memorable moments was our collaboration with Mr Motivator, who brought The Motivational Experience to Brighton Palace Pier, engaging the community in an inspiring and energising event. As part of the week, our i360 abseil saw 30 fearless volunteers raise more than £12,000, while a lively pub quiz at The Signalman raised more than £600. Regular pub quizzes continued throughout the year, generating hundreds of pounds for our services.

Individual fundraising efforts also played a vital role. Lizzie Johnson, a former volunteer, cycled from London to Brighton to support our cause, while Linda Bramley led a high-energy Zumbathon, raising £1,080. In March 2025, 10 runners raised more than £4,000 by running the Brighton Half Marathon.

We also saw the return of creative and engaging fundraising events including a firewalk, which raised £1,300. We held a fun Summer Party fundraiser at Projects the Lanes where our amazing ambassador Gail Porter performed her first ever Brighton comedy show. There was also a show by Lulu's Black Market Events, and mesmerising magic. Food was provided by Nostos Hove. Connected Brighton, Projects the Lanes, Extech Cloud, and Backbone Studio Ltd helped make the event possible.

Corporate and Community Partnerships

Our corporate partnerships flourished this year, reflecting the growing recognition of Together Co's impact across Brighton and Hove. We were honoured to be named Charity of the Year by Brighton Palace Pier, The Grand, and Connected Brighton, with The Grand alone raising more than £6,000.

Other partnerships included:

- Winter Warmer hampers supported by Oander Charitable Foundation, Zurich Community Trust, and Bird & Blend Tea Co, who not only funded but also helped package and deliver the hampers to those in need.
- Collaboration with Best of British Events, who funded our Connection By Letter Project and raised vital funds through various themed events.
- An innovative partnership with Regis Morin at Not Just Travel, where every holiday booked helped raise money for Together Co.
- Brighton & Hove Soiree Rotary Club helped raised much needed funding as their chosen charity through various community events and generous donations.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Launch of the Good Gift Guide

In 2024/25, we proudly launched Together Co's Good Gift Guide, a celebration of Sussex-based independent businesses that enables people to shop locally while giving back. A portion of every sale went directly to support our services.

Participating businesses included: Soctopus, Posh Totty, Nostos, Devil's Dyke Distillery, Olive & Joyce, Get Glossy, Business Leaders Wine Club, Little Jasmine Therapies and Spa, Phase Photography, Hi Cacti, Pussy Home Boutique, MD Tea, Brighton Toy and Model Museum, Velvet Hove, Sussex Seed Balls, Silk & Lawn, Flamingo Styling Co, and Hello My Moon.

This creative fundraising initiative not only raised funds but also reinforced our values of community, connection, and collaboration.

We would like to say a huge thank you to our regular donors, event participants, corporate partners, and everyone who contributed - whether through donations, volunteering, or attending our events. Your ongoing generosity and belief in our mission are the driving force behind our ability to support people who are lonely and isolated in Brighton and Hove.

Financial review

Financial position: We reported incoming resources of £738,963 (2023-24: £885,957) for the year; a decrease of £146,994. Expenditure in the year was £754,961 (2023-24: £831,437); giving a deficit of £15,998 (2023-24: surplus £54,520).

Principal funding sources – Grants & Donations

Together Co is incredibly grateful for the generous support we received from a wide range of funders in 2024/25. Our work around social health, loneliness and social isolation in Brighton and Hove was made possible through a combination of statutory grants, commissioned funds, and contributions from charitable trusts, foundations, corporate partners, and individual donors.

Thank you to Army Benevolent Fund, Asda Foundation, Barleycorn Trust, Brighton District Nurses Association Trust, Chalk Cliff Trust, Charlotte Marshall Charitable Trust, The Childwick Trust, Dodgson Foundation, Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust, Friarsgate Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, Henry Smith Charity, Humanity at Heart, Inman Charity, Mrs A Lacy Tate Trust, Oander Charitable Foundation, Safer in Sussex Community Fund (Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner), Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust (Ann Rylands Small Donations), Sussex Community Foundation, Zurich Community Trust, Schroder Charitable Trust, Brighton & Hove Soiree Rotary Club, CriSeren Foundation, W.G. Edwards Charitable Foundation, GSK Impact Awards, Homity Trust, the McCarthy Stone Foundation, Waitrose Community Fund and Lord Barnby's Foundation.

We extend our warm thanks to each of these organisations for their investment in our mission.

Designated Funds

Contingency Reserve

This reserve is in place to provide for the cost of staff redundancies in case of the closure of Together Co and is recalculated each year.

Legacy Reserve

The Legacy Reserve is an amount set aside for key projects, which have currently been identified as:

1. Upgrade of the organisation's IT systems and related security including integrated digital approach to services, communications and fundraising.
2. Compliance with GDPR and maximising benefits of integrated digital systems.
3. Contract contingency to ensure that staff can continue to be employed in situations where successful funding has been secured but the contract commencement has been delayed by a short period.
4. Strategic corporate projects.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Reserves policy

The level of unrestricted reserves at the end of the year was £211,939 (2024: £199,870); and restricted reserves were £nil (2024: £28,067). Grants are recognised as restricted funds, whereas funds received through service-level agreements are treated as unrestricted, though they are designated to specific services or projects to deliver a contracted service. Included in these reserves is an element of contingency reserve, which we set aside to cover project termination costs. The total in the contingency fund amounted to £63,029 (2024: £56,134). The total reserves of £211,939 represent approx. 3.4 months of annual expenditure. Our policy sets the guide level of reserves that we aim to have on hand at around three months of annual expenditure.

Investment policy

We aim to hold surplus cash in accordance with our Reserves Policy, with the equivalent of approximately three months running costs maintained as cash deposits across current and deposit accounts held with banks covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. Funds in excess of three months running costs may be invested in charity specific Common Investment Funds, the income from which is used in furtherance of the charity's Objects.

Plans for future periods

Consultations to inform our new strategy for 2025–2028 began in October 2024, through a collaborative process with staff and trustees, with a view to launching the refreshed plan in summer 2025.

In 2024/25, we entered the final year of our three-year strategic plan - *Our Future, Together, which was developed in 2021/22*. Over the course of *Our Future, Together*, we made meaningful progress across our three strategic pillars:

- **Igniting community connectedness** - Through partnerships and initiatives we deepened our reach and impact, strengthening the social fabric of Brighton and Hove, supporting more than 1,850 people a year.
- **Developing the best in everyone** - We continue to be supported by a committed and growing volunteer workforce. In contrast to national trends showing a 16% decline in volunteering, Together Co has experienced a 4.6% increase in the number of volunteers reflecting the strength of our offer and the commitment of our community.
- **Renewing operational stability** - As this year's financial results show, we are on a more stable footing. We have invested in new CRM systems and are exploring the responsible and safe use of AI to enhance our impact, efficiency, and user experience in 2025/26 and beyond.

Our core mission, to create connections that change lives, remains at the heart of everything we do. As we look ahead, we will continue to evolve and expand our work in befriending, connector, social prescribing, and volunteering, and ensuring Together Co continues to meet the needs of our community in a changing world.

Structure, governance and management

Together Collective, operating as Together Co, is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The company was incorporated in December 1999 and is governed by its Articles of Association.

In November 2022, the Board of Trustees revised and updated Together Co's Articles of Association in their entirety. The revised Articles are available on request from the CEO at the registered office and include full details of governance and management arrangements.

Two Trustees left the Board during 2024/25, including the Chair of Trustees, David Cundy, whose two-year tenure ended in November 2024, Natalie Orringe was appointed by the Board as his successor. Trustees volunteered their time and received no benefits from Together Co. Details of any expenses claimed are provided in the notes to the accounts.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Natalie Orringe
Jonathan Hyman
Ruth Bradley
David Cundy (Resigned 29 November 2024)
Emma-Louise Naef
Alexander Tindal
Gemma Baldwin
Vivienne Benson
Anne Grant
Simon Parker (Resigned 11 October 2024)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

To recruit trustees, we identify gaps in the Board's expertise, conduct community outreach and/or advertise and appoint candidates based on a written application and interview.

New trustees are given an information pack about Together Co, attend briefing sessions with the CEO and service managers, and are encouraged to attend courses on topics such as governance, safeguarding, voluntary sector developments and equality, diversity and inclusion.

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees held quarterly meetings during 2024/25 to provide direction for Together Co's work, and they also gathered for a strategy and visioning day. Responsibility for the day-to-day running of Together Co is vested in the CEO, who reports to the Chair of the Board. The operation of individual services is delegated to the senior team.

The Board updates the Together Co business plan, reviews strategic objectives, and sets targets with the CEO to ensure the charity focuses on its stated aims and objectives. The Board and staff team implemented the final year of the three-year strategic plan, with the Board receiving quarterly reports and working with the CEO to ensure activities remained focused on achieving our goals. The Board and staff team also developed a revised strategy for 2025 to 2028. The new strategy will be used to set action plans and performance metrics that will be reported against to the Board. The aim is to use the strategy to continue to drive operational improvement in the charity.

Together Co is committed to the highest standards of governance, believing that good governance should be embedded throughout the organisation. Board meetings, alongside Finance and Risk and People and Culture Subcommittee meetings, ensure strong oversight of the activities delivered and the financial accountability surrounding contracts and grants.

Risk management

The Board examines the risks to which Together Co is exposed and has established arrangements to maintain oversight of finance, risk management, business development, and people and culture issues. Risk management arrangements include documented internal financial controls and procedures to ensure the health and safety of staff, volunteers, and service users. Commercial insurance covers normal business risks, including professional indemnity and employee and volunteer liability.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



.....
Natalie Orringe
Trustee

08/12/2025
Date:

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors of Together Collective for the purpose 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity 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 charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Together Collective (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 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 that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Michelle Westbury FCCA

Michelle Westbury FCCA

West & Berry Limited

Nile House

Nile Street

Brighton

BN1 1HW

Date: 08/12/2025

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	4	136,652	85,560	222,212	63,723	163,619	227,342
Charitable activities	5	443,332	8,167	451,499	618,091	-	618,091
Other trading activities	6	62,007	-	62,007	39,454	-	39,454
Investments	7	3,245	-	3,245	1,070	-	1,070
Total income		<u>645,236</u>	<u>93,727</u>	<u>738,963</u>	<u>722,338</u>	<u>163,619</u>	<u>885,957</u>
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	8	68,940	-	68,940	92,279	-	92,279
Charitable activities	9	564,227	121,794	686,021	603,606	135,552	739,158
Total expenditure		<u>633,167</u>	<u>121,794</u>	<u>754,961</u>	<u>695,885</u>	<u>135,552</u>	<u>831,437</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		12,069	(28,067)	(15,998)	26,453	28,067	54,520
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		<u>199,870</u>	<u>28,067</u>	<u>227,937</u>	<u>173,417</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>173,417</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		<u>211,939</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>211,939</u>	<u>199,870</u>	<u>28,067</u>	<u>227,937</u>

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

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		-		599
Current assets					
Debtors	15	47,868		78,704	
Cash at bank and in hand		302,415		341,530	
		<u>350,283</u>		<u>420,234</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(138,344)		(192,896)	
Net current assets			211,939		227,338
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>211,939</u>		<u>227,937</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	19		-		28,067
Unrestricted funds	20		211,939		199,870
			<u>211,939</u>		<u>227,937</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 08/12/2025



.....
Natalie Orringe
Trustee

Company registration number 03895574 (England and Wales)

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	24		(42,360)		103,254
Investing activities					
Investment income received		3,245		1,070	
Net cash generated from investing activities			3,245		1,070
Net cash generated from financing activities			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(39,115)		104,324
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			341,530		237,206
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			302,415		341,530

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Together Collective is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Projects The Lanes, Nile House, Nile Street, Brighton, BN1 1HW.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

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

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses. The charity has a policy to capitalise assets over £1,000.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings	33% on cost
Computers	33% on cost

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Change in accounting policy

The charity is allocating contract income for provision of services to income from charitable activities. The presentation of the comparative figures has been amended to follow this accounting policy. There has been no impact on the total income in 2024.

The charity is applying an accounting policy of classifying expenditure by activity. The presentation of the comparative figures has been amended to follow this accounting policy. There has been no impact on the total expenditure in 2024.

3 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

4 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and gifts	36,917	-	36,917	25,312	-	25,312
Grants	99,735	85,560	185,295	38,411	163,619	202,030
	<u>136,652</u>	<u>85,560</u>	<u>222,212</u>	<u>63,723</u>	<u>163,619</u>	<u>227,342</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Charitable income						
Services provided under contract	443,332	8,167	451,499	618,091	-	618,091

6 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Activities for generating funds	62,007	39,454

7 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	3,245	1,070

8 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Other fundraising costs	51,008	47,226
Staff costs	17,932	45,053
	68,940	92,279

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

9 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Befriending	Social	Connection	Engagement	Total	Befriending	Social	Engagement	Total
	Prescribing	Prescribing	Hub	Hub		Prescribing	Prescribing	Hub	
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Direct costs									
Staff costs	129,533	190,184	72,551	59,763	452,031	134,033	334,248	15,018	483,299
Direct staff training, benefits and expenses	3,484	8,756	1,766	1,773	15,779	3,403	10,519	234	14,156
Direct volunteer expenses and DBS checks	2,902	166	-	-	3,068	2,718	115	-	2,833
Direct befriending and volunteer social groups	4,874	-	-	-	4,874	2,192	-	-	2,192
Direct events, publicity and subscriptions	481	729	-	14,370	15,580	236	882	5,824	6,942
Direct outsourced services	-	-	-	-	-	26,310	-	4,994	31,304
Direct rent and room hire	5,128	6,517	3,355	2,597	17,597	4,964	10,786	428	16,178
Direct computer and IT costs	4,205	5,385	2,744	2,652	14,986	4,583	8,461	544	13,588
Direct insurance, bank charges, legal and professional	820	1,041	536	715	3,112	718	1,802	71	2,591
Direct telephone	434	384	-	18	836	1,318	2,753	102	4,173
Direct office supplies	479	225	-	1,033	1,737	751	359	93	1,203
	<u>152,340</u>	<u>213,387</u>	<u>80,952</u>	<u>82,921</u>	<u>529,600</u>	<u>181,226</u>	<u>369,925</u>	<u>27,308</u>	<u>578,459</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 10)									
Support	43,451	57,377	29,642	22,951	153,421	42,499	109,071	6,069	157,639
Governance	863	1,208	459	470	3,000	1,039	1,455	566	3,060
	<u>196,654</u>	<u>271,972</u>	<u>111,053</u>	<u>106,342</u>	<u>686,021</u>	<u>224,764</u>	<u>480,451</u>	<u>33,943</u>	<u>739,158</u>
Analysis by fund									
Unrestricted funds	107,527	254,205	111,053	91,442	564,227	119,543	460,545	23,518	603,606
Restricted funds	89,127	17,767	-	14,900	121,794	105,221	19,906	10,425	135,552
	<u>196,654</u>	<u>271,972</u>	<u>111,053</u>	<u>106,342</u>	<u>686,021</u>	<u>224,764</u>	<u>480,451</u>	<u>33,943</u>	<u>739,158</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

10 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs	100,384	94,067
Depreciation	599	3,594
Support staff training, benefits and expenses	6,060	2,702
Support DBS checks	321	33
Support events, publicity and subscriptions	688	843
Support outsourced services	28,594	30,202
Support rent and room hire	3,666	2,290
Support computer and IT costs	8,908	17,492
Support insurance, bank charges, legal and professional	1,420	1,374
Support telephone	270	339
Support office supplies	2,511	4,703
Governance costs	3,000	3,060
	<u>156,421</u>	<u>160,699</u>
Analysed between:		
Befriending	44,314	43,538
Social Prescribing	58,585	110,526
Connection Hub	30,101	-
Engagement	23,421	6,635
	<u>156,421</u>	<u>160,699</u>

Included within governance costs are fees paid to the Independent Examiner of £3,000 (2024: £3,060).

11 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year, but two of them were reimbursed a total of £54 travelling expenses (2024 - one trustee was reimbursed £77).

12 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2025 Number	2024 Number
<u>18</u>	<u>20</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

12 Employees	(Continued)	
Employment costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	513,101	559,465
Social security costs	42,923	47,956
Other pension costs	14,323	14,998
	<u>570,347</u>	<u>622,419</u>

Redundancy and termination payments totalling £9,250 were made in the reporting period.

The total remuneration of key management personnel during the year was £64,643 (2024: £64,351).

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

13 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computers £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2024	10,639	24,749	35,388
At 31 March 2025	<u>10,639</u>	<u>24,749</u>	<u>35,388</u>
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2024	10,639	24,150	34,789
Depreciation charged in the year	-	599	599
At 31 March 2025	<u>10,639</u>	<u>24,749</u>	<u>35,388</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>599</u>	<u>599</u>

15 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	29,671	52,018
Other debtors	2,500	5,722
Prepayments and accrued income	15,697	20,964
	<u>47,868</u>	<u>78,704</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security		8,942	11,015
Deferred income	17	93,222	95,622
Trade creditors		8,610	36,638
Other creditors		2,834	2,988
Accruals		24,736	46,633
		<u>138,344</u>	<u>192,896</u>

17 Deferred income

	2025 £	2024 £
Arising from Grants received in advance	<u>93,222</u>	<u>95,622</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	<u>93,222</u>	<u>95,622</u>
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2024	95,622	92,167
Released from previous periods	(95,622)	(92,167)
Resources deferred in the year	<u>93,222</u>	<u>95,622</u>
Deferred income at 31 March 2025	<u>93,222</u>	<u>95,622</u>

18 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025 £	2024 £
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>14,323</u>	<u>14,998</u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Included within other creditors is pension payable of £2,834 (2024: £2,988).

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

19 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2025 £
Befriending	15,067	74,060	(89,127)	-
Social Prescribing	9,600	8,167	(17,767)	-
Engagement	3,400	8,500	(11,900)	-
Winter Warmer	-	3,000	(3,000)	-
	<u>28,067</u>	<u>93,727</u>	<u>(121,794)</u>	<u>-</u>

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
Befriending	-	120,288	(105,221)	15,067
Social Prescribing	-	29,506	(19,906)	9,600
Engagement	-	13,825	(10,425)	3,400
	<u>-</u>	<u>163,619</u>	<u>(135,552)</u>	<u>28,067</u>

20 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
Designated fund- Contingency reserve	56,134	-	-	6,895	63,029
Designated fund - Legacy reserve	37,288	-	-	6,749	44,037
General funds	106,448	645,236	(633,167)	(13,644)	104,873
	<u>199,870</u>	<u>645,236</u>	<u>(633,167)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>211,939</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

20 Unrestricted funds (Continued)

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	56,134	-	-	-	56,134
Designated fund - Legacy reserve	50,465	-	(13,177)	-	37,288
General funds	66,818	722,338	(682,708)	-	106,448
	<u>173,417</u>	<u>722,338</u>	<u>(695,885)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,870</u>

Designated funds

Contingency reserve

This reserve is in place to provide for the cost of staff redundancies upon closure of Together Co and is recalculated each year end. A transfer is made from general funds to adjust the value of the contingency reserve.

Legacy reserve

The legacy reserve is to be used for key operational projects, which are currently identified as:

1. Upgrade of the organisation's IT systems and related security including integrated digital approach to services, communications and fundraising
2. Compliance with GDPR and maximising benefits of integrated digital systems
3. Contract contingency to ensure that staff can continue to be employed in situations where successful funding has been secured but the contract commencement has been delayed by a short period.
4. Strategic corporate projects

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
At 31 March 2025:			
Current assets/(liabilities)	211,939	-	211,939
	<u>211,939</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>211,939</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	599	-	599
Current assets/(liabilities)	199,271	28,067	227,338
	<u>199,870</u>	<u>28,067</u>	<u>227,937</u>

22 Operating lease commitments

Lessee

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Within one year	9,000	18,000
Between two and five years	-	9,000
	<u>9,000</u>	<u>27,000</u>

The total amount of lease payments recognised as an expense during the year was £20,160 (2024: £18,540).

23 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

24 Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations

	2025 £	2024 £
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(15,998)	54,520
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(3,245)	(1,070)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	599	3,594
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	30,836	(1,060)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(52,152)	43,815
(Decrease)/increase in deferred income	(2,400)	3,455
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	<u>(42,360)</u>	<u>103,254</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025*

25 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no material debt during the year.

Tamper Verification

To check if this file has been modified after being signed, please go to:

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Upload the file. The result will indicate if the file contents have been tampered with.

File 1 of 2: Together Collective accounts 31 March 2025.pdf

Signed By

Signer: Natalie Orringe (natalie@strategyimpact.co)

Identity Check: Email Authentication

Signature Type: Mouse or hand drawn

Time Zone: UTC-00:00, Europe/London (Greenwich Mean Time)

Signer: Michelle Westbury (michelle@westandberry.co.uk)

Identity Check: Login with account

Signature Type: Typed

Time Zone: UTC-00:00, Europe/London (Greenwich Mean Time)

Event Log

Dec 8, 2025, 1:57:35 PM - Email notification delivered to Natalie Orringe (natalie@strategyimpact.co).

Dec 8, 2025, 1:57:35 PM - Email notification sent to Natalie Orringe (natalie@strategyimpact.co).

Dec 8, 2025, 2:13:58 PM - Natalie Orringe (natalie@strategyimpact.co) viewed the document(s), from 193.117.198.82.

Dec 8, 2025, 2:14:00 PM - Natalie Orringe (natalie@strategyimpact.co) opened the email notification (estimated), from 193.117.198.82.

Dec 8, 2025, 2:14:34 PM - Natalie Orringe (natalie@strategyimpact.co) electronically signed or completed the document(s), from 193.117.198.82.

Dec 8, 2025, 2:15:09 PM - Email notification sent to Michelle Westbury (michelle@westandberry.co.uk).

Dec 8, 2025, 2:15:09 PM - Email notification delivered to Michelle Westbury (michelle@westandberry.co.uk).

Dec 8, 2025, 4:36:26 PM - Michelle Westbury (michelle@westandberry.co.uk) opened the email notification (estimated), from 86.170.242.54.

Dec 8, 2025, 4:36:28 PM - Michelle Westbury (michelle@westandberry.co.uk) viewed the document(s), from 86.170.242.54.

Dec 8, 2025, 4:36:47 PM - Michelle Westbury (michelle@westandberry.co.uk) electronically signed or completed the document(s), from 86.170.242.54.

END OF LOG

Together Collective

England & Wales - Charity number 1083390

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03895574 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1083390

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024
FOR
TOGETHER COLLECTIVE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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

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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

Together Collective, operating as Together Co, is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The company was incorporated in December 1999 and is governed by its Articles of Association.

As Brighton & Hove's loneliness charity our objective is to create connections to change lives in the city. We do this through award-winning befriending, social prescribing, and volunteering programmes. The ages of the people we support range from 18 to 103, and 81% of the people supported by Together Co have reported feeling more socially connected, while 84% said their sense of wellbeing improved.

In 2023/24, we continued to deliver critical services to people living in the city, using our core delivery of befriending and social prescribing to reach people and communities including those most affected by the cost-of-living crisis. This included emotional support and practical assistance, which contributed to a better quality of life.

Public benefit

During 2023/24, Together Co delivered services that prevented and alleviated loneliness and social isolation, positively supporting people's social health and wellbeing. We continued to adapt the delivery of our services to test and pilot new ways of engaging with our community and were able to respond with flexibility to the changing needs of those accessing our services.

Our programmes continued to retain focus on the needs of those we support, and services were provided free of charge. The people we support expressed high levels of satisfaction, with an average satisfaction score of 9 out of 10, and appreciated the personal connections with volunteers and the positive impact our services had on their lives.

Staffing

The year 1 April 2023, to 31 March 2024, saw a period of stability within the staff teams at Together Co. The staff continued to deliver high quality services and demonstrated their passion for Together Co's aims and values.

As of 31 March 2024, Together Co had 19 members of paid staff, of whom five were full time employees (35 hours per week) and the remainder worked a variety of part time hours.

Two members of the social prescribing team left during the year. This resulted in a voluntary turnover rate of 10%.

During 2023/24, Together Co recruited one new permanent member of staff within the finance team. We also employed one other person on a fixed term contract to cover a period of maternity leave.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Together Co Social Prescribing

"You were the glue to everything. This wouldn't have happened without your service... For me no avenue was visible, I needed your service to help to know what services and activities were available." - SP Client

"Social Prescribing helped me get back in action. My Link Worker was brilliant, she came across very motivated and knowledgeable and helped to increase my confidence." - SP Client

Social prescribing (SP) helps people find the places and people they need to be happier and healthier. Skilled Link Workers at Together Co help the people we support to navigate local services and activities that could benefit them.

Link Workers take the time to understand people's needs, identify priorities, address barriers to action and agree goals.

Social prescribing takes a holistic approach, recognising social, emotional and physical health needs. It increases people's connection with their local area and communities.

This year, we have had a continued presence in targeted places in the city, and we have developed our partnerships and integration approaches.

Our Link Workers regularly attended food banks and community events across the city, promoting the service and providing 'on-the-spot' social prescribing support, with a focus on more deprived areas of the city.

- 44% of people referred to our Citywide service this year were living in deprived wards, which exceeds our service key performance indicator threshold of 34%.

Social Prescribing in our local system

SP is constantly evolving to changing and increasing levels of need within our local populations, and to how the NHS and local authority provide services.

We supported the development and inclusion of social prescribing in Integrated Community Teams (ICTs) through representation on the Brighton & Hove ICT Steering Group; supported by insight from other local SP providers and partners.

We contributed to the development of the west area ICT, attending local health forums and professional partnership meetings, to explore the role of social prescribing in meeting local needs.

We continued to build on our collaboration with Adult Social Care (ASC), developing and trialling models of integration, aiming to improve support for residents and develop effective pathways between services and staff. Referrals from ASC to our SP service increased by 19% from 2022/23.

We represented the Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise (VCSE) on the Sussex Social Prescribing Steering Group - a group which resulted in the publication of the Sussex 'Social Prescribing Works' plan, detailing objectives and frameworks to support the future development of SP across the area.

We championed the significant role that SP plays in people's social health and community connections, alongside its role in service navigation.

"I didn't realise I needed more social contact. That was a part of the issue I hadn't thought about." - SP Client

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Social Prescribing Providers Network, chaired by Together Co, continued to be an active and collaborative space - bringing together local providers and system leaders to ensure more understanding of SP's role and how this can best be used. We organised workshops with key local authority services (including Housing & Adult Social Care) to support knowledge sharing and strengthen links between services. In March 2024, we celebrated National Social Prescribing Day, an opportunity to recognise the diverse and positive impact local SP providers have in the city.

Partnerships

Working with Safehaven and Stonewater Housing enabled us to connect with more people experiencing multiple needs and homelessness. We linked with clinical services such as the long-term conditions team, to explain our SP offer and to encourage referrals from diabetes, long covid, cardiovascular disease prevention, stroke and respiratory programmes.

We trained seven more SP Champions - people working or volunteering in services and community spaces - including GP reception staff and food bank volunteers, who could offer information, signposting, and referrals to social prescribing services. We invested staff time in developing volunteer involvement to support continued visibility in communities and to facilitate access to SP where it was needed.

We developed our SP support for people who are new to our city. Our partnership project with Sussex Interpreting Services (SIS) saw continued tailored SP support for Ukrainians, with Link Worker led weekly drop-ins set up to provide a regular space for Ukrainian people to access information and signposting, helped by language support.

In our lead provider role, Together Co assisted in the delivery of a 12-month Newcomers Social Prescribing project, funded by NHS Sussex.

Working with three specialist delivery partners, Robin Hood Health Foundation (RHHF), SIS and Trust for Developing Communities (TDC), vulnerable newcomers to our city received tailored and culturally informed support to meet practical, social and health needs.

Our Primary Care Network (PCN) Link Worker team continued to provide social prescribing to people referred by their GP practice. Through partnership working with PCN colleagues, we supported the targeted engagement of patients and provided support of non-clinical needs.

Link Workers continued to support surgeries to improve attendance at learning disability health checks and offered social prescribing support to people reducing or stopping opioid use. We increased the presence of Link Workers in practices, helping to promote the service and strengthen referral pathways.

Social Prescribing Plus

Together Co leads a partnership of five local Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise (VSCE) organisations to deliver SP support addressing health inequalities and improving access across our city.

Friends, Families & Travellers (FFT) offers SP through active outreach to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities; Brighton & Hove LGBT Switchboard (Switchboard) offers Trans and Non-Binary SP; Sussex Interpreting Services (SIS) supports people with language needs through their Bilingual Community Navigators and volunteer triage service, and Trust for Developing Communities (TDC) offers outreach SP with ethnically diverse communities. Together Co's SP Plus resource supports complex needs referrals and targets areas of deprivation in the city.

All the above use their expertise and established connections with communities to understand their unmet needs and provide SP support in culturally appropriate ways, overcoming barriers such as language and identity through lived experience and trusted relationships.

In 2023/24, we saw a further increase in referrals through SP Plus services, highlighting the important role that this partnership continues to have in addressing local health priorities.

We also provided training and induction support to new social prescribing staff in our partner organisations, sharing our resources and connecting them with the team

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Social Prescribing Impact

- 1,749 referrals were made to Together Co Social Prescribing and SP Plus partner services, maintaining a similar level to the previous year (1,750 referrals), with 4,030 sessions being provided to clients.
- Link Workers made 4,051 onward referrals to 438 different agencies.

Increasing demand for our services

In 2023/24, we saw referral numbers increase across most of our pathways, compared with the previous year:

- Citywide referrals increased by 9%
- SP Plus referrals increased by 19%
- Deans & Central PCN referrals increased by 54% (this included Learning Disability patient engagements)
- The number of people supported from Deans & Central PCN (37%)
- SP Plus Partners (FFT, SIS, Switchboard & TDC) received 295 new referrals, an increase of 35% on the previous year.
- 1,667 sessions of SP support were provided, with 1,556 onward referrals being made for people we support.

We seek feedback from the people we support through evaluation calls, providing opportunities for us to listen and consider how we can adapt and improve our services.

It also gives us a chance to assess their progress and any remaining support needed. On average, the people we support rated the usefulness of the SP service as 4.4 out of 5.

They also reported very positive outcomes following social prescribing support from Together Co.

- 99.6% reported a positive change in at least one area of their lives
- 48% said their satisfaction with the amount they socialise had improved
- 52% said they were more able to access local activities
- 95% felt better informed about what was available to them
- 45% said they had more of the support they needed than before
- 61% felt they needed less support to cope with issues than before
- 66% reported improved wellbeing

Together Co Befriending

Together Co Befriending creates meaningful friendships that transform lives. Our befriending co-ordinators take great care in matching people, considering their preferences, skills, interests and availability.

This meticulous approach ensures the best possible connections and provides personalised support throughout the process, fostering relationships that truly make a difference.

"Together Co brings a quality of understanding and humanness that makes it less organisational and more about community and heart."

In 2023/24, the befriending service continued to be a vital link and source of advice and information for many vulnerable people living alone in the city.

Befriending volunteers are not just companions; they are a crucial connection to the outside world for those they support. By fostering meaningful connections, we alleviate loneliness and improve people's quality of life.

Our volunteers also played an essential role in promoting overall wellbeing. They kept an eye out for any concerns or changes in the wellbeing of the people they supported, providing early warnings that led to timely interventions and support.

This proactive approach helped to prevent potential issues from escalating, ensuring that the people we support received the care they needed.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

We introduced a Single Point of Access (SPA) to streamline referrals, ensuring appropriate support for those who needed befriending services. This meant they could also access resources and opportunities for social connection through Social Prescribing services.

In 2023/24, we supported 586 people through befriending services, including in-person, telephone, and group befriending, and expanded our reach to provide support across the entire city.

"Since being matched with my befriender, I feel less isolated and more connected to my community. Our weekly meetings have become a highlight in my life."

"Exceptional experience for me - hard to articulate the impact it has had - it has been foundational for me. My depression has lifted with the opportunity to share problems."

Together Co Connector Project

The Connector Project helps the people we support to build connections with people and places in their community to improve their social health.

In 2023/24, the service was renamed from the Buddy Scheme to the Connector Project to better reflect its purpose, giving people confidence and practical support with tasks and goals, including one-off support, so they can become part of the community.

- In 2023/24, we:
- Supported 49 people to achieve their goals
 - Provided 155 volunteer sessions and 182 volunteer hours

Together Co Partnerships

Strong partnerships led to us collaborating with multiple organisations in the city in 2023/24.

As a member of the Ageing Well Partnership, and the lead partner for the Brighton & Hove City Council Befriending Links Partnership, this allowed us to share best practice, learn from one another, and develop innovative solutions to better support the local community.

Our developing partnership with Time to Talk Befriending was a highlight. In celebration of National Befriending Week, we co-hosted a special event at Brighton Palace Pier, bringing volunteers and the community together to raise awareness of the importance of befriending and the impact achieved by working together.

Our flourishing corporate partnerships saw an influx of volunteers who enriched our community with new skills and perspectives. These collaborations helped businesses in Brighton & Hove fulfil their social responsibility and created a circular economy.

We proudly hosted placements for Brighton and Sussex university students, and Duke of Edinburgh Awards participants, offering them valuable experience and fostering a culture of volunteering among younger generations.

We also partnered with the Green Wellbeing Alliance so the people we support could access green spaces within the city.

Together Co Volunteering

Volunteers are at the heart of Together Co. Their dedication, skills, knowledge and diversity are vital to our mission and without them we could not achieve our goals.

In 2023/24, volunteers showed their unwavering commitment to Together Co by contributing an incredible 14,084 hours (more than 19 months) of support.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Our volunteers range in age from 14 to 88, and include students, working professionals, and retirees.

They come from various backgrounds and professions, including healthcare, education, business and the arts, bringing a wealth of experience and perspectives to our team.

This diversity reflects the community in which we operate and enriches our ability to connect and support people effectively.

Our volunteers reported an average satisfaction score of 9 out of 10, and 71% of volunteers reported increased involvement and connection to the local community through their engagement with Together Co.

In 2023/24, we also:

- Involved 470 volunteers across the organisation
- Increased corporate volunteer hours, contributing to new community connections
- Successfully introduced new volunteer roles, enhancing our service delivery

To enhance the volunteer journey, we introduced the Volunteer Experience Lead role, to ensure our volunteers received the support and recognition they deserve.

We also believed it was important to create a community for our volunteers and provided various opportunities for connection and support, including:

- Regular social events to help volunteers connect with staff and each other.
- Events to mark National Volunteers' Week in June and National Befriending Week in November.
- A dedicated volunteer portal on our website and regular newsletters which kept our volunteers informed and engaged.

Many volunteers told us the sense of community was a key reason for their involvement with Together Co, and we loved bringing people together socially to thank them for all they do for us.

In 2023/24, we also expanded our volunteering roles to offer flexibility across all areas of Together Co.

This allowed us to engage a more diverse group of volunteers and to tap into a broader skill set.

Our Volunteer Working Group, which met every month, was instrumental in shaping and enhancing our volunteer programmes.

Our key volunteer roles were:

Befriending Volunteers - who fostered friendships through home visits, community meet-ups, phone calls, and social group activities.

Connector Volunteers - who supported people by accompanying them to groups, services, or activities, and helping them to access the city's green and blue spaces.

Social Prescribing Volunteers - who were involved in researching local activities and services, helping us better support people in finding the connections they needed to help them become happier and healthier.

We also had volunteers who supported us with fundraising, communications, data collection and analysis, IT systems, and at events.

By continuing to innovate and expand our volunteer programmes, we strive to create an even stronger, more connected community.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Together Co's wider impact and influence

Communications and PR continued to grow at Together Co as we looked to raise our profile and awareness of what we do, not only in Brighton & Hove, but nationally and internationally too.

We held a number of events during 2023/24 which not only saw us partner or collaborate with other organisations and charities, but also received extensive media coverage.

During this year alone, we were featured in The New York Times in an in-depth article on loneliness, and on Swiss TV news channel SRF which did a six-minute piece on Together Co and the work we do. Both news outlets attended events we were running and spoke with our volunteers, the people we support, and our CEO.

We also had media coverage on BBC South East Today, BBC Radio Sussex and Surrey, BBC Radio London, SussexWorld, GScene, Brighton & Hove News, The Argus, Sussex Business Times, Psychology Magazine, and Candis Magazine as part of the Big Give Christmas Appeal 2023.

Our CEO guested on various podcasts, including with Connected Brighton, who continue to support us in lots of different ways, and City Girl Network. She also spoke at many events across the city, including the Brighton & Hove Chamber Breakfast, which yielded new contacts for future collaborations and possible media coverage.

We continued as Brighton Palace Pier's charity of the year working closely with their CEO and staff to hold events there, which were a huge success and have helped to raise our profile through the media coverage mentioned above.

These included Pier2Peer which saw us collaborate with The Glamour Club, an organisation which runs events for people in Worthing who are lonely and isolated. We joined forces to bring more than 150 people together for a traditional afternoon tea at the pier's Palm Court Restaurant during Loneliness Awareness Week.

We also collaborated with Time To Talk Befriending, a charity covering Brighton, Hove and West Sussex, during Befriending Week so that all our members could come together and enjoy a day on the pier.

Another partnership which raised awareness for Together Co was the Winter Warmer at the Doubletree by Brighton Hilton Metropole, with 150 people in attendance. Many of these were people we support, volunteers and corporate supporters.

We were chosen as one of the Brighton & Hove Mayor's charities, and worked with three other chosen charities to put on an event called the Wave of Love, which was well attended.

Our ambassadors, TV presenter Gail Porter and vet Dr Marc Abraham, have continued to be very involved with Together Co, attending and hosting events for us.

Our own social media channels have continued to grow and raise awareness of Together Co. Our general and volunteer newsletters, which go out every six weeks, have more than 1,200 subscribers between them.

We also invested in communications as part of our switch to HubSpot, our new customer relationship management system which has streamlined the way we work.

Even though we are a small charity, the progression in our communications and PR has meant that more people in Brighton & Hove are aware of who we are and what we do, which is something we will continue to build on.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

We reported incoming resources of £885,957 (2022-23: £746,462) for the year; an increase of £139,495. Expenditure in the year was £831,437 (2022-23: £775,906); giving a surplus of £54,520 (2022-23: deficit £29,444).

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

Grants

Together Co continues to receive a range of funding from a mixture of statutory funding (grants and commissions) and funding from Trusts and Foundations.

In 2023/24 we were grateful to receive funding from Henry Smith Charity, Sobell Foundation, Army Benevolent Fund, Green Wellbeing Alliance, Brighton & Hove Buses, Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust, The Barleycorn Trust, Postcode Society Trust, The Brighton District Nursing Association Trust, CriSeren Foundation, GSK Impact Awards, Simpson Charitable Trust, The Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust, The Chalk Cliff Trust, National Lottery Awards for All, Sussex Police - Police Property Act Fund, Humanity at Heart, Souter Charitable Trust, Pebble Trust, The Dodgson Foundation, HENDY Foundation, The Masonic Charitable Foundation, The Homity Trust, and the Charities Trust.

We were proud to receive a prestigious national award for our efforts in enhancing social health and combatting loneliness and social isolation.

From more than 500 charities across the UK, we were chosen as one of the top 10 winners of the 2024 GSK IMPACT Awards.

The award recognised excellence in the charity sector, particularly in promoting health and wellbeing.

We received £40,000 in unrestricted funding, a training and development package valued at a further £13,500, and a prize of a professional film made about Together Co.

We also took part in the Big Give Christmas Challenge at the end of 2023 for the first time. Our focus for the week was 'Gifts of Connection'. It was a great opportunity to widen our reach, and we were thrilled to raise more than £19,364.

Our Individual Giving efforts grew over 2023/24 thanks to the incredible support of the Brighton & Hove community. More than £4,000 was raised by two ultramarathon runners, and six people ran the Brighton Half Marathon for us, collectively raising £2,907.

We were thrilled to be chosen as Charity of the Year by the Brighton & Hove Soiree Rotary Club, Brighton City Girl Network, The Grand Hotel, Doubletree by Brighton Hilton Metropole, Brighton Palace Pier, and Projects - The Lanes.

We were also proud to be one of the Mayor of Brighton & Hove's chosen charities for the year, raising more than £4,000 at our Wave of Love event on Brighton Palace Pier. One of the mayor's other chosen charities also held a fundraiser during the year which raised more than £2,000 for Together Co.

A Community Partner for Waitrose in Western Road, Hove, nominated us for a donation and we received more than £500 in line with their focus on the theme of health and wellbeing.

Loneliness Awareness Week saw us combine our fundraising efforts with awareness raising and profile building.

We collaborated with local businesses, including Lost in the Lanes, Boho Gelato, and The Well. We also hosted a range of community-focused and fundraising events throughout the week, ending with the Pier2Peer event mentioned above.

We took part in our first Midsummer Ball hosted by the Double Tree by Hilton Brighton Metropole, which raised more than £5,000 for our charity.

Our thanks go to Creature Clothes, Lost in the Lanes, St Christopher's Prep, Bupa Global Football Club, Be Chocolat, Komedia, Posh Totty Designs, Brighton Zipwire, Sussex Cricket, Retreat Hove, BewilderBox and The Robin Hood pub, and to everyone else who took part in our events and raffles. All the support we receive is greatly appreciated.

We were grateful to Zurich Community Trust, Bupa Global, Oander Charitable Foundation and Double Tree by Hilton Brighton Metropole, for their support towards our Winter Warmer.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

This enabled us to provide an afternoon tea at the Double Tree by Hilton hotel for 150 people, including giving all attendees gift bags containing hand warmers, warm socks, and other treats to support people through the winter period.

Our corporate partnerships and connections to businesses continued to grow this year, and we appreciated their donations, voluntary support and efforts supporting and promoting our work.

As always, we are hugely grateful to our regular donors, and those who have donated to our events in person and online over the past year.

Their generosity is invaluable to us, and we could not do what we do without the support of our community.

Designated Funds

Contingency Reserve

This reserve is in place to provide for the cost of staff redundancies alongside other closure costs upon closure of the business and is recalculated each year end.

Legacy Reserve

The Legacy Reserve is an amount set aside for key projects, which have currently been identified as:

1. Upgrade of the organisation's IT systems and related security including integrated digital approach to services, communications and fundraising
2. Compliance with GDPR and maximising benefits of integrated digital systems
3. Contract contingency to ensure that staff can continue to be employed in situations where successful funding has been secured but the contract commencement has been delayed by a short period.
4. Strategic corporate projects

Investment policy and objectives

We aim to hold surplus cash in accordance with our Reserves Policy, with the equivalent of approximately three months running costs maintained as cash deposits across current and deposit accounts held with banks covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. Funds in excess of three months' running costs may be invested in charity specific Common Investment Funds, the income from which is used in furtherance of the charity's Objects.

Reserves policy

The level of unrestricted reserves at the end of the year was £199,870 (2023: £173,417); and restricted reserves of restricted income carried forward into the next financial year were £28,067 (2023: £nil).

Grants are recognised as restricted funds, whereas funds received through service-level agreements are treated as unrestricted, though they are designated to specific services or projects to deliver a contracted service.

Included in these reserves is an element of contingency reserve, which we set aside to cover project termination costs. The total in the contingency fund amounted to £56,134 (2023: £56,134).

The total reserves of £199,870 represented 3.1 months of annual expenditure. Our policy sets the guide level of reserves that we aim to have on hand at around three months of annual expenditure

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

FUTURE PLANS

During 2021/22, we consulted extensively with staff and trustees to collaboratively design Together Co's 'Our Future, Together' three-year strategic plan. In 2023/24, we delivered the second year of this plan, which sets out our ambition to ensure that Together Co continues to deliver its transformative impact - widely recognised and celebrated during the pandemic - by tackling loneliness and social isolation in Brighton and Hove.

The three strategic pillars - **Ignite community connectedness, Develop the best in everyone, and Renew operational stability** - are anchored in our organisational values, with staff and trustees actively engaged in developing actions within the delivery framework.

Alongside our volunteer strategy, 'Our Future, Together' ensures that we are working as hard and as SMART as possible while providing opportunities for our staff, service users, and volunteers to thrive and grow. This approach allows us to evolve and expand our core work of connecting people through befriending, social prescribing, our connector project, and volunteering.

In 2024/25, the final year of 'Our Future, Together', we are once again working collaboratively with staff, trustees, and other interested parties to renew our strategic plan for the next three years. Together Co's fundamental objective - to create connections that change lives - will remain central to our work, although we will continue exploring innovative ways to deliver the widest possible benefits to our community and the city of Brighton and Hove.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Together Collective, operating as Together Co, is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The company was incorporated in December 1999 and is governed by its Articles of Association.

In November 2022, the Board of Trustees revised and updated Together Co's Articles of Association in their entirety. The revised Articles are available on request from the CEO at the registered office and include full details of governance and management arrangements.

There were no changes to Trustee membership of the Board during 2023/24. Trustees volunteered their time and received no benefits from Together Co. Details of any expenses claimed are provided in the notes to the accounts.

Recruitment and induction of new trustees

To recruit trustees, we identify gaps in the Board's expertise, conduct community outreach and/or advertise and appoint candidates based on a written application and interview.

New trustees are given an information pack about Together Co, attend briefing sessions with the CEO and service managers, and are encouraged to attend courses on topics such as governance, safeguarding, voluntary sector developments and equality, diversity, and inclusion. During the year four Trustees resigned and six new Trustees were appointed.

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees held quarterly meetings during 2023/24 to provide direction for Together Co's work, and they also gathered for a strategy and visioning day. Responsibility for the day-to-day running of Together Co is vested in the CEO, who reports to the Chair of the Board. The operation of individual services is delegated to service managers.

The Board updates the Together Co business plan, reviews strategic objectives, and sets targets with the CEO to ensure the charity focuses on its stated aims and objectives. Together, the Board and staff team implemented the three-year strategic plan, with the Board receiving quarterly reports and working with the CEO to ensure activities remained focused on achieving our goals.

Together Co is committed to the highest standards of governance, believing that good governance should be embedded throughout the organisation. Board meetings, alongside Finance and Risk and People and Culture Subcommittee meetings, ensure strong oversight of the activities delivered and the financial accountability surrounding contracts and grants.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Networks and accreditation

Together Co is a member of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, Befriending Networks, the National Association of Link Workers, Brighton and Hove Community Works and Brighton and Hove Chamber of Commerce. Together Co is committed to delivering the highest quality services, and our Quality Marks and membership of professional bodies and networks helps us achieve this. We hold the Befriending Network's Quality in Befriending Award.

Risk management

The Board examines the risks to which Together Co is exposed and has established arrangements to maintain oversight of finance, risk management, business development, and people and culture issues. Risk management arrangements include documented internal financial controls and procedures to ensure the health and safety of staff, volunteers, and service users. Commercial insurance covers normal business risks, including professional indemnity and employee and volunteer liability.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03895574 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1083390

Registered office

Projects the Lanes
Nile House
Nile Street
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 1HW

Trustees

Natalie Orringe
Jonathan David Hyman
Ruth Bradley
David Cundy
Emma-Louise Naef
Alexander James Tindal
Gemma Louise Baldwin
Vivienne Judith Benson
Anne Belinda Grant
Simon Peter John Parker

Company Secretary

April Baker

Independent Examiner

Dr Shona F Wardrop C.A.
Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Co-Operative Bank plc
164-165 Western Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 2BB

Shawbrook Bank Limited
Lutea House
Warley Hill Business Park
The Drive
Great Warley
Brentwood
Essex
CM13 3BE

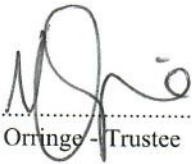
East Sussex Credit Union
Hove Town Hall
Tisbury Road
Hove
East Sussex
BN3 3BQ

Working name

Together Co

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 28.11.24 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Natalie Oringe - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
TOGETHER COLLECTIVE**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Together Collective ('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.

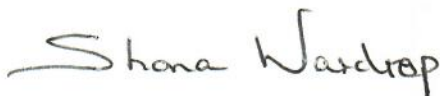
Independent examiner's statement

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 of Scotland, 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.



Dr Shona F Wardrop C.A.
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland

Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

Date: 12/12/24

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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	681,814	163,619	845,433	705,975
Charitable activities	5				
Charitable Activities		-	-	-	24,476
Other trading activities	3	39,454	-	39,454	15,423
Investment income	4	<u>1,070</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,070</u>	<u>588</u>
Total		<u>722,338</u>	<u>163,619</u>	<u>885,957</u>	<u>746,462</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		92,279	-	92,279	89,310
Charitable activities	6				
Charitable Activities		<u>603,606</u>	<u>135,552</u>	<u>739,158</u>	<u>686,596</u>
Total		<u>695,885</u>	<u>135,552</u>	<u>831,437</u>	<u>775,906</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		26,453	28,067	54,520	(29,444)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>173,417</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>173,417</u>	<u>202,861</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>199,870</u>	<u>28,067</u>	<u>227,937</u>	<u>173,417</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE (REGISTERED NUMBER: 03895574)

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	599	-	599	4,193
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	78,704	-	78,704	77,644
Cash at bank		<u>313,463</u>	<u>28,067</u>	<u>341,530</u>	<u>237,206</u>
		392,167	28,067	420,234	314,850
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(192,896)	-	(192,896)	(145,626)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>199,271</u>	<u>28,067</u>	<u>227,338</u>	<u>169,224</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>199,870</u>	<u>28,067</u>	<u>227,937</u>	<u>173,417</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>199,870</u>	<u>28,067</u>	<u>227,937</u>	<u>173,417</u>
FUNDS	14				
Unrestricted funds				199,870	173,417
Restricted funds				<u>28,067</u>	-
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>227,937</u>	<u>173,417</u>

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.

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE (REGISTERED NUMBER: 03895574)

BALANCE SHEET - continued

31 MARCH 2024

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 on28.11.24..... and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
Natalie Orringe - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>103,254</u>	<u>(1,641)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>103,254</u>	<u>(1,641)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		<u>1,070</u>	<u>588</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>1,070</u>	<u>588</u>
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		104,324	(1,053)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>237,206</u>	<u>238,259</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>341,530</u>	<u>237,206</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
	2024	2023	
	£	£	
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	54,520	(29,444)	
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation charges	3,594	3,594	
Interest received	(1,070)	(588)	
Increase in debtors	(1,060)	(38,267)	
Increase in creditors	<u>47,270</u>	<u>63,064</u>	
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u>103,254</u>	<u>(1,641)</u>	
2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS			
	At 1/4/23	Cash flow	At 31/3/24
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank	<u>237,206</u>	<u>104,324</u>	<u>341,530</u>
	<u>237,206</u>	<u>104,324</u>	<u>341,530</u>
Total	<u>237,206</u>	<u>104,324</u>	<u>341,530</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

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

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and on that basis the charity is considered to be a going concern.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity and are rounded to the nearest pound.

Income

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

Donations are accounted for as they are received by the charity. Donations received in the year that relate to specific purposes have been included in restricted funds.

Grants are recognised on an accruals basis, accounted for in relation to the period to which they relate. Where grants are received during the year under review but relate to a later period, the amount is deferred under Grants in Advance in the Balance Sheet.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

All other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, including attributable VAT which cannot be recovered and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Certain expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities and has been included in the related cost categories. Certain other costs, which are attributable to more than one activity, are apportioned across cost categories on the basis of an estimate of the proportion of time spent by staff on those activities (for salary costs) and based on a proportion of the total activities by the charity for other costs.

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration on each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on a basis which is an estimate, based on the proportion of cost of each activity to the total income of all activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Fixtures and fittings	- 33% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

The charity has a policy to capitalise assets over £1,000.

Recognition and measurement

Fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

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. No direct tax charges have arisen in the charity.

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.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

Basic Financial instruments

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

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the charity is required to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

There are no estimates and assumptions that are considered to have a significant risk of causing a material adjustments to the financial statements in a future period

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	25,312	4,960
Grants	<u>820,121</u>	<u>701,015</u>
	<u>845,433</u>	<u>705,975</u>

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Brighton & Hove CCG	262,293	242,695
Henry Smith	35,000	35,000
Derek & Eileen Dodgson Foundation	6,000	4,000
Brighton & Hove City Council	90,968	67,935
Big Lottery	-	8,773
Department of Health and Social Care	-	5,735
The Criseren	8,925	-
Sobell Foundation	10,000	10,000
Sussex Community Foundation	1,667	3,333
Impact Initiatives	104,099	136,516
Primary Care Network	160,731	145,838
Arnold Clark	-	2,000
Humanity at Heart	-	1,440
Edward Gostling	-	25,000
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	8,000	7,500
Chalk Cliff Trust	5,000	5,000
Lacy-Tate Trust	-	250
ABF Soldiers	10,000	-
Anton Jurgens	3,000	-
Brighton District Nursing Association Trust	5,080	-
Charities Trust	250	-
Hendy Foundation	2,460	-
Homity Trust	1,000	-
Humanity at Heart	2,400	-
Masonic Charitable Trust	29,616	-
Pebble Trust	3,000	-
Postcode Society	24,632	-
Souter Trust	1,000	-
GSK	40,000	-
Sussex Police PPAF Fund	500	-
Brighton & Hove Bus Company	3,000	-
Simpson Charitable Trust	1,000	-
Barleycorn	500	-
	<u>820,121</u>	<u>701,015</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES - continued

	2024 £	2023 £
Received from Brighton and Hove CCG/Department of Health and Social Care	505,162	353,892
Less: Contributions to Partners	<u>242,869</u>	<u>111,197</u>
Net figure above	<u>262,293</u>	<u>242,695</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024 £	2023 £
Activities for generating fund	<u>39,454</u>	<u>15,423</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024 £	2023 £
Deposit account interest	<u>1,070</u>	<u>588</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024 £	2023 £
Other incoming resources	<u>-</u>	<u>24,476</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £
Charitable Activities	<u>739,158</u>

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation - owned assets	3,594	3,594
Independent examiner's fee	<u>3,060</u>	<u>3,000</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

8. 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

During the year one trustee was reimbursed £77 for travel expenses (2023: None).

9. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	569,734	453,437
Social security costs	47,956	43,312
Other pension costs	<u>14,998</u>	<u>13,650</u>
	<u>632,688</u>	<u>510,399</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Total	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

On a Full Time Equivalent basis, the average number of employees was 18 (2023: 18).

Key Management Personnel remuneration in the year amounted to £64,351 (2023: £59,764)

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	579,253	126,722	705,975
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	24,476	-	24,476
Other trading activities	15,423	-	15,423
Investment income	<u>588</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>588</u>
Total	<u>619,740</u>	<u>126,722</u>	<u>746,462</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	89,310	-	89,310
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	<u>559,874</u>	<u>126,722</u>	<u>686,596</u>
Total	<u>649,184</u>	<u>126,722</u>	<u>775,906</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(29,444)	-	(29,444)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	202,861	-	202,861
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>173,417</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>173,417</u>

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	<u>10,639</u>	<u>24,749</u>	<u>35,388</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023	10,639	20,556	31,195
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>3,594</u>	<u>3,594</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>10,639</u>	<u>24,150</u>	<u>34,789</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>599</u>	<u>599</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>4,193</u>	<u>4,193</u>

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	52,018	71,328
Other debtors	5,722	2,500
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>20,964</u>	<u>3,816</u>
	<u>78,704</u>	<u>77,644</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	36,638	6,988
Social security and other taxes	11,015	11,632
Other creditors	2,988	2,634
Accruals and deferred income	<u>142,255</u>	<u>124,372</u>
	<u>192,896</u>	<u>145,626</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/23	Net movement in funds	At 31/3/24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	66,818	39,630	106,448
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	56,134	-	56,134
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	<u>50,465</u>	<u>(13,177)</u>	<u>37,288</u>
	173,417	26,453	199,870
Restricted funds			
Befriending	-	15,067	15,067
Social Prescribing	-	9,600	9,600
Engagement	-	3,400	3,400
	-	<u>28,067</u>	<u>28,067</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>173,417</u>	<u>54,520</u>	<u>227,937</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	722,338	(682,708)	39,630
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	-	<u>(13,177)</u>	<u>(13,177)</u>
	722,338	(695,885)	26,453
Restricted funds			
Befriending	120,288	(105,221)	15,067
Social Prescribing	29,506	(19,906)	9,600
Engagement	<u>13,825</u>	<u>(10,425)</u>	<u>3,400</u>
	<u>163,619</u>	<u>(135,552)</u>	<u>28,067</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>885,957</u>	<u>(831,437)</u>	<u>54,520</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	100,777	(20,325)	(13,634)	66,818
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	42,500	-	13,634	56,134
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	<u>59,584</u>	<u>(9,119)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50,465</u>
	<u>202,861</u>	<u>(29,444)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>173,417</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>202,861</u>	<u>(29,444)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>173,417</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	619,740	(640,065)	(20,325)
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	<u>-</u>	<u>(9,119)</u>	<u>(9,119)</u>
	619,740	(649,184)	(29,444)
Restricted funds			
Befriending	39,772	(39,772)	-
Social Prescribing	<u>86,950</u>	<u>(86,950)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>126,722</u>	<u>(126,722)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>746,462</u>	<u>(775,906)</u>	<u>(29,444)</u>

Designated Funds

Contingency Reserve

This reserve is in place to provide for the cost of staff redundancies upon closure of the business and is recalculated each year end.

Legacy Reserve

The Legacy Reserve is to be used for key operational projects, which are currently identified as:

1. Upgrade of the organisation's IT systems including integrated digital approach to services, communications and fundraising;
2. Compliance with GDPR and maximising benefits of integrated digital systems;
3. Contract contingency to ensure that staff can continue to be employed in situations where successful funding has been secured but the contract commencement has been delayed by a short period;
4. Strategic corporate projects.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

Together Collective

England & Wales - Charity number 1083390

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03895574 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1083390

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023
FOR
TOGETHER COLLECTIVE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

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TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST 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 31st 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

As Brighton & Hove's loneliness charity, our objective is to create connections to change lives in the city. We do this through award winning befriending, social prescribing, and a range of volunteering programmes. Our work would not be possible without the support of 500 volunteers who give 16,500+ hours a year. We help people increase their independence, confidence and wellbeing. 97% of clients report a positive change in their lives. In a city of nearly 300,000, no one should be lonely or socially isolated. Together, we can make sure no one is.

In 2022-23 we continued to deliver critical services to people living in Brighton & Hove, using our core delivery of befriending and social prescribing to reach individuals and communities most affected by the cost-of-living crisis and those recovering from the pandemic. This landscape has plunged more people into isolation as they make choices about whether to heat, eat or go out. We heard first-hand about the challenges some of our members and volunteers are now facing, with anxiety and mental health as the main reasons for referral. We're proud to have so strongly fulfilled our organisational purpose and celebrate the fact that despite operating under challenging circumstances, we have had yet another year of expanding our reach.

Public benefit

During 2022-23, Together Co delivered services that prevented and alleviated loneliness and social isolation, positively supporting people's health and wellbeing. We continued to adapt the delivery of our services to test and pilot new ways of engaging with our community and were able to respond with flexibility to the changing needs of those accessing services.

Our programmes continued to retain a strong focus on the needs of those we supported and services were provided free of charge to individuals. Removing red tape for volunteer engagement remains a core priority, and the team supported volunteers to access provision for expenses and training. Access is monitored based on the Brighton & Hove City Council equalities monitoring framework and our internal processes. Our single access point for referrals enables us to assess the right place for each person. We built a network of groups and people who can support the access and promotion of our work within different communities to widen our reach and reduce barriers.

Staffing

Together Co's staff continue to be key to the organisation's strength and the reason it can consistently deliver high quality services to so many. The period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 saw considerable change and restructure. The aim was to improve efficiency, value for money and make sure that each individual member of staff could work to their fullest potential and feel fulfilled in their job roles. On 31st March 2023, Together Co had 21 members of staff, of whom 8 were full time employees (35 hours per week) and the remainder worked a variety of part time hours. During this period there were a total of 5 leavers; 2 of these were resignations and 3 were related to redundancy of post. There were 3 new members of staff recruited: Together Co's new permanent CEO and 2 new members in the communications/engagement team. This was the same number of people that had been recruited in the previous 12-month period. This was a turnover rate of 9% (not including the redundancies). This compares favourably to a total of 12 leavers during the previous 12-month period.

The recruitment of Together Co's new CEO has assisted with the delivery and development of a clear new organisational strategy. They have effectively guided teams with a clear purpose to achieve the overall aims of the organisation. They have developed effective line managers to ensure each member of staff will be supported and encouraged to deliver effective outputs. Alongside this, there has been greater emphasis given to employee wellbeing.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Together Co Social Prescribing

As social connections are key to being happy and healthy, social prescribing (SP) is about finding the support people want and need, especially after losing out on social and community connections during the pandemic. People are referred to SP by their GP, or they self-refer, and trained Together Co Link Workers work with them to understand the challenges they face. They help clients think about their goals and how to achieve them. Our volunteers step in where clients need help accessing services or groups. We know that through supporting people to connect with their community, their health and wellbeing is improved. This may be going to a new lunch club or choir practice, or for a walk around the park after a long period of self-isolation in their home.

In 2022-23, we focused on getting back into the community and on developing our connections, to improve support for our clients and reduce barriers to access. Through a programme of targeted outreach, the team has increased their presence in local neighbourhoods and delivered social prescribing support in the community in a variety of settings. This has included Link Workers attending food banks, local pharmacies, libraries, art groups, community venues such as the Bevy, The Real Junk Food Project and community safety initiatives such as fire blanket testing. Our outreach work allowed Link Workers to provide both on-the-spot and in-depth social prescribing support to people who may otherwise not know about, or feel able to, access our service. Link Workers engaged with over 300 people through outreach during the year.

Being present and visible meant that Together Co remained connected to what was happening in neighbourhoods. It meant we could encourage clients to make use of the resources within their local communities while they looked to make changes to their situation or improve their wellbeing. Our SP Champion programme began, helping us to build community links and raise awareness of services through sharing of resources.

Increasing access has also been a focus of our partnerships, pathways, and professional links this year. We linked with the Job Centre, Lunch Positive, Speak Out, Possibility People, Healthy Lifestyles Team and hospital acute teams. This further developed referral pathways and enabled us to explore how social prescribing can support service users to address their wider social, emotional and practical needs. In some cases, Link Workers attended groups and services on a regular basis - to develop trust and create opportunities for conversations with people about the support they need.

“Being in a trusted and familiar setting makes people feel more confident to have a chat and to ask questions about the service, and to then also consider what things they may want to have support with, for example social activities, groups and advice.” **Link Worker attending Lunch Positive**

Link Workers continued to develop relationships and pathways within our two Primary Care Networks. They increased the number of people being referred to social prescribing through their GP practice and supported engagement of patients through targeted work e.g. with carers, patients with learning disabilities and those with digital access needs. Undertaking the role of Digital Ambassadors, our Link Workers in West Hove collaborated with the Hangleton & Knoll Project, and volunteers, to link clients to digital support within the community and GP practices.

Targeted outreach and pathways enabled us to help address local health inequalities and increase access for groups and individuals facing more barriers. Our work within neighbourhoods and primary care supports access to social prescribing wherever people are and when the time is right for them.

"I've come such a long way from where I was when I started. Social Prescribing helped me to push myself and think that everything was going to be alright - my Link Worker made me realise that. It helped me through a tough time in a big way. I'm very grateful for the support you gave me." **Social Prescribing client**

Working in partnership with Sussex Interpreting Services, we provided tailored social prescribing support to Ukrainians arriving in the city. Additional capacity meant we could work flexibly and creatively, utilising the strengths and skills within the partnership to respond to people's needs. We adapted our approach based on learning and feedback from the community. We offered support within familiar settings, in spaces Ukrainians were already accessing, to maximise opportunities for support.

This year we reinstated in-person meetings of the Brighton & Hove Social Prescribing Network, which we host. The network of 23 organisations delivers a range of social prescribing in the city and meets quarterly to share good practice and knowledge on services and support available for clients.

"It's helpful that social prescribing can link in with lots of different expertise and knowledge because no one person or organisation has all the information. The Living Well programme helped me feel less alone - the most beneficial thing about it is connecting with people who understand what you are going through, which is rare."

"Together Co changed my life. I wouldn't be here without your support." **Social Prescribing clients**

Interest in social prescribing and its impact continues to grow. This year we were invited to talk about our SP services to a variety of audiences at over 10 events; including at the Campaign to End Loneliness International Conference, NHS personalised care webinar, DCMS focus group and Action for Happiness Brighton event.

Social Prescribing Plus (SP Plus)

Our SP Plus service continues to offer specialist social prescribing via our collaboration with four other delivery partners: LGBT Switchboard offer Trans and Non-Binary SP; Trust for Developing Communities offer outreach SP with ethnically diverse communities; Sussex Interpreting Services support people with language needs via their Bilingual Community Navigators; and Friends, Families & Travellers offer SP via active outreach to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

249 people were supported by SP Plus partners, 1,196 SP sessions were delivered, along with 674 onward referrals being made. This year the SP Plus Partnership won the National Association of Link Workers (NALW) award for 'Social Prescribing Partnership of the Year'. The Judges said: "Together Co's Brighton & Hove Social Prescribing Plus Partnership is a strong example of using social prescribing to address health inequalities, and an inspiration for integrated social prescribing partnerships. The breadth of Partnership, the recruitment of Social Prescribing Link Workers with lived experience to reach people from minority groups, the focus on those groups that find it hardest to engage positively with conventional services, and the qualitative and quantitative evidence demonstrating the impact of this approach, made them outstanding."

This work enabled us to champion good practice and widened the inclusiveness and accessibility of social prescribing in Brighton & Hove, addressing health inequalities. In 2023-24, our SP Plus partnership will grow as we work with new, (Robin Hood Health Foundation) and existing partners (SIS and TDC), who will be delivering the Newcomers Social Prescribing service. This will expand support for asylum seekers, refugees and other migrants in our city.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

Social Prescribing Impact

Overall, 1,750 referrals were made into Together Co social prescribing and SP Plus partner services (22% increase on the previous year). The number of people supported during the year was 1,423, (an increase of 9% on the previous year). 4,211 sessions were provided to clients. Link Workers made 3,258 onward referrals to over 325 different agencies.

Increasing demand for our services

At Together Co we saw referral numbers and those supported increase across all our pathways, compared with the previous year:

- Citywide referrals increased by 151% and clients supported by 101%
- SP Plus referrals increased by 88% and clients supported by 49%
- PCN (West Hove and Deans & Central Brighton PCNs) referrals increased by 41% and clients supported by 35%, including 113 Digital Access and Learning Disability engagements

Clients continued to report very positive outcomes following social prescribing support from Together Co. 99% of clients surveyed reported a positive change in at least one area of their lives including:

- 44% said their satisfaction with the amount they socialise had improved
- 54% said they were more able to access local activities
- 93% felt better informed about what was available to them
- 46% said they had more of the support they needed than before
- 59% felt they needed less support to cope with issues than before
- 67% reported improved wellbeing.

We sought feedback from our clients through evaluation calls. They provided opportunities to listen and consider how we could adapt and improve our service. They also gave us a chance to assess clients' progress and any remaining support needs. On average, service users rated the usefulness of the SP service as 4.5 out of 5.

Together Co Befriending

Together Co befriending matches people with people to create friendships that make life better, all through the simple power of human connection. Our programme is one of the country's largest, longest running 'good neighbour' befriending services. Befriending Coordinators take into account people's preferences, skills, interests, and availability to match them with the right volunteer and provide appropriate support. We know that the befriending visits done in 2022-23 addressed a diverse range of needs, from falls and scams prevention to accompanying to medical appointments, meal sharing, café visits and simple DIY. Clients expressed needs relating to loneliness, lack of hope, low mood, and isolation. Regular interaction with their befriender goes a long way to address this, especially now, as the older people we support are amongst those suffering most from the ongoing impact of the pandemic. We have supported people ranging in age from 18 years to 102 years old.

"I couldn't be without Together Co or my volunteers. I am so thankful to my Coordinator who gets my matches exactly right thank you."

"Life is much better, having a chat and laughing is lovely and I look forward to seeing my volunteer."

Befriending matches

In 2022-23, we continued to provide a range of befriending services including one-to-one in-person befriending, telephone befriending, group befriending, and short-term befriending. Throughout the year, we saw a return to more face-to-face befriending following the pandemic, with over 70% of people currently receiving in-person support.

We were delighted to receive reaccreditation for the Quality in Befriending Award, with the recognition that we continue to offer a high-quality service. Together Co befriending is also proud to be a member of the Ageing Well Partnership and the lead partner for the Brighton & Hove City Council Befriending Links Partnership. Both partnerships provided opportunities for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and learning with our partners. They enabled us to work together to support people in accessing the services that best fit their needs.

We continue to work closely with Together Co social prescribing so that everyone coming to Together Co can be offered wrap-around support, including information and further opportunities to make connections.

This service remains in high demand, so we recently expanded our befriending social groups and now operate in three locations across the city. We also organised events to bring people together. In May 2022, we hosted a Platinum Jubilee party, and in December 2022, our Christmas/winter party. We were delighted that partner organisations attended these events. We collaborated with the RSPCA to encourage our clients and volunteers to foster and adopt animals, promoting a "therapeutic" relationship to combat isolation. In February 2023, we held an event on the Palace Pier to promote this collaboration, with TV personality Gail Porter and Celebrity Vet Marc Abraham supporting us.

"The people at the group are very friendly and I have made new friends."

"It's been a life changer, since having my befriender I feel more positive and optimistic." Befriending matches

As well as providing opportunities for social connection, we also supported people facing financial difficulties by signposting them to financial assistance, including food shopping vouchers, energy support, and Money Advice for financial hardship. The service continued to serve as a valuable link and source of advice and information for many vulnerable people living alone in the city e.g. we were able to personally deliver several "Warm Packs" containing a £50 voucher and helpful items to our scheme members, which were so gratefully received in Autumn 2022.

We are proud of the work we did in 2022-23 and look forward to continuing to support the local community through our befriending services.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Together Co Befriending Impact

176 referrals were made into Together Co befriending with 444 people supported during the year.

- 205 supported through face-to-face befriending
- 9 supported through Casserole Club, food sharing befriending
- 152 supported through telephone befriending
- 78 supported through group befriending

Clients continue to report very positive outcomes. 98% of people using this service said they were satisfied with their experience. Since receiving support from Together Co:

- 67% report feeling more connected to the local community
- 93% report feeling less lonely
- 91% report feeling more positive
- 90% report experiencing an improvement in mood

Together Co Buddying

Some people need extra support accessing local services and activities - they know what's needed but are not confident enough to walk through the door and need accompaniment and encouragement. This is where buddying helped. It connected them with the outside world and their community. Buddying offered people a trained volunteer to go with them to a group, service or activity, or achieve a specific goal. In 2022-23, buddy volunteers supported clients to gain the confidence to leave their homes and connect with a range of community activities. This included art groups, leisure centres, a bridge club, walks in the park and along the sea front. Sessions lasted between 1-6 hours. A trained Together Co Buddy Connector is the vital person needed to make the connection between those who need help and a volunteer to 'buddy'.

"My Social Prescribing Link Worker got me a buddy who went out with me and helped me build my confidence. The buddy got me on the bus and we stayed on it for four stops. It felt really good, and I could not have done it without support."

"Since meeting up with my buddy volunteer I have found more confidence to go out, recently I visited the seafront to enjoy the sea views with a friend." **Buddying client**

The buddy service works closely with the Brighton & Hove Food Partnership and other members of the Green Wellbeing Alliance to provide participants support from a trained volunteer. This enables people to connect and engage with the therapeutic outdoor activities of the projects.

Together Co Buddying Impact

45 clients were referred to the Buddy Project during 2022-23 and supported to achieve their identified goal.

Together Co Volunteering

Volunteers are at the heart of what we do. They extend our reach, skills, knowledge, and diversity - we could not do what we do without them.

This year we have expanded the range of volunteer positions available and engaged a diverse group of individuals across all areas of our operations. We have aided individuals seeking to acquire new skills and knowledge, and encouraged the use of pre-existing talents and expertise in areas where they are most valuable. Volunteers range in age from 16 years to 88 years.

"I am very grateful for giving me this opportunity. I love helping people so I do really enjoy volunteering for you." **Buddying volunteer**

In 2022-23, befriending volunteers created friendships through visiting people at home, meeting people in the local community, connecting over the phone and at our social groups. As well as offering connection, they were a source of information, promoting public health messages, as well as local events, activities, and services to the people they supported. They looked out for the people they supported.

We have continued to trial our innovative buddy service, supporting people to connect with their community by accompanying them to a group, service, or activity. Buddy volunteers have also supported our Social Prescribing Ukraine project, welcoming people to drop-in sessions in the city. In addition, nature buddy volunteers have supported people to access green and blue spaces across the city.

We hosted placements for Social Work students at the University of Brighton, as well as those on the Philosophy, Politics, Ethics (BA Hons) course and the School of Business. We worked with Sussex University on their intergenerational research study programme and facilitated befriending matches with students.

Volunteers were involved in different ways in 2022-23, contributing to fundraising efforts, communications, advice on data collection, data analysis and IT systems. We grew funding relationships and volunteers from our corporate partnerships were involved in our befriending social groups and events. We offered opportunities for volunteers to connect with staff and other volunteers at social events and supported sessions, and hosted in person celebratory events to mark National Volunteers Week in June 2022, and National Befriending Week in November 2022.

"I love being part of this charity!"

"It has been an amazing experience and I would highly recommend it to anyone who has spare time or feels lonely." Volunteers

Our volunteer induction programme was complemented with online training sessions covering dementia awareness, mental health awareness, and falls prevention. Regular volunteer newsletters passed on useful information and resources, including other opportunities for training, to volunteers.

We recognise the importance in creating a community for our volunteers, as many of them cite this as a reason for stepping forward. They enjoyed the opportunities we provided to bring people together socially, to thank them for all they do and to foster new friendships within our volunteer community. Moving forward, we hope to offer volunteers wider involvement in our activities and more opportunities for them to connect with each other.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

Together Co Volunteering Impact

- 492 volunteers were involved in Together Co, of whom 130 joined during the year.
- Volunteers gave Together Co an amazing 16,500 hours of support
- Befriending Volunteers made 18,300 contacts with the people they supported
- Buddy Volunteers completed 45 buddy tasks

Volunteers continued to report positive outcomes from their volunteering experience. 96% of volunteers reported being satisfied with the support they received from Together Co. Since volunteering with Together Co:

- 74% of volunteers report feeling more connected to the local community
- 64% of volunteers report feeling less lonely

Together Co wider impact and influence

Together Co transformed its communication and PR strategy over the past 12 months. Connecting with like-minded organisations, corporate partners, schools and businesses across Brighton & Hove was a huge part of getting our name out there. We developed working partnerships with major businesses across the city, including The Grand Hotel, DoubleTree by Hilton Brighton Metropole, and Bupa Global. Brighton Palace Pier, the most iconic location in the city, chose us as their charity of the year and we worked with them on campaigns. We were The Grand's chosen charity, a relationship which will continue into 2022-23, and Bupa Global raised money through its charity football matches.

Moving from our offices to Projects The Lanes has proved advantageous not only in location, but for the diverse range of businesses, which are also based there. Projects made us their charity of the year and regularly run events to raise money. We collaborated with businesses in the building including the Learning Technologies Group, Fizzbox and Gamely, and integrated seamlessly into the Projects community. It is a place of connection and many of the organisations there have taken a great interest in what we do, with some of their staff signing up to become befriending volunteers.

Our corporate offering was a major area of development for us in 2022-23 and we now have a corporate pack and assets to help businesses wanting to improve their Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) activities. This has been well received.

Two new ambassadors came on board to help support us and spread our message: TV presenter and mental health advocate Gail Porter, and Brighton-based celebrity vet Dr Marc Abraham OBE. Both campaign tirelessly for causes they care about and are heavily involved in our Paws2Connect campaign - fostering pets through our partnership with RSPCA Brighton to help alleviate loneliness and social isolation through connection and companionship with animals. In February, they helped to launch the campaign at Brighton Palace Pier, and both Gail and Marc have been generous with their time and support for campaigns. Marc attended our Christmas social at the Brighthelm Centre which saw more than 100 people from across the city join each other to celebrate togetherness. This includes the people who use our services, our supporters, volunteers, staff, trustees and partners.

Our external comms were high on our agenda with articles secured in national and regional press. Our CEO featured in an interview in the national Psychologies Magazine, and our Paws2Connect campaign received coverage on BBC Radio Sussex and Surrey, the Sussex Express and GScene. They also interviewed on: BBC Radio Sussex and Surrey, podcasts with Connected Brighton and Don't be a Stranger, as well as featuring in online interviews with Brighton Chamber and Animo Leadership.

Our newsletter reach continued to expand and hit more than 900 subscribers a month, with an average open rate of 47%. Our social media following continued to grow. Many of our new partnerships have not only been developed through word of mouth, but because our social media is having a greater impact and people are seeing more about the work we do.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

We reported incoming resources of £746,462 (2021-22: £769,148) for the year; a decrease of £22,686. Expenditure in the year was £775,906 (2021-22: £798,225); giving a deficit of £29,444 (2020-21: deficit £29,107).

Principal funding sources - Grants

Together Co received a range of funding from statutory sources (both grants and commissions) and from trusts and foundations. In 2022-23, we were grateful for funding from Digital Lift, Awards for All - National Lottery Community Fund, Arnold Clark Community Fund, Ukraine BHCC, Humanity at Heart, Henry Smith Charity, The Sobell Foundation, The Dodgson Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation, Sussex Community Foundation, The Edward Gostling Foundation, Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust, The Chalk Cliff Trust, Mrs A Lacey Tate Trust and Brighton District Nursing Association Trust.

Donations

As a small but agile fundraising team, we developed strategies to diversify income. 2022-23 saw a rapid growth and meaningful development in our corporate partnerships.

As mentioned above, we were the chosen charity for several organisations across the city, including The Grand Hotel and Brighton Palace Pier. We were supported by Creative Blend who offered pro-bono digital support and Connected Brighton chose us as one of their charity partners. We partnered with local will-writing service, Cloveroak Wills, to offer our supporters the opportunity to make their will in exchange for a donation to Together Co. Kineo and Storytagger provided much needed support for our online volunteer induction training and Co-op Local Community Fund supported our buddy project. A range of local organisations also offered fundraising, raffle prizes, and rewards throughout the year. These included: The Mercure Hotel, Creature Clothes, Purezza, Lost in the Lanes, and St Christopher's Prep.

Edo Midas provided invaluable support for us throughout the year, sponsoring our Christmas social which gathered over 100 supporters. It was important to celebrate together at a time when some people feel most lonely. Brighton Lions kindly provided the food, entertainment, raffle and a donation. Morrisons provided a Christmas tree to create a festive feeling in the room.

Loneliness Awareness Week was one of the most important times in the year for us to raise awareness around loneliness and social isolation. We were excited to have support from local businesses including Boho Gelato and The Well, with a portion of profits donated to us. Both collaborations raised essential funds to support our work, as well as helping raise awareness of the impact of loneliness across the city.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all those individuals who make regular donations, and to those who have donated to our events and online over the past year. Your generosity makes a huge difference to us and allows us to continue our vital work.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Designated Funds

Contingency Reserve

This reserve is in place to provide for the cost of staff redundancies alongside other closure costs upon closure of the business and is recalculated each year end.

Legacy Reserve

The Legacy Reserve is set aside for key projects, which were identified during the year as:

1. Upgrade of the organisation's IT systems including integrated digital approach to services, communications, and fundraising
2. Compliance with GDPR and maximising benefits of integrated digital systems-
3. Contract contingency to ensure that staff can continue to be employed in situations where successful funding has been secured but the contract commencement has been delayed by a short period.
4. Strategic corporate projects

Investment policy and objectives

We aim to hold surplus cash in accordance with our Reserves Policy, with the equivalent of approximately 3 months running costs maintained as cash deposits across current and deposit accounts held with banks covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. Funds in excess of 3 months running costs may be invested in charity specific Common Investment Funds, the income from which is used in furtherance of our Objects.

Reserves policy

The level of unrestricted reserves at the end of the year was £173,417 (2022: £202,861; and restricted reserves were £nil (2022: £nil). Grants are recognised as restricted funds, whereas funds received through service-level agreements are treated as unrestricted, though they are designated to specific services or projects to deliver a contracted service.

Included in these reserves is an element of contingency reserve, which we set aside to cover project termination costs. The total in the contingency fund amounted to £56,134 (2022: £42,500).

The total reserves of £173,417 represented 2.7 months of annual expenditure. Our policy sets the guide level of reserves that we aim to have on hand at around three months of annual expenditure.

FUTURE PLANS

During 2022-23 we delivered the first year of the Together Co 'Our future, together' 3-year strategic plan. The plan set out our ambition to ensure that Together Co can continue to deliver our transformative impact in tackling loneliness and social isolation in Brighton & Hove, and continue to meet the increasing need for community connection following the pandemic and on-going cost of living crisis.

The three strategy pillars - Ignite community connectedness, Develop the best in everyone and Renew operational stability - are anchored in our organisational values and members across Together Co's community are supporting in the delivery of plans within each area.

In 2022-23, actions were taken in all three areas and we are looking to build on this in 2023-24. There will be further scoping of collaborations and innovative pilots, alongside listening and being led more by those who give their time and access our services, to ignite community connectedness. There are further developments for learning across the organisation to develop the best in everyone. There will be a focus on working in a more agile and project focused way and reviewing systems and processes to renew operational stability.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Together Collective, operating as Together Co, is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The company was incorporated in December 1999 and is governed by its Articles of Association.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for managing Together Co. In November 2022, the Board of Trustees took steps to amend Together Co's Articles of Association in their entirety. The changes updated Together Co's membership structure, reflecting the low attendance of existing members at annual general meetings (AGMs). As a result of the changes, Together Co is no longer required to hold an AGM and Trustees are the only voting members of the charity. Non-Trustee members of Together Co automatically became Supporter Members on 30 November 2022. The Board continues to value the contribution of Supporter Members. In addition, the Articles of Association were modernised to reflect current charity law, so that references to legislation are up to date, and best practice in areas such as Trustee powers and proceedings. Copies of the revised Articles of Association are available from the CEO.

The Trustees also proposed to amend Together Co's objects to extend the geographical area of benefit to include East and West Sussex, as well as Brighton & Hove. The Trustees applied to the Charity Commission for consent to change Together Co's objects and were given that consent in January 2023.

Under the new Articles of Association, Together Co must have at least five and not more than 12 Trustees, each appointed for a term of three years and eligible for re-appointment for up to three consecutive terms. Trustees are appointed or re-appointed by a resolution of the Trustees.

Trustees gave their time voluntarily and received no benefits from Together Co. Details of expenses claimed are in the notes to the accounts.

Recruitment and induction of new trustees

To recruit trustees, we identified gaps in the Board's expertise, conducted community outreach and/or advertised and appointed candidates based on a written application and interview.

New trustees were given an information pack about Together Co, attend briefing sessions with the CEO and service managers, and are encouraged to attend courses on topics such as governance, safeguarding, voluntary sector developments and equality, diversity, and inclusion. During the year four Trustees resigned and six new Trustees were appointed.

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees meets regularly to provide direction for Together Co's work. Responsibility for day-to-day running of Together Co is vested in the CEO, who reports to the Chair of the Board. Responsibility for the operation of individual services is delegated to service managers.

The Board updates the Together Co business plan, reviews strategic objectives, and sets targets with the CEO to focus on the charity's stated aims and objectives. The Board and staff team started to implement Together Co's 3-year strategic plan 2022-25 in April 2022. The Board received quarterly reports and worked with the CEO to set targets and ensure activities focused on achieving our goals.

Together Co is committed to the highest standards of governance and believes that good governance should be understood and embedded throughout the organisation. Board meetings and Finance & Risk Subcommittee meetings ensure strong Board oversight of the activities delivered and the financial accountability surrounding contracts and grants.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

Networks and accreditation

Together Co is a member of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, Befriending Networks, the National Association of Link Workers, Brighton & Hove Community Works and Brighton & Hove Chamber of Commerce. Together Co is committed to delivering the highest quality services, and our Quality Marks and membership of professional bodies and networks helps us achieve this. We hold the Befriending Network's Quality in Befriending Award.

Risk management

The Board examines the risks to which Together Co is exposed and has set up arrangements to maintain oversight of finance, risk management, business development, IT and people and culture issues. Risk management arrangements include documented internal financial controls and procedures to ensure the health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users and commercial insurance covers normal business risks, including professional indemnity, employee, and volunteer liability.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03895574 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1083390

Registered office

Projects the Lanes
Nile House
Nile Street
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 1HW

Trustees

Ms E A French (resigned 30/11/2022)
Mrs M C Hughes (resigned 30/11/2022)
Miss N Orringe
R D T Johnston (resigned 30/11/2022)
J D Hyman
Ms R Bradley
D Cundy
Dr L Tester (resigned 29/9/2022)
Ms E-L Naef (appointed 30/11/2022)
A Tindal (appointed 30/11/2022)
Ms G Baldwin (appointed 30/11/2022)
Ms V Benson (appointed 22/2/2023)
Ms A Grant (appointed 22/2/2023)
S Parker (appointed 22/2/2023)

Company Secretary

Ms A Baker

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

John Thacker FCA DChA
Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

Bankers

Co-Operative Bank plc
164-165 Western Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 2BB

Shawbrook Bank Limited
Lutea House
Warley Hill Business Park
The Drive
Great Warley
Brentwood
Essex
CM13 3BE

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

East Sussex Credit Union now known as Wave Community Bank
Hove Town Hall
Tisbury Road
Hove
East Sussex
BN3 3BQ

Working name

Together Co

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Together Collective 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).

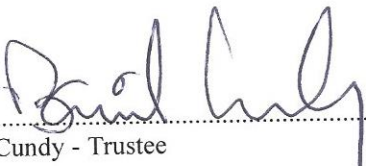
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that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

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on27-7-23..... and signed on its behalf by:


.....
D Cundy - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
TOGETHER COLLECTIVE**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Together Collective ('the Company')

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



John Thacker FCA DChA
Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

Date: 1 August 2023

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	579,253	126,722	705,975	699,599
Charitable activities	5				
Charitable Activities		24,476	-	24,476	44,788
Other trading activities	3	15,423	-	15,423	24,483
Investment income	4	<u>588</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>588</u>	<u>278</u>
Total		<u>619,740</u>	<u>126,722</u>	<u>746,462</u>	<u>769,148</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		89,310	-	89,310	73,761
Charitable activities	6				
Charitable Activities		<u>559,874</u>	<u>126,722</u>	<u>686,596</u>	<u>724,494</u>
Total		<u>649,184</u>	<u>126,722</u>	<u>775,906</u>	<u>798,255</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(29,444)	-	(29,444)	(29,107)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		202,861	-	202,861	231,968
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>173,417</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>173,417</u>	<u>202,861</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE (REGISTERED NUMBER: 03895574)

BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	4,193	-	4,193	7,787
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	77,644	-	77,644	39,377
Cash at bank		<u>237,206</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>237,206</u>	<u>238,259</u>
		314,850	-	314,850	277,636
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(145,626)	-	(145,626)	(82,562)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>169,224</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>169,224</u>	<u>195,074</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>173,417</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>173,417</u>	<u>202,861</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>173,417</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>173,417</u>	<u>202,861</u>
FUNDS	14				
Unrestricted funds				<u>173,417</u>	<u>202,861</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>173,417</u>	<u>202,861</u>

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

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st 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.

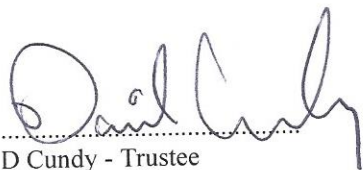
The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE (REGISTERED NUMBER: 03895574)

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31ST MARCH 2023

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 on27-7-23..... and were signed on its behalf by:


.....
D Cundy - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>(1,641)</u>	<u>(13,847)</u>
Net cash used in operating activities		<u>(1,641)</u>	<u>(13,847)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(10,782)
Interest received		<u>588</u>	<u>278</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>588</u>	<u>(10,504)</u>
<hr/>			
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(1,053)	(24,351)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>238,259</u>	<u>262,610</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>237,206</u>	<u>238,259</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET EXPENDITURE TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(29,444)	(29,107)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	3,594	3,744
Interest received	(588)	(278)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(38,263)	34,070
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>63,060</u>	<u>(22,276)</u>
Net cash used in operations	<u>(1,641)</u>	<u>(13,847)</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/22 £	Cash flow £	At 31/3/23 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	<u>238,259</u>	<u>(1,053)</u>	<u>237,206</u>
	<u>238,259</u>	<u>(1,053)</u>	<u>237,206</u>
Total	<u>238,259</u>	<u>(1,053)</u>	<u>237,206</u>

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

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and on that basis the charity is considered to be a going concern.

Income

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

Donations are accounted for as they are received by the charity. Donations received in the year that relate to specific purposes have been included in restricted funds.

Grants are recognised on an accruals basis, accounted for in relation to the period to which they relate. Where grants are received during the year under review but relate to a later period, the amount is deferred under Grants in Advance in the Balance Sheet.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

All other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, including attributable VAT which cannot be recovered and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Certain expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities and has been included in the related cost categories. Certain other costs, which are attributable to more than one activity, are apportioned across cost categories on the basis of an estimate of the proportion of time spent by staff on those activities (for salary costs) and based on a proportion of the total activities by the charity for other costs.

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration on each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on a basis which is an estimate, based on the proportion of cost of each activity to the total income of all activities.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 33% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

The charity has a policy to capitalise assets over £1,000.

Recognition and measurement

Fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

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. No direct tax charges have arisen in the charity.

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.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations	4,960	6,113
Grants	<u>701,015</u>	<u>693,486</u>
	<u>705,975</u>	<u>699,599</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES - continued**

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Brighton & Hove CCG	242,695	193,000
Henry Smith	35,000	-
Derek & Eileen Dodgson Foundation	4,000	3,000
Brighton & Hove City Council	67,935	66,002
Big Lottery	8,773	5,850
Other	-	48,577
Department of Health and Social Care	5,735	65,990
Sobell Foundation	10,000	-
Sussex Community Foundation	3,333	-
Impact Initiatives	136,516	136,516
Primary Care Network	145,838	174,551
Arnold Clark	2,000	-
Humanity at Heart	1,440	-
Edward Gostling	25,000	-
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	7,500	-
Chalk Cliff Trust	5,000	-
Lacy-Tate Trust	250	-
	<u>701,015</u>	<u>693,486</u>
	2023	2022
	£	£
Received from Brighton & Hove CCG/Department of Health and Social Care	353,892	160,392
Less: Contributions to Partners	<u>111,197</u>	<u>94,402</u>
Net figure above	<u>242,695</u>	<u>65,990</u>
3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES	2023	2022
	£	£
Activities for generating fund	<u>15,423</u>	<u>24,483</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

4. INVESTMENT INCOME		2023	2022
		£	£
Deposit account interest		<u>588</u>	<u>278</u>
5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		2023	2022
		£	£
Other incoming resources	Activity Charitable Activities	<u>24,476</u>	<u>44,788</u>
6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS			Direct Costs £
Charitable Activities			<u>686,596</u>
7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)			
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):			
		2023	2022
		£	£
Depreciation - owned assets		3,594	3,744
Independent examiner's fee		<u>2,940</u>	<u>2,700</u>
8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS			
There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2023 nor for the year ended 31st March 2022.			
Trustees' expenses			
In the year no trustees received any reimbursements for travel expenses in this or the previous year.			

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

9. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	453,437	525,486
Social security costs	43,312	45,088
Other pension costs	<u>13,650</u>	<u>13,813</u>
	<u>510,399</u>	<u>584,387</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Total	<u>22</u>	<u>27</u>

On a Full Time Equivalent basis, the average number of employees was 18 (2022: 20)

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Key Management Personnel remuneration in the year amounted to £59,764 (2022: £54,302)

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	678,750	20,849	699,599
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	44,788	-	44,788
Other trading activities	24,483	-	24,483
Investment income	<u>278</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>278</u>
Total	<u>748,299</u>	<u>20,849</u>	<u>769,148</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	73,761	-	73,761
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	<u>703,645</u>	<u>20,849</u>	<u>724,494</u>
Total	<u>777,406</u>	<u>20,849</u>	<u>798,255</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(29,107)	-	(29,107)

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	231,968	-	231,968
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>202,861</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>202,861</u>
11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023	<u>10,639</u>	<u>24,749</u>	<u>35,388</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st April 2022	10,639	16,962	27,601
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>3,594</u>	<u>3,594</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>10,639</u>	<u>20,556</u>	<u>31,195</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>4,193</u>	<u>4,193</u>
At 31st March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>7,787</u>	<u>7,787</u>
12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		2023	2022
		£	£
Trade debtors		71,328	29,126
Other debtors		2,500	2,756
Prepayments and accrued income		<u>3,816</u>	<u>7,495</u>
		<u>77,644</u>	<u>39,377</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	6,988	27,550
Social security and other taxes	11,632	13,989
Other creditors	2,634	2,955
Accruals and deferred income	<u>124,372</u>	<u>38,068</u>
	<u>145,626</u>	<u>82,562</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31/3/23
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	100,777	(20,325)	(13,634)	66,818
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	42,500	-	13,634	56,134
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	<u>59,584</u>	<u>(9,119)</u>	-	<u>50,465</u>
	<u>202,861</u>	<u>(29,444)</u>	-	<u>173,417</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>202,861</u>	<u>(29,444)</u>	-	<u>173,417</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	619,740	(640,065)	(20,325)
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	-	<u>(9,119)</u>	<u>(9,119)</u>
	619,740	(649,184)	(29,444)
Restricted funds			
Befriending	39,772	(39,772)	-
Social Prescribing	<u>86,950</u>	<u>(86,950)</u>	-
	<u>126,722</u>	<u>(126,722)</u>	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>746,462</u>	<u>(775,906)</u>	<u>(29,444)</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued****Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	131,157	(26,112)	(4,268)	100,777
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	38,232	-	4,268	42,500
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	<u>62,579</u>	<u>(2,995)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,584</u>
	<u>231,968</u>	<u>(29,107)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>202,861</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>231,968</u>	<u>(29,107)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>202,861</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	748,299	(774,411)	(26,112)
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,995)</u>	<u>(2,995)</u>
	748,299	(777,406)	(29,107)
Restricted funds			
Befriending	8,850	(8,850)	-
Communications	2,150	(2,150)	-
Central	<u>9,849</u>	<u>(9,849)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>20,849</u>	<u>(20,849)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>769,148</u>	<u>(798,255)</u>	<u>(29,107)</u>

Designated Funds**Contingency Reserve**

This reserve is in place to provide for the cost of staff redundancies upon closure of the business and is recalculated each year end.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Legacy Reserve

The Legacy Reserve is to be used for key operational projects, which are currently identified as:

1. Upgrade of the organisation's IT systems including integrated digital approach to services, communications and fundraising;
2. Compliance with GDPR and maximising benefits of integrated digital systems;
3. Contract contingency to ensure that staff can continue to be employed in situations where successful funding has been secured but the contract commencement has been delayed by a short period;
4. Strategic corporate projects.

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	4,960	6,113
Grants	<u>701,015</u>	<u>693,486</u>
	705,975	699,599
Other trading activities		
Activities for generating fund	15,423	24,483
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	588	278
Charitable activities		
Other incoming resources	<u>24,476</u>	<u>44,788</u>
Total incoming resources	746,462	769,148
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Costs of generating funds	89,310	73,761
Charitable activities		
Wages	453,437	525,486
Social security	43,312	45,088
Pensions	13,650	13,813
Direct costs	72,121	29,474
Staff costs	-	16,770
Establishment costs	29,451	37,587
Office costs	71,625	53,576
Accountancy	<u>3,000</u>	<u>2,700</u>
	686,596	724,494
Total resources expended	<u>775,906</u>	<u>798,255</u>
Net expenditure	<u>(29,444)</u>	<u>(29,107)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Together Collective

England & Wales - Charity number 1083390

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03895574 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1083390

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022
FOR
TOGETHER COLLECTIVE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

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TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST 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 31st 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

We are Together Co, and we create connections that change lives. We do this through our befriending, social prescribing, and volunteering services in Brighton & Hove and beyond, and by sharing our ideas and expertise nationally. In a city of nearly 300,000 no one should be lonely or socially isolated. Together, we can make sure no one is.

In 2021-22 we continued to deliver critical services to people living in Brighton & Hove, using our core delivery of Befriending and Social Prescribing to reach individuals and communities most affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. We're proud to have so strongly fulfilled our organisational purpose and celebrate the fact that despite operating under challenging circumstances we have had yet another year of expanding our reach.

Public benefit

During 2021-22, Together Co delivered public benefit through services that prevent and alleviate loneliness and social isolation, and support people with the health and wellbeing impact of loneliness and isolation. The Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in a global focus on isolation and a wider recognition of the detrimental impacts of loneliness, which has made our mission more relevant than ever. We have continued to adapt the delivery of our services to test and pilot new ways of engaging with the public and have been able to respond with flexibility to the changing needs of our beneficiaries.

Our services continued to retain a strong focus on the needs of users and are provided free of charge to individuals. Removing red tape for volunteer engagement is a core priority, and the team support volunteers to access provision for expenses and training. Access to our services is monitored based on the Brighton & Hove City Council equalities monitoring framework.

Staffing

As of 31st March 2022, Together Co had 23 members of staff. This is compared to March 2021, when there were 31 members of staff and March 2020, when there were 22. As at 31st March 2022 there were 6 full time and 17 part time employees. This was 17.76 full time equivalent (FTE) employees (March 2021: 23.8 FTE and March 2020: 15.8 FTE). During 2021-22, there were 12 leavers: 5 were resignations; 3 redundancies; 3 fixed term contracts ending; and 1 mutual ending that was health related. During the same period, 3 new employees were recruited, 1 in the Befriending team; 1 in the Engagement team; and 1 in the Social Prescribing team. There were also 6 different independent contractors employed during the year providing specialist services either on a short-term basis or on a part-time regular basis. Of significance was the resignation of Jo Crease, the former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at Together Co, who left in October 2021. At that time, Sofie Franzen, our Deputy Chief Officer, took on the role of Interim CEO and this arrangement continued for the remainder of 2021-22.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Together Co Social Prescribing

Social prescribing helps people find the places and people they need to be happier and healthier. Skilled Link Workers at Together Co help those who use our services (clients) navigate local services and activities that could benefit them.

In 2020-21 the Social Prescribing (SP) service adapted its provision in response to Covid-19, focussing on supporting people through the Community Hub to respond to immediate and changing needs created by the pandemic. During 2021-22, the impact of Covid-19 on people's social connections, health and practical needs continued. At the same time, demands on local services remained high, resulting in gaps in support and longer waits for clients when being referred on. Link Workers therefore continued to need to adapt, supporting clients while they waited for onward support and keeping up to date as services/groups adapted their provision.

As restrictions lifted, Link Workers were able to start offering more in-person support, particularly in GP practices. The majority of support remained remote, however as the year progressed the team were able to increase in-person working - including undertaking outreach in targeted communities. Moving forward in 2022-23, the service continues to increase in-person working and client support options, whilst retaining the provision of remote support where this meets the needs of clients and the service.

There were changes within the team, including the SP management team, because of changes to the Primary Care Network (PCN) contracts. In September 2021, Together Co ceased providing Social Prescribing Link Workers to two PCNs, whilst the remaining two PCN contracts were extended and Link Worker capacity increased. As PCN referral targets rose, Link Workers continued to undertake engagement activities within the PCNs, developing new ways of working and exploring ways to further integrate social prescribing; this supported an increase in referral numbers across the remaining PCNs as compared to the previous year. As with the City-wide team, the PCN team continued to receive higher numbers of more complex referrals.

Together Co was awarded the contract to pilot a Community of Practice for those working in additional roles (ARRS) within Brighton & Hove - this included Social Prescribing Link Workers, Health Coaches and Care Coordinators based within the city's six PCNs, as well as Link Workers working across the specialist SP Plus provider organisations. Online and in-person sessions brought staff across these roles and organisations together, to share experiences and learning as well as to develop their understanding of personalised care.

We continued to host the Brighton & Hove Social Prescribing Network, with a membership of 23 organisations all delivering medium to holistic social prescribing in the city. The network meets quarterly to share good practice and knowledge on services and support available for clients. In 2021-22 we welcomed new providers to this network.

Numbers and outcomes:

1,431 referrals were made into Together Co Social Prescribing services (including SP Plus), an increase of 20% on the previous year. The number of people supported during the year was 1301, an increase of 12% on the previous year (1,159 people in 2020-21).

During 2021-22, 4,986 sessions were provided to clients, with an average of 3.4 sessions per person. The average number of sessions in the previous year rose to 4.3 per person, in part reflecting the increased complexity and lack of onward referral options available as a result of the pandemic. As services started to open up and restrictions eased, more options for onward referral and connections for clients became available, allowing the Link Workers to support increased numbers of referrals.

We made 2,867 onward referrals to over 200 different agencies.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

Clients continued to report very positive outcomes following social prescribing support from Together Co.

97% of clients surveyed by Together Co reported a positive change in at least one area of their lives:

- 48% said their satisfaction with the amount they socialise had improved;
- 44% said they were more able to access local activities;
- 90% felt better informed about what was available to them;
- 38% said they had more of the support they needed than before;
- 57% felt they needed less support to cope with issues than before;
- 66% reported improved wellbeing.

Social Prescribing Plus (SP Plus)

Our SP Plus service continues to offer specialist social prescribing via our collaboration with four other delivery partners: LGBT Switchboard offer Trans and Non-Binary SP; Trust for Developing Communities offer outreach SP with Black and Minority Ethnic communities; Sussex Interpreting Services support people with language needs via their SP trained Interpreters and Friends; and Friends, Families and Travellers offer SP via active outreach to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

This work enables us to champion good practice, continuously strive to widen the inclusiveness and accessibility of social prescribing in Brighton & Hove and support the service in addressing health inequalities. In 2021-22, our SP Plus Partners provided Social Prescribing support for:

- 320 referrals (a 21% increase on the number of referrals received the previous year)
- 339 people (9% increase)
- 1275 sessions, an average of 3.8 per client
- 763 onward referrals

Volunteers

Through Covid-19, SP experienced a reduction in volunteers working directly with the team. Work is underway to expand the volunteer roles within the service - including the development of SP Ambassadors. In collaboration with the Befriending service, Link Workers have been instrumental in developing and expanding the Buddy service - with 18 volunteer buddies trained or undergoing training at the end of March 2022.

To widen the reach of Together Co Social Prescribing, and to increase access to social prescribing support for individuals / communities who may otherwise be less likely to do so, Together Co has begun to develop a network of SP Champions, who will be supported to connect their community, organisation or workplace with social prescribing. These champions will receive training, resources and ongoing support to promote social prescribing within their communities and connect people into Together Co services.

Together Co Befriending

Befriending service delivery

During the year, Together Co Befriending delivered an essential service to existing and new scheme members as we transitioned from Covid-19 restrictions to the new 'normal'. The impact of the pandemic and prolonged restrictions has resulted in scheme members suffering from a lack of confidence in re-engagement with others and the outside world. Many of our clients report that their poor physical and mental health has hugely worsened over the last two years, and that this impacts their sense of connection to others.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

In the early months of the year, telephone befriending continued to be the most popular way of delivering befriending, weekly phone calls provided regular check-ins and were reported as contributing to an increase in wellbeing and as having a positive impact on scheme members. As Covid-19 restrictions eased, scheme members were offered options for befriending: one-to-one home visits, social groups, activities, events. This resulted in the team prioritising home visits to assess those who joined the service during Covid-19 lockdowns. Currently over 50% of matches are enjoying in-person befriending. The regular phone calls, doorstep or home visits have been a lifeline for scheme members. The reliability of the befrienders who commit to at least six months of support relieves the sense of imprisonment that many housebound people feel.

Monthly social events were reintroduced at two venues, Brighthelm and Hangleton and Knoll. Respecting that many participants had vulnerabilities to the risk of Covid-19, numbers were restricted, and guidelines followed, including safe distancing and wearing face coverings. With high demand from scheme members, numbers have slowly increased. Scheme members report that they enjoy meeting others, tea and chat as well as the guest speakers and activities organised by Befriending Coordinators.

Scheme members

At the 31st March 2022, the service supported 609 active scheme members. The number of new scheme members who joined the service during the 2021-22 was 124 (2020-21: 269). Maintaining essential connections and Covid-19 related support, alongside our usual work, for those who continued to experience isolation from their communities, we are proud to have accomplished our organisational purpose at a time of national crisis and to have helped more people than ever.

Support needs

Befriending Coordinators manage referrals from people who identify as having high support needs, usually people under 65 with complex mixes of physical and mental health issues. Coordinators worked to support two social work students, who provided scheme members with supported interventions, advocacy and signposting to relevant services in the local area. The team has received positive feedback from referrers for our work with hard to match vulnerable adults.

Partnerships and collaboration

Befriending is a member of the Ageing Well Partnership and lead partner for the Brighton & Hove City Council TSP Befriending Links partnership, both of which provide opportunities for collaboration, sharing knowledge and learning, and joint training.

Working in conjunction with the Social Prescribing team, Befriending Coordinators identify and refer scheme members who are eligible for assessment to identify additional support needs. A trial digital online project is aimed at encouraging resistant users to technology to participate in online social events accompanied by volunteers. The project has benefitted from advice and support from local digital service providers.

Volunteering

Volunteers have been instrumental in enabling us to deliver the befriending service and to respond to the increasing and changing needs for support resulting from the pandemic.

Befriending volunteers provided 17,475 of support during the year. 538 active volunteers (2020-21: 546) and 18 office/admin volunteers (2020-21: 20) retained connectivity with our scheme members mostly by regular telephone calls during the Covid-19 lockdowns. Matches made before the pandemic were able to transition to home visits, an outside get together in a garden or park. Volunteers tell us how joyous and valuable the face-to-face meetings were after lockdowns, both parties experiencing an emotional reunion as well as providing practical outcomes. The number of new volunteers engaged during the period was 139 (2020-21: 293).

Induction and Training for Befriending Volunteers

Induction for new volunteers is offered and delivered via a series of videos which allow volunteers to access training at a time that best suits them. Training has included: safeguarding, benefits, dementia, active listening skills, support in the city and falls prevention.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

At the request of volunteers, induction and training are now also being presented in-person by staff. This allows for more personal engagement with the team, peer support and Q&As.

Befriending Coordinators are using an online portal to enable volunteers to access the training and events programme schedule for the year. This is supported by use of the Social Prescribing online Padlet which allows volunteers to access contact details for other professional services, events information and advice available in the city.

The Buddy Project

In conjunction with the Social Prescribing team, Befriending Coordinators refer scheme members to the Buddy Project which provides short term, goal driven interventions for those seeking to re-engage with social activities who benefit from additional support. Volunteers accompany clients to the activity, social events or to medical appointments. 18 volunteer buddies were trained or undergoing training at the end of March 2022.

Together Co cross-organisational initiatives

Together Co Volunteer strategy

A working group comprising volunteers, staff and trustees meets quarterly to ensure that volunteer-related activity is reviewed and continuously evolved. The volunteer strategy is embedded into a new overarching organisational strategy and one of the planned activities is the creation of 'at-a-glance' access to important policies, role descriptions, expenses claim forms etc.

Together Co Awareness Raising and Influencing

As a direct result of exiting CEO, Jo Crease's involvement with the Government's Tackling Loneliness Network during 2020, Together Co successfully bid for and won a small restricted grant from the Department for Culture Media and Sports (also responsible for loneliness) to run a pilot exploring the appetite for creating a local cross-sector Coalition for Loneliness. Following a series of public (online) meetings, there is an established core group of committed founding members - businesses, public services and charities - wanting to join forces in keeping loneliness on the agenda, ensuring that it is reflected in public policy and commissioning and that service provision consciously targets at risk groups and communities. Together Co will continue to convene and evolve this collaborative space with a likely public launch of the initiative in the autumn of 2022.

Marketing Communications

During 2021-22, a coordinated programme of activity sought to generate awareness, engagement and understanding of Together Co in order to fulfil the organisation's strategic objectives. This activity included digital marketing alongside broader communications using email newsletters, social media and PR. Combined, this activity contributed to the charity seeing a step change in engagement with our target audiences of potential service users and volunteers. Key highlights included that in 2021-22 Together Co was consistently ranked highly in internet (Google) search which led to an 80% increase in people finding us via Google as compared to 2020-21. Another important metric for marketing effectiveness was on social media where our new follower rates for Facebook and Instagram were around 9% higher than the benchmark industry average. Recognising the importance of social media both in reaching potential service users and volunteers, in 2022-23 we will train up a Social Media Engagement Volunteer to increase our capacity to engage in online conversations with our community, supporters and local influencers.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

In the past year, we have implemented a focussed strategy to increase the impact of our digital newsletter as one of the most important ways of sharing timely and inspiring information about Together Co. This included investing in technology and training that contributed to improvements in the design and content within the newsletters. At the end of the year, our digital newsletter open rates were 20%-25% higher than industry benchmarks, with our click through rate tracking on average 4% higher. Looking ahead, we will continue to evolve our approach to newsletters and broader digital marketing so that we can build on the progress to date and celebrate the milestone achievements of the hundreds of volunteers who work with us each month.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

We reported incoming resources of £769,148 (2020-21: £896,696) for the year; a decrease of £127,548. Expenditure in the year was £798,255 (2020-21: £837,523); giving a deficit of £29,107 (2020-21: surplus £59,173).

Principal funding sources

Grants

Together Co is principally resourced through a mixture of statutory funding (both grants and commissions) and funding from trusts and foundations. In 2021-22 we were grateful for funding from Arnold Clark Community Fund, Barchester Charitable Foundation, Brighton & Hove City Council COMF fund (Contain Outbreak Management Fund), Chalk Cliff Trust, The Dodgson Foundation, Department for Culture, Media and Sports, Edward Gostling Foundation, Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust, Henry Smith Charity, Sobell Foundation and Sussex Community Foundation.

Donations

Covid-19 continued to severely impact the fundraising landscape with some sectors struggling and others thriving, and in-person events being majorly affected. As a small and agile Engagement Team, with community connectedness and innovation at our core, we continue to flex and adapt to the rapidly changing environment.

To help us diversify our income and become more financially independent, the year saw us planning for growth - by investing in a fundraising database and developing a donor stewardship programme. This is allowing us to better understand our data, increase efficiency and ensure our donors get the best experience possible.

We secured some exciting new partnerships, most notably with the iconic seafront hotel the Grand that will be adding a discretionary charitable donation of £2 to every room to support local causes. We were delighted when, to celebrate lockdown restrictions easing, vegan pizzeria Purezza launched a guest pizza called the Meet Feast, and donated the profits to Together Co. We were also chosen by the Duke of Wellington to partner with throughout the year - benefitting from their lively and fun pub quizzes.

We were honoured to be chosen as one of the Santa Bus charities, one of the highlights of Christmas for Brighton & Hove residents, as the open top bus carrying Santa travels around the suburbs of the City throughout December, lighting up the streets and playing Christmas songs. We were also lucky enough to be a Mayor's Charity for the second year in a row, as Councillor Alan Robbins stayed on to serve a second term as Mayor due to Covid-19.

We also built on the success of last year's Christmas auction, Brighton's Bid to End Loneliness, securing prizes from 48 local businesses and individuals, raising vital money to support our services.

Designated Funds

Contingency Reserve

This reserve is in place to provide for the cost of staff redundancies upon closure of the business and is recalculated each year end.

Legacy Reserve

The Legacy Reserve is to be used for key operational projects, which are currently identified as:

1. Upgrade of the organisation's IT systems;
2. Compliance with GDPR especially for fundraising;
3. Contract contingency to ensure that staff can continue to be employed in situations where successful funding has been agreed but the contract commencement has been delayed by a short period;
4. Strategic corporate projects.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Investment policy and objectives

We aim to hold surplus cash in accordance with our Reserves Policy, with the equivalent of approximately 3 months running costs maintained as cash deposits across current and deposit accounts held with banks covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. Funds in excess of 3 months running costs may be invested in charity specific Common Investment Funds, the income from which is used in furtherance of the charity's objects.

Reserves policy

The level of unrestricted reserves at the end of the year was £202,861 (2020-21: £231,968); and restricted reserves were £nil (2020-21: £nil). Grants are recognised as restricted funds, whereas funds received through service-level agreements are treated as unrestricted, though they are designated to specific services or projects to deliver a contracted service.

Included in these reserves is an element of contingency reserve, which we set aside to cover project or business termination costs. The total in the contingency fund amounted to £42,500 (2020-21: £38,232).

The total reserves of £202,861 represented 3.2 months of annual expenditure. Our policy sets the guide level of reserves that we aim to have on hand at around three months of annual expenditure.

FUTURE PLANS

During 2021-22 we consulted extensively with staff and trustees to collaboratively design the Together Co 'Our future, together' 3-year strategic plan. The plan sets out our ambition to ensure that Together Co can continue to deliver the transformative impact in tackling loneliness and social isolation in Brighton & Hove, which has been widely recognised and celebrated during the pandemic.

The three strategy pillars - Ignite community connectedness, Develop the best in everyone and Renew operational stability - are anchored in our organisational values and staff and trustees are engaged in working groups, developing the actions within the delivery framework.

Together with our volunteer strategy, 'Our future, together', will ensure that all efforts are working as hard and as SMART as possible, whilst giving our staff and volunteers opportunities to thrive and grow; allowing us to evolve and expand our core work of connecting people - through befriending, social prescribing and volunteering.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Together Collective, operating as Together Co, is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The company was incorporated in December 1999 and is governed by its Articles of Association.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for managing Together Co. Under the Articles of Association, a maximum of eight members of the Board are elected at the annual general meeting (AGM) and up to four trustees may be appointed. Each year, half of the Board's longest-standing trustees retire and may be re-elected at the AGM.

Trustees gave their time voluntarily and received no benefits from Together Co. Details of expenses claimed are in the notes to the accounts.

Recruitment and induction of new trustees

To recruit trustees, we identify gaps in the Board's expertise, conduct community outreach and/or advertise and appoint candidates based on a written application and interview.

New trustees are given an information pack about Together Co, attend briefing sessions with the CEO and service managers, and are encouraged to attend courses on topics such as governance, safeguarding, voluntary sector developments and equality, diversity and inclusion.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees meets regularly to provide direction for Together Co's work. Responsibility for day-to-day running of Together Co is vested in the CEO, who reports to the Chair of the Board. Responsibility for the operation of individual services is delegated to service managers.

The Board updates the Together Co business plan, reviews strategic objectives and sets targets with the CEO to focus on the charity's stated aims and objectives. The Board and staff team developed the 3-year strategic plan 2022-25, for implementation in April 2022. Board receives quarterly reports and works with the CEO to set targets and ensure activities focus on achieving our goals.

Together Co is committed to the highest standards of governance and believes that good governance should be understood and embedded throughout the organisation. Board meetings and Finance & Risk Subcommittee meetings ensure strong Board oversight of the activities delivered and the financial accountability surrounding contracts and grants. We continue to conduct governance meetings online.

Networks and partnerships

Together Co is a member of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, Befriending Networks, the National Association of Link Workers, Brighton & Hove Community Works and Brighton & Hove Chamber of Commerce. Together Co is committed to delivering the highest quality services, and our Quality Marks and membership of professional bodies and networks helps us achieve this. We hold the Befriending Network's Quality in Befriending Award.

Together Co is one of Government's Loneliness Champions, a role that came about following our involvement in the work of the Tackling Loneliness Network and the All Party Parliamentary Group on Loneliness in 2020-21.

Risk management

The Board examines the risks to which Together Co is exposed and has set up sub-committees and working groups to strengthen oversight of finance, risk management, business development, communications, policies and personnel issues. Risk management arrangements include documented internal financial controls and procedures to ensure the health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users and commercial insurance covers normal business risks, including professional indemnity, employee and volunteer liability.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03895574 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1083390

Registered office

Brighthelm Centre
North Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 1YD

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Trustees

Ms E A French
Mrs M C Hughes
Miss N Orringe
R D T Johnston
J D Hyman
Ms R Bradley
D Cundy
Dr L Tester

Company Secretary

Ms S Franzen

Independent Examiner

John Thacker FCA DChA
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Bankers

Co-Operative Bank plc
164-165 Western Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 2BB

Shawbrook Bank Limited
Lutea House
Warley Hill Business Park
The Drive
Great Warley
Brentwood
Essex
CM13 3BE

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

East Sussex Credit Union
Hove Town Hall
Tisbury Road
Hove
East Sussex
BN3 3BQ

Working name

Together Co

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Together Collective 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.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

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.

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 6th October 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Miss N Orringe - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
TOGETHER COLLECTIVE**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Together Collective ('the Company')

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

John Thacker FCA DChA
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

Date: 11th October 2022

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	678,750	20,849	699,599	874,464
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		44,788	-	44,788	9,735
Other trading activities	3	24,483	-	24,483	10,921
Investment income	4	278	-	278	479
Other income		-	-	-	1,097
Total		<u>748,299</u>	<u>20,849</u>	<u>769,148</u>	<u>896,696</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		73,761	-	73,761	65,538
Charitable activities					
Other incoming resources	6	-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities		<u>703,645</u>	<u>20,849</u>	<u>724,494</u>	<u>771,985</u>
Total		<u>777,406</u>	<u>20,849</u>	<u>798,255</u>	<u>837,523</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(29,107)	-	(29,107)	59,173
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		231,968	-	231,968	172,795
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>202,861</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>202,861</u>	<u>231,968</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE (REGISTERED NUMBER: 03895574)

BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	7,787	-	7,787	749
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	39,377	-	39,377	73,447
Cash at bank		<u>238,259</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>238,259</u>	<u>262,610</u>
		277,636	-	277,636	336,057
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(82,562)	-	(82,562)	(104,838)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>195,074</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>195,074</u>	<u>231,219</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>202,861</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>202,861</u>	<u>231,968</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>202,861</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>202,861</u>	<u>231,968</u>
FUNDS	14				
Unrestricted funds				<u>202,861</u>	<u>231,968</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>202,861</u>	<u>231,968</u>

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

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st 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.

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE (REGISTERED NUMBER: 03895574)

BALANCE SHEET - continued

31ST MARCH 2022

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 6th October 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

N Orringe - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>(13,847)</u>	<u>70,468</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(13,847)</u>	<u>70,468</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(10,782)	-
Interest received		<u>278</u>	<u>479</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		<u>(10,504)</u>	<u>479</u>
<hr/>			
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(24,351)	70,947
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>262,610</u>	<u>191,663</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>238,259</u></u>	<u><u>262,610</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2022 £	2021 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(29,107)	59,173
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	3,744	1,618
Interest received	(278)	(479)
Decrease in debtors	34,070	1,338
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>(22,276)</u>	<u>8,818</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	<u>(13,847)</u>	<u>70,468</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/21 £	Cash flow £	At 31/3/22 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	<u>262,610</u>	<u>(24,351)</u>	<u>238,259</u>
	<u>262,610</u>	<u>(24,351)</u>	<u>238,259</u>
Total	<u>262,610</u>	<u>(24,351)</u>	<u>238,259</u>

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

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, including taking into account any potential impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, and on that basis the charity is considered to be a going concern.

Income

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

Donations are accounted for as they are received by the charity. Donations received in the year that relate to specific purposes have been included in restricted funds.

Grants are recognised on an accruals basis, accounted for in relation to the period to which they relate. Where grants are received during the year under review but relate to a later period, the amount is deferred under Grants in Advance in the Balance Sheet.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

All other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, including attributable VAT which cannot be recovered and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Certain expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities and has been included in the related cost categories. Certain other costs, which are attributable to more than one activity, are apportioned across cost categories on the basis of an estimate of the proportion of time spent by staff on those activities (for salary costs) and based on a proportion of the total activities by the charity for other costs.

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration on each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on a basis which is an estimate, based on the proportion of cost of each activity to the total income of all activities.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 33% on cost

Computer equipment - 33% on cost

The charity has a policy to capitalise assets over £1,000.

Recognition and measurement

Fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

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. No direct tax charges have arisen in the charity.

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.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations	6,113	33,186
Grants	<u>693,486</u>	<u>841,278</u>
	<u>699,599</u>	<u>874,464</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES - continued

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

	2022	2021
	£	£
Brighton & Hove CCG	193,000	201,801
Sussex PCC	-	5,833
Derek & Eileen Dodgson Foundation	3,000	4,000
Brighton & Hove City Council	66,002	64,232
Big Lottery	5,850	31,450
Other	48,577	95,240
Department of Health and Social Care	65,990	65,637
Impact Initiatives	136,516	136,516
Primary Care Network	<u>174,551</u>	<u>236,569</u>
	<u>693,486</u>	<u>841,278</u>

	2022	2021
	£	£
Received from Department of Health and Social Care	160,392	128,169
Less: Contributions to Partners	<u>94,402</u>	<u>62,532</u>
Net figure above	<u>65,990</u>	<u>65,637</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Activities for generating fund	<u>24,483</u>	<u>10,921</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>278</u>	<u>479</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other incoming resources	<u>44,788</u>	<u>9,735</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs
	£
Charitable Activities	<u>724,494</u>

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	3,744	1,618
Independent examiner's fee	<u>2,700</u>	<u>2,700</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

In the year no trustees received any reimbursements for travel expenses in this or the previous year.

9. STAFF COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	525,486	578,084
Social security costs	45,088	51,096
Other pension costs	<u>13,813</u>	<u>15,538</u>
	<u>584,387</u>	<u>644,718</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
Total	<u>27</u>	<u>30</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Key Management Personnel remuneration in the year amounted to £54,302 (2021: £82,803)

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	808,181	66,283	874,464
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	9,735	-	9,735
Other trading activities	10,921	-	10,921
Investment income	479	-	479
Other income	<u>1,097</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,097</u>
Total	<u>830,413</u>	<u>66,283</u>	<u>896,696</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	65,538	-	65,538
Charitable activities			
Other incoming resources	-	-	-
Charitable Activities	<u>705,702</u>	<u>66,283</u>	<u>771,985</u>
Total	<u>771,240</u>	<u>66,283</u>	<u>837,523</u>
NET INCOME	59,173	-	59,173
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>172,795</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>172,795</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>231,968</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>231,968</u></u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st April 2021	10,639	13,967	24,606
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>10,782</u>	<u>10,782</u>
At 31st March 2022	<u>10,639</u>	<u>24,749</u>	<u>35,388</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st April 2021	9,890	13,967	23,857
Charge for year	<u>749</u>	<u>2,995</u>	<u>3,744</u>
At 31st March 2022	<u>10,639</u>	<u>16,962</u>	<u>27,601</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>7,787</u>	<u>7,787</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>749</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>749</u>

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	29,126	49,500
Other debtors	2,756	2,756
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>7,495</u>	<u>21,191</u>
	<u>39,377</u>	<u>73,447</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	27,550	19,842
Social security and other taxes	13,989	12,877
Other creditors	2,955	-
Accruals and deferred income	<u>38,068</u>	<u>72,119</u>
	<u>82,562</u>	<u>104,838</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/21	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31/3/22
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	131,157	(26,112)	(4,268)	100,777
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	38,232	-	4,268	42,500
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	<u>62,579</u>	<u>(2,995)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,584</u>
	<u>231,968</u>	<u>(29,107)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>202,861</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>231,968</u>	<u>(29,107)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>202,861</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	748,299	(774,411)	(26,112)
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,995)</u>	<u>(2,995)</u>
	748,299	(777,406)	(29,107)
Restricted funds			
Befriending	8,850	(8,850)	-
Communications	2,150	(2,150)	-
Central	<u>9,849</u>	<u>(9,849)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>20,849</u>	<u>(20,849)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>769,148</u>	<u>(798,255)</u>	<u>(29,107)</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	76,244	59,173	(4,260)	131,157
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	33,972	-	4,260	38,232
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	<u>62,579</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,579</u>
	<u>172,795</u>	<u>59,173</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>231,968</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>172,795</u></u>	<u><u>59,173</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>231,968</u></u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	830,413	(771,240)	59,173
Restricted funds			
Befriending	<u>66,283</u>	<u>(66,283)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>896,696</u></u>	<u><u>(837,523)</u></u>	<u><u>59,173</u></u>

Designated Funds

Contingency Reserve

This reserve is in place to provide for the cost of staff redundancies upon closure of the business and is recalculated each year end.

Legacy Reserve

The Legacy Reserve is to be used for key operational projects, which are currently identified as:

1. Upgrade of the organisation's IT systems including integrated digital approach to services, communications and fundraising;
2. Compliance with GDPR and maximising benefits of integrated digital systems;
3. Contract contingency to ensure that staff can continue to be employed in situations where successful funding has been secured but the contract commencement has been delayed by a short period;
4. Strategic corporate projects.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

Together Collective

England & Wales - Charity number 1083390

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03895574 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1083390

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021
FOR
TOGETHER COLLECTIVE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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 2021. 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

We are Together Co and we create connections that change lives. We do this through our befriending, social prescribing, and volunteering services in Brighton & Hove and beyond, and by sharing our ideas and expertise nationally. In a city of nearly 300,000 no one should be lonely or socially isolated. Together, we can make sure no one is.

In 2020-21, our work was more critical than ever, as the COVID-19 pandemic cut people off from each other and from essential supplies and support. We responded and were quickly able to scale up the support we provided to existing and new clients and volunteers. We are proud to have so strongly fulfilled our organisational purpose at a time of national crisis.

Public benefit

During 2020-21, Together Co delivered public benefit through services that prevent and alleviate loneliness and social isolation, and support people with the health and wellbeing impact of loneliness and isolation. The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in nearly the entire country experiencing isolation to some degree, and made our mission more relevant than ever. We were able to help more people through expansion of our existing work and flexing our infrastructure to provide new, COVID-19-related support such as urgent food deliveries.

Our services retained a strong focus on the needs of users and continue to be provided free of charge to individuals. Our team supported volunteers and participants to use our services, provided training and facilitated claims for volunteer expenses. We use the Brighton & Hove City Council equalities monitoring framework to monitor access to our services.

Staffing

At the end of March 2021, Together Co had 31 members of staff (March 2020 = 25) equivalent to 23.8 full time employees (March 2020 = 15.8 FTE). Seven employees left during 2020-21 and we recruited 11 people during the year. This reflected an expansion in our Social Prescribing work and additional staff required to deliver COVID-19-related support.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

1. Together Co Social Prescribing

Social prescribing helps people find the place and people they need to be happier and healthier. Skilled Link Workers at Together Co help those who use our services (clients) navigate local services and activities that could benefit them.

During the initial months of the COVID-19 pandemic, the focus of the Social Prescribing service switched to provide all support entirely remotely, working as part of Brighton & Hove's citywide COVID-19 response. Referrals were received through the Brighton & Hove City Council Community Hub.

The services we offered included emotional support, facilitated referrals, signposting, and assisting people to access emergency food and shopping help.

As many other agencies across Brighton & Hove had to adapt to COVID-19 restrictions by greatly reducing their services, moving them online, or shutting down completely, it became more difficult for us to refer clients on. The team developed a 'coaching to cope' approach - which involved providing light emotional support and tips for coping with feelings of stress, anxiety, and low mood - in lieu of our usual focus on the facilitated referral process. This helped maintain connections between our service and isolated people, meaning that when restrictions were lifted clients could be given the most up-to-date information on services available to them.

Our ability to react and evolve our proposition demonstrates the capability of the Together Co Link Workers who are highly skilled at networking and maintaining current knowledge of service provision in the city. They dedicated significant time and effort to staying in touch with a wide variety of organisations so they could stay abreast of rapid changes to service offers throughout the pandemic.

In addition to our front-line work, Together Co developed an online training course that organisations could access for free in order to train redeployed staff in managing conversations with distressed and isolated members of the public.

Numbers and outcomes:

The complexity of our clients' situations worsened due to the COVID-19 pandemic and we recorded a 28% year on year increase in the number of sessions offered by Together Co. The average number of sessions per client rose from 3.4 to 4.3 hours.

- We made 1,953 onward referrals to 324 different agencies
- Our team of 12 paid link workers were supported by 11 Social Prescribing volunteers who gave 938 hours of skilled support time over the year

We are proud that even in the context of reduced onward referral options, after support from Social Prescribing, including 'coaching to cope', 99% of clients surveyed reported a positive change in at least one area of their lives:

- 65% said their satisfaction with the amount they socialise had improved.
- 51% said they were more able to access local activities.
- 97% felt better informed about what was available to them.
- 73% said they had more of the support they needed than before.
- 61% felt they needed less support to cope with issues than before.
- 78% reported improved wellbeing.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Complexity

The complexity of cases referred to Together Co's Social Prescribing services increased significantly, in part due to COVID-19, and our Link Workers had to respond to a much greater number of clients in crisis situations and distress. This impacted on the amount of time required to support clients as well as on the nature of the support, for example, the increase in time to research available and suitable onward referrals and support options for clients. The continued restrictions on what other services were able to provide meant that Link Workers held a higher number of more complex cases, and for longer. This had an impact on the number of cases that Link Workers were able to hold at one time.

Addressing the gaps

Many clients who come to the Social Prescribing service are experiencing anxiety and a loss of confidence around accessing support and activities in their local community. This was noted pre-pandemic, and the effects have only been enhanced throughout 2020-21. In response, we developed the Buddy Project, which helps with reablement and confidence building. Trained volunteers work with clients to achieve specific, time-limited goals such as getting to a group for the first time or walking round the local park after a long period of isolation. Early results are very encouraging, and we have adapted this model to support the COVID-19 vaccination drive in our city.

Social Prescribing Plus

Our Social Prescribing Plus service continues to offer specialist social prescribing via our collaboration with four other delivery partners: LGBT Switchboard offer Trans and Non-Binary social prescribing; Trust for Developing Communities offer outreach social prescribing with Black and Minority Ethnic communities; Sussex Interpreting Services support people with language needs via their social prescribing trained Interpreters and Friends; and Friends, Families and Travellers offer social prescribing via active outreach to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

This work enables us to champion good practice and continuously strive to widen the inclusiveness and accessibility of social prescribing in Brighton & Hove, and was especially important during COVID-19, given the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on minority ethnic communities, as shown by the significant increases in referrals. In 2020-21, our Social Prescribing Plus Partners provided support for:

- 264 referrals (a 34% increase on the number of referrals received the previous year)
- 310 people (38% increase)
- 1296 sessions, an average of 4.2 per client
- 600 onward referrals

We continue to host the Brighton & Hove Social Prescribing Network, with a membership of 22 organisations all delivering medium to holistic social prescribing in the city. The network meets quarterly to share good practice and knowledge on services and support available for clients.

Working with Primary Care

In April 2020, our Social Prescribing service expanded to include five additional Link Workers and a Primary Care Network (PCN) Operational Lead, working specifically with four of the city's Primary Care Networks. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, PCN Link Workers initially worked remotely, promoting the service and taking referrals from GPs and other practice staff.

Remote working combined with the pressure placed on Primary Care by the pandemic created challenging circumstances for embedding Link Workers into the PCNs, however, referrals numbers to the PCN team continued to increase through the year. As with the City-wide team, there were higher numbers of more complex referrals than would normally be expected for Social Prescribing.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

2. Together Co Befriending

During the pandemic, Together Co Befriending played a key role in reaching those who were most isolated or most at risk of falling through the gaps in the city-wide support networks. We made sure that befriending support carried on for our existing members, and experienced a significant increase in the number of new referrals especially in the early weeks of the pandemic. We worked closely with Brighton & Hove City Council's COVID-19 Community Hub, taking referrals to all services from this route.

- In the 6 weeks from 23 March to 30 April 2020, we had a 470% increase in referrals (171 referrals) and an 843% increase in volunteer applications (198 applications), compared to the same period in 2019.
- There were weeks where it was particularly busy for example, in the week commencing 20 April 2020 referrals were 752% above average; and in the week commencing 27 April 2020 the number of volunteers joining the service (after completing the recruitment/ induction process) was 1046% above average.
- New referrals came from people experiencing acute loneliness and isolation, as well as having practical challenges, such as shopping, dog walking and fetching prescriptions.
- Overall, we had 532 active volunteers and 20 admin volunteers in the Befriending team in 2020-21, with 331 new volunteers during the period.
- 92% of volunteers surveyed reported being very satisfied or satisfied with their volunteer experience at Together Co.

Telephone befriending became the predominant means of delivering the service throughout 2020-21, and while for many this was a lifeline, there were others who struggled without the face-to-face contact.

Our overall number of hours of Befriending support were lower this year than last year, despite the increased numbers of service users and volunteers, because phone calls tended to be shorter than in-person visits.

- 15,335 hours of Befriending support provided in the year
- 586 active Befriending service users, with 327 new users in the year
- 98% report a positive effect of having volunteer support
- 81% reported a volunteer befriender having a positive effect on their experience of loneliness and isolation as well as reporting feeling more connected, increased confidence, increased self-esteem, less anxious

As is the picture across the country, for many who were already experiencing isolation, COVID-19 was especially challenging:

- 62% reported being more isolated because of COVID-19
- Issues experienced by members during COVID-19 included lack of consistent care (47%), difficulty getting shopping (49%) and grief (43%)
- Priorities post COVID-19 were seeing their befriending volunteer (83%) and reconnecting with family/friends (82%)

Making the most of Digital

We worked with Brighton-based companies Kineo and Storytagger to quickly get our volunteer training adapted for delivery online, and we made this training freely available for anyone. Organisations within our Brighton & Hove Befriending Coalition in particular benefited from this, with members saying, "thank you so much for your support, we would not have got through that time without you".

Support needs

In this COVID-19 year, Befriending has received new referrals from people with higher or more complex support needs, such as experiencing mental health issues and anxiety, people with Autism, and carers coping with bereavement. In addition, our existing service users reported increased anxiety, feeling more isolated or depressed, and significant numbers of older residents living alone turned to their volunteer and our Coordinators for support and advice.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

3. Together Co Volunteering

Volunteers were more important to us than ever in 2020-21 and our existing and new volunteers stepped up magnificently during COVID-19.

During the early part of the pandemic, we scaled up our services recruiting 130 new volunteers in quarter one. We achieved this through streamlining our processes, removing elements of the process that were not necessary for remote support, and through developing a team of Senior Volunteers drawn from our existing pool, to help us with the huge increase in volunteer interviews, assessments, and checks that we needed to do. We also implemented virtual support meetings and training sessions for volunteers, and are proud that we had our highest ever number of active Befriending volunteers over the year - 546.

In January 2021 we established a Volunteering Development Working Group, chaired by our Volunteering Lead trustee, Dr Luke Tester, and with membership from the staff and volunteer team. The group looked at how we can give the very best experience to all our volunteers, and get the most out of the time they offer us. The result was our new Volunteering Strategy which was launched during Volunteers Week in June 2021 and which sets out how we will develop and support volunteering at Together Co in the future.

Read it at togetherco.org.uk/volunteer

Special thanks to trustees Dr Luke Tester, Alison French and Clare Hughes, and volunteers Chrissie, Leila, Anne, Richard, and Marion.

Together Co Awareness Raising & Influencing

During 2020 our Chief Executive Officer was invited to be part of Government's Tackling Loneliness Network and became co-chair of a task and finish group of this network, looking at local & place-based approaches to tackling loneliness. This group looked at existing good practice and areas for development in how local areas lead the way on tackling loneliness and creating a connected recovery. The report was published in June 2020 as Emerging Together: the Tackling Loneliness Network Action Plan by Department Culture Media & Sport.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/emerging-together-the-tackling-loneliness-network-action-plan/emerging-together-the-tackling-loneliness-network-action-plan>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

We reported incoming resources of £896,696 (2019-20: £628,965) for the year; an increase of £267,731. Expenditure in the year was £837,523 (2019-20: £661,454); giving a surplus of £59,173 (2019-20: deficit £32,489).

Principal funding sources

Grants

Together Co is principally resourced through a mixture of statutory funding (both grants and commissions) and funding from trusts and foundations. In 2020-21 we were grateful for funding from Catalyst, The Childwick Trust, The Clothworkers Foundation, Co-op Local Community Fund, CriSeren Foundation, The Dodgson Foundation, The Edward Gostling Foundation, Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, Independent Age, Neighbourly, The Sobell Foundation, Schroder Charity Trust, Sussex Community Foundation and Tesco Bags of Help.

We received government COVID-19 funding distributed via both the National Lottery Communities Fund and Awards for All, and Brighton & Hove City Council.

Donations

Our investment in fundraising capacity and an integrated engagement approach allowed us to flex and innovate during one of the most challenging operating periods in our history, working with the community to utilise digital tools and explore new ways of raising money. This is part of our long-term plan to enable us to grow unrestricted income by raising funds from and with individuals, community groups and companies, and investing funds raised in work that can be difficult to fund via trusts and foundations.

As with many other organisations, we were hit doubly hard by COVID-19. Not only did the demand for our services increase during lockdown, but restrictions saw the cancellation of mass participation events such as the Brighton Half Marathon, as well as our own fundraising events such as the annual Winter Reception.

However, as with our frontline service delivery teams, our Engagement Team were quick to adapt to the challenging circumstances, launching an emergency appeal which raised 30% of our unrestricted income for the year, along with an online virtual fundraising pack to help people create their own fundraising initiatives.

We piloted 'Together Fest', an online music event curating live streamed and pre-recorded performances from 15 bands and artists over the course of a day, and our popular Winter Reception was replaced with our first digital auction 'Brighton's Bid to End Loneliness'. Thirty-two prizes were donated by local businesses, including many who we had not engaged with before, and the event raised over £4,000 whilst incurring minimal overheads.

We were overwhelmed not only with the generosity of the local community, but by the creative ways which people supported us during the pandemic. Inspired by Captain Tom and the 100 laps he did of his garden, two local brothers decided to climb the equivalent of Mount Everest on their stairs at home, raising funds for Together Co and the NHS Charities. We also benefitted from the popularity of the 2.6 challenge, with one person raising money by riding 2.6 miles on a unicycle!

Designated Funds

Dilapidation Provision

Following the implementation of the break clause in our lease, the dilapidation provision was utilised to make the final agreed termination payment to the Landlord. Our new tenancy agreement does not contain any termination dilapidation obligation, consequently no provision is currently required.

Contingency Reserve

This reserve is in place to provide for the cost of staff redundancies upon closure of the business and is recalculated each year end.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Legacy Reserve

The Legacy Reserve is to be used for key operational projects, which are currently identified as:

1. Upgrade of the organisation's IT systems
2. Compliance with GDPR, especially for fundraising
3. Contract contingency to ensure that staff can continue to be employed in situations where successful funding has been agreed but the contract commencement has been delayed by a short period.

Investment policy and objectives

We aim to hold surplus cash in accordance with our reserves policy, with the equivalent of approximately 3 months running costs maintained as cash deposits across current and deposit accounts held with banks covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. Funds in excess of 3 months running costs may be invested in charity specific Common Investment Funds, the income from which is used in furtherance of the charity's Objects.

Reserves policy

The level of unrestricted reserves at the end of the year was £231,968 (2020: £172,795); and restricted reserves were £nil (2020: £nil). Grants are recognised as restricted funds, whereas funds received through service-level agreements are treated as unrestricted, though they are designated to specific services or projects to deliver a contracted service.

Included in these reserves is an element of contingency reserve, which we set aside to cover project termination costs. The total in the contingency fund amounted to £38,232 (2020: £33,932).

The total reserves of £231,968 represented 3.3 months of annual expenditure. Our policy sets the guide level of reserves that we aim to have on hand at around three months of annual expenditure.

FUTURE PLANS

COVID-19 has shown that our work is more needed than ever, and it is widely known that the pandemic has affected people unequally, with those with support structures doing much better than those without. Isolation and loneliness are more widely recognised as the public health issues that they are.

Together Co has been through a period of change since 2019, which had thankfully prepared us well to respond to the pandemic. However, the funding environment is more challenging than ever post-COVID-19, with focused funding coming to an end, more competition than ever for remaining funding, donors and collaboration opportunities. However, with our strong organisation, staff and volunteer team, brand and community, we believe we are well placed to continue to lead work in Brighton and Hove to tackle loneliness and isolation and our new multi-year strategic plan will be published in before the end of the financial year.

We will be focusing on our core work of connecting people - through befriending, social prescribing and volunteering. We are developing new and innovative ways of involving volunteers in our organisation, increasing both the range of opportunities for the volunteers to take part in and extending the benefit for the organisation. In the last 2 years, we have begun to explore new ways of connecting people through groups, buddying, linking individual volunteers, and we are excited to do more of this. We intend to launch a project to bring people together around tackling loneliness across the voluntary, public, business sectors, and we have begun work to help individuals tell their stories and make loneliness something we can all talk about and address.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Together Collective, operating as Together Co, is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The company was incorporated in December 1999 and is governed by its Articles of Association.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for managing Together Co. Under the Articles of Association, a maximum of eight members of the Board are elected at the annual general meeting (AGM) and up to four trustees may be appointed. Each year, half of the Board's longest-standing trustees retire and may be re-elected at the AGM.

Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from Together Co. Details of expenses claimed are in the notes to the accounts.

Recruitment and induction of new trustees

To recruit trustees, we identify gaps in the Board's expertise, conduct community outreach and/or advertise and appoint candidates based on a written application and interview.

New trustees are given an information pack about Together Co, attend briefing sessions with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and service managers, and are encouraged to attend courses on topics such as governance, voluntary sector developments and equality and diversity.

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees meets regularly to provide direction for Together Co's work. Responsibility for day-to-day running of Together Co is vested in the CEO, who reports to the Chair of the Board. Responsibility for the operation of individual services is delegated through the CEO to the Deputy Chief Officer and then to service managers.

The Board updates the Together Co business plan, reviews strategic objectives and sets targets with the CEO to focus on the charity's stated aims and objectives. The Board and staff team are developing the new strategic plan together in 2021, and the senior team will develop the implementation plans for this. Board receives quarterly reports and works with the CEO to set targets and ensure activities focus on achieving our goals.

Together Co is committed to the highest standards of governance and believes that good governance should be understood and embedded throughout the organisation. During COVID-19, where in the early part of the year, we were making many decisions very rapidly in a constantly changing environment, we moved to more frequent, shorter, on-line Board meetings and Finance & Risk and Personnel Sub-committee meetings to ensure strong Board oversight of the actions we were taking to support our community in the pandemic.

Networks and partnerships

Together Co is a member of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, the Mentoring and Befriending Foundation, the National Association of Link Workers, Brighton & Hove Community Works and Brighton & Hove Chamber of Commerce. Together Co is committed to delivering the highest quality services, and our Quality Marks and membership of professional bodies and networks helps us achieve this. We hold the Befriending Network's Quality in Befriending Award.

The CEO is involved in a range of city-wide networks, including role as a Representative for fellow Community Works members on issues around commissioning, and the integration of Health and Social Care.

Together Co is one of government's Loneliness Champions, a role that has come about following our involvement in the work of the Tackling Loneliness Network and the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Loneliness.

Risk management

The Board examines the risks to which Together Co is exposed and has set up sub-committees and working groups to strengthen oversight of finance, risk management, business development, communications, policies and personnel issues. Risk management arrangements include documented internal financial controls and procedures to ensure the health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users and commercial insurance covers normal business risks, including professional indemnity, employee and volunteer liability.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03895574 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1083390

Registered office

Brighthelm Centre
North Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 1YD

Trustees

Ms E A French
Mrs M C Hughes
Miss N Orringe
R D T Johnston
J D Hyman
Ms R Bradley
D Cundy
Dr L Tester

Company Secretary

Ms J M Crease

Independent Examiner

John Thacker FCA DChA
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Bankers

Co-Operative Bank plc
164-165 Western Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 2BB

Shawbrook Bank Limited
Lutea House
Warley Hill Business Park
The Drive
Great Warley
Brentwood
Essex
CM13 3BE

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

East Sussex Credit Union
Hove Town Hall
Tisbury Road
Hove
East Sussex
BN3 3BQ

Working name

Together Co

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Together Collective 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.

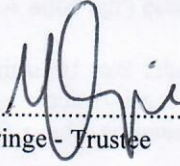
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding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

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 24/05/21 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Miss N Orringe - Trustee



15/5/21

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
TOGETHER COLLECTIVE**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Together Collective ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

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 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.



John Thacker FCA DChA
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

Date: 28 September 2021

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	808,181	66,283	874,464	607,042
Charitable activities					
Other incoming resources	5	9,735	-	9,735	8,290
Other trading activities	3	10,921	-	10,921	13,010
Investment income	4	479	-	479	623
Other income		<u>1,097</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,097</u>	<u>-</u>
Total		830,413	66,283	896,696	628,965
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		65,538	-	65,538	94,073
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities	6	705,702	66,283	771,985	567,381
Total		771,240	66,283	837,523	661,454
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		59,173	-	59,173	(32,489)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		172,795	-	172,795	205,284
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>231,968</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>231,968</u>	<u>172,795</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE (REGISTERED NUMBER: 03895574)

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	749	-	749	2,367
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	73,447	-	73,447	74,785
Cash at bank		<u>262,610</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>262,610</u>	<u>191,663</u>
		336,057	-	336,057	266,448
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(104,838)	-	(104,838)	(96,020)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>231,219</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>231,219</u>	<u>170,428</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>231,968</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>231,968</u>	<u>172,795</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>231,968</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>231,968</u>	<u>172,795</u>
FUNDS	14				
Unrestricted funds				<u>231,968</u>	<u>172,795</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>231,968</u>	<u>172,795</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

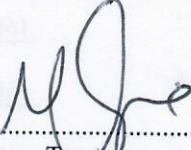
- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its 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.

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 MARCH 2021

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 24/07/21
and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
N Orringe - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>70,468</u>	<u>(60,378)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>70,468</u>	<u>(60,378)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(2,640)
Interest received		<u>479</u>	<u>623</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>479</u>	<u>(2,017)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>191,663</u>	<u>254,058</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>262,610</u>	<u>191,663</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	59,173	(32,489)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	1,618	2,915
Interest received	(479)	(623)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	1,338	(33,256)
Increase in creditors	8,818	3,075
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u>70,468</u>	<u>(60,378)</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/20 £	Cash flow £	At 31/3/21 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	<u>191,663</u>	<u>70,947</u>	<u>262,610</u>
	<u>191,663</u>	<u>70,947</u>	<u>262,610</u>
Total	<u>191,663</u>	<u>70,947</u>	<u>262,610</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

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

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, including taking into account any potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and on that basis the charity is considered to be a going concern.

Income

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

Donations are accounted for as they are received by the charity. Donations received in the year that relate to specific purposes have been included in restricted funds.

Grants are recognised on an accruals basis, accounted for in relation to the period to which they relate. Where grants are received during the year under review but relate to a later period, the amount is deferred under Grants in Advance in the Balance Sheet.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

All other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, including attributable VAT which cannot be recovered and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Certain expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities and has been included in the related cost categories. Certain other costs, which are attributable to more than one activity, are apportioned across cost categories on the basis of an estimate of the proportion of time spent by staff on those activities (for salary costs) and based on a proportion of the total activities by the charity for other costs.

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration on each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on a basis which is an estimate, based on the proportion of cost of each activity to the total income of all activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 33% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

The charity has a policy to capitalise assets over £1,000.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Recognition and measurement

Fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

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. No direct tax charges have arisen in the charity.

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.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations	33,186	17,083
Grants	<u>841,278</u>	<u>589,959</u>
	<u>874,464</u>	<u>607,042</u>

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

	2021	2020
	£	£
Brighton & Hove CCG	201,801	208,484
Mind in Brighton and Hove	-	9,453
Sussex PCC	5,833	10,000
Derek & Eileen Dodgson Foundation	4,000	3,500
Brighton & Hove City Council	64,232	50,616
Garfield Weston	-	10,000
Big Lottery	31,450	-
Other	95,240	41,940
Department of Health and Social Care	65,637	66,809
Sobell Foundation	-	10,000
Impact Initiatives	136,516	136,516
Primary Care Network	<u>236,569</u>	<u>42,641</u>
	<u>841,278</u>	<u>589,959</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES - continued

	2021 £	2020 £
Received from Department of Health and Social Care	128,169	160,558
Less: Contributions to Partners	<u>62,532</u>	<u>93,749</u>
Net figure above	<u>65,637</u>	<u>66,809</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Activities for generating fund	<u>10,921</u>	<u>13,010</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2021 £	2020 £
Deposit account interest	<u>479</u>	<u>623</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	2021 £	2020 £
Other incoming resources	Other incoming resources	<u>9,735</u>	<u>8,290</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £
Charitable Activities	<u>771,985</u>

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation - owned assets	1,618	2,915
Independent examiner's fee	<u>2,700</u>	<u>2,600</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

In the year 2020-21 no trustees received any reimbursements for travel expenses. One trustee received £206 reimbursement for travel expenses in the year ended 31 March 2020.

9. STAFF COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	643,622	366,568
Social security costs	51,096	35,124
Other pension costs	<u>15,538</u>	<u>10,903</u>
	<u>710,256</u>	<u>412,595</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
Total	<u>30</u>	<u>22</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Key Management Personnel remuneration in the year amounted to £74,421 (2019: £74,537)

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	559,089	47,953	607,042
Charitable activities			
Other incoming resources	8,290	-	8,290
Other trading activities	13,010	-	13,010
Investment income	<u>623</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>623</u>
Total	581,012	47,953	628,965
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	94,073	-	94,073
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	<u>519,428</u>	<u>47,953</u>	<u>567,381</u>
Total	<u>613,501</u>	<u>47,953</u>	<u>661,454</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued			
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(32,489)	-	(32,489)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	205,284	-	205,284
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>172,795</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>172,795</u>
11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS			
	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	<u>10,639</u>	<u>13,967</u>	<u>24,606</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2020	8,272	13,967	22,239
Charge for year	<u>1,618</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,618</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>9,890</u>	<u>13,967</u>	<u>23,857</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2021	<u>749</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>749</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>2,367</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,367</u>
12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
		2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors		49,500	63,740
Other debtors		2,756	6,840
Prepayments and accrued income		<u>21,191</u>	<u>4,205</u>
		<u>73,447</u>	<u>74,785</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE

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

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	19,842	19,969
Social security and other taxes	12,877	7,981
Accruals and deferred income	<u>72,119</u>	<u>68,070</u>
	<u>104,838</u>	<u>96,020</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/20	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31/3/21
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	76,244	59,173	(4,260)	131,157
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	33,972	-	4,260	38,232
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	<u>62,579</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,579</u>
	<u>172,795</u>	<u>59,173</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>231,968</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>172,795</u>	<u>59,173</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>231,968</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	830,413	(771,240)	59,173
Restricted funds			
Befriending	<u>66,283</u>	<u>(66,283)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>896,696</u>	<u>(837,523)</u>	<u>59,173</u>

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021****14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued****Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	78,196	(28,230)	26,318	76,284
Designated fund - Dilapidation Provision	10,000	-	(10,000)	-
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	54,509	(4,259)	(16,318)	33,932
Designated fund - Legacy Reserve	<u>62,579</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,579</u>
	<u>205,284</u>	<u>(32,489)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>172,795</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>205,284</u>	<u>(32,489)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>172,795</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	581,012	(609,242)	(28,230)
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,259)</u>	<u>(4,259)</u>
	581,012	(613,501)	(32,489)
Restricted funds			
InterAct	9,453	(9,453)	-
Befriending	<u>38,500</u>	<u>(38,500)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>47,953</u>	<u>(47,953)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>628,965</u>	<u>(661,454)</u>	<u>(32,489)</u>

Designated Funds**Contingency Reserve**

This reserve is in place to provide for the cost of staff redundancies upon closure of the business and is recalculated each year end.

Legacy Reserve

The Legacy Reserve is to be used for key operational projects, which are currently identified as:

1. Upgrade of the organisation's IT systems including integrated digital approach to services, communications and fundraising
2. Maintaining compliance with GDPR and maximising benefits of integrated digital systems.
3. Contract contingency to ensure that staff can continue to be employed in situations where successful funding has been agreed but the contract commencement has been delayed by a short period.

TOGETHER COLLECTIVE**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	2021 £	2020 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	33,186	17,083
Grants	<u>841,278</u>	<u>589,959</u>
	874,464	607,042
Other trading activities		
Activities for generating fund	10,921	13,010
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	479	623
Charitable activities		
Other incoming resources	9,735	8,290
Other income		
Furlough grant	<u>1,097</u>	<u>-</u>
Total incoming resources	896,696	628,965
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Costs of generating funds	65,538	94,073
Charitable activities		
Wages	578,084	366,568
Social security	51,096	35,124
Pensions	15,538	10,903
Direct costs	16,135	48,035
Staff costs	17,334	13,515
Establishment costs	24,965	48,175
Office costs	66,133	42,461
Accountancy	<u>2,700</u>	<u>2,600</u>
	<u>771,985</u>	<u>567,381</u>
Total resources expended	<u>837,523</u>	<u>661,454</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>59,173</u>	<u>(32,489)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements