

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

England & Wales · Charity number 1084083

Details

Other names	VONNE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	04061592
Registered	2000-12-12
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Vonne 71 Howard Street North Shields Tyne and Wear NE30 1AF
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Website	www.vonne.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE SUCH PURPOSES AS ARE CHARITABLE ACCORDING TO THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES FOR THE PUBLIC IN THE NORTH EAST OF ENGLAND BY:PROVIDING A CHANNEL OF INFORMATION BETWEEN VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS AND LOCAL CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN THE REGION PROVIDING A NETWORK OF COMMUNICATION FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES IN THE REGIONBRINGING TOGETHER REPRESENTATIVES OF VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS, STATUTORY AUTHORITIES AND OTHER AGENCIES IN TH E REGION TO IDENTIFY THE FUNDING AND POLICY NEEDS OF VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Activities: VONNE increases the effectiveness of the voluntary and community sector in the NE of England by developing networks, offering business support, providing information and communications to and about the sector, and advocating for the sector with statutory agencies and other partners.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NORTH EAST OF ENGLAND
- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£292,858	£1,880,660	£1,067,842	21
2024-03-31	£2,377,787	£1,697,668	£1,791,185	23
2023-03-31	£1,864,355	£1,242,875	£1,111,066	20
2022-03-31	£831,686	£719,762	£489,586	14
2021-03-31	£695,511	£553,744	£377,662	9

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alison Dunn	Chair	2017-11-30
Adam Hill		2022-11-17
Angela Louise Brudenell		2024-11-28
Carol Gaskarth		2024-11-28
Cheryl Ann Gavin		2024-11-28
Colin Thompson Hewitt		2021-11-18
Craig Henderson		2022-11-17
Emma Howitt		2024-11-28
Modupe Ayodeji Michael Fawole		2019-11-07
Peter Neal		2024-11-28
Shaun Newton		2024-11-28

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

England & Wales - Charity number 1084083

Accounts

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Company Registration Number 04061592

Charity Number 1084083

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

2024 - 2025



vonne.org.uk

STRENGTHENING & SUPPORTING THE SECTOR



Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended March 31st, 2025

The Trustees, who are the directors of the organisation for the purpose of Company Law, present their annual director's report together with the charity's financial statements for the year ended March 31st 2025, which are also prepared to meet the requirements of a director's report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, which is applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard that applies in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Reference and administrative details

Name: Voluntary Organisations' Network North East (VONNE)

Registered Office: Hadrian House, Higham Place, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8AF (until 30th June 2025)
71 Howard Street, North Shields, Tyne and Wear, NE30 1AF (from 1st July 2025)

Charity Registration Number: 1084083

Company Registration Number: 04061592

Names of the charity trustees at the date this report was approved:

Chair: Alison Dunn

Treasurer: Craig Henderson

Trustees:

Vice Chair: Steven Duckworth*, Michael Fawole***

Angela Brudenell**, Jonathan Carling*, Steven Duckworth*, Alison Dunn, Michael Fawole, Carol Gaskarth**, Cheryl Gavin**, Craig Henderson, Colin Hewitt, Adam Hill, Emma Howitt**, Lawrence McAnelly**, Peter Neal**, Shaun Newton**, Catherine Parker, Kumareswaradas Ramanathas.

*retired 28 November 2024

** appointed 28 November 2024

*** appointed 6 March 2025

Company secretary: Martin Brookes

Key management personnel: Martin Brookes, Chief Executive and Menisha Gela, Deputy Chief Executive (left May 2025)

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank, Four Brindley Place, Birmingham B1 2JB

Auditors: BK Plus Audit Limited, Azzurri House, Walsall Road, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0RB

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The organisation, a registered charity, is controlled by its governing document, the Articles of Association and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The VONNE board of trustees has between three and 15 members. Trustees are nominated and elected from the membership. Notice is sent to all members prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM), with each member organisation entitled to vote. Up to six trustees may be appointed by serving trustees for their particular expertise, qualifications and knowledge.

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees have a full induction delivered by the chief executive and key team members prior to attending their first board meeting. They are provided with an induction pack containing all the key information about VONNE, Charity Commission guidance, role descriptions and other relevant materials.

Organisational structure

VONNE is managed by a board of trustees elected from the membership and governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The board takes all strategic decisions relating to VONNE, including:

- receiving and reviewing reports from the chief executive and company secretary
 - acting as the formal employer of VONNE's staff, ensuring activity and performance is regularly reviewed and evaluated
 - monitoring and assessing VONNE's financial position, including budget setting
 - developing, reviewing and monitoring VONNE's strategic plan and annual work plan, to influence and direct VONNE's work
 - agreeing and reviewing appropriate policies and ensuring VONNE meets its legal responsibilities
 - communicating relevant information and views gathered outside VONNE to staff and trustees.
- There's a finance sub-group that reports to the board on finance, internal policy and human resources issues.

Risk management

Trustees reviewed the risk register this year and monitor it regularly, with a full review carried out annually. Trustees are confident that risks have been identified, appropriate preventative measures are in place and remedial activities are available. VONNE's financial processes are regularly reviewed, both by the board and externally, to ensure they continue to be robust.

Indemnity insurance

VONNE has professional indemnity insurance cover, in respect of the trustees and officers of the charity.

VONNE'S Mission

To support the **development** and **sustainability** of a **strong, effective** and **well governed Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector**, and promote **engagement, involvement** and **collaboration** with the sector as a valued partner.



VONNE's strategic aims

- To be the expert source of knowledge and intelligence on the VCSE sector in the North East with a particular focus on the existing and emerging needs of the people and communities it serves.
- To be a source of information to the VCSE sector on issues that impact upon it.
- To raise the North East sector's profile and be a leading voice for it.
- To support external stakeholders to effectively engage and collaborate with the VCSE community, through effective system change and new approaches.
- To support the North East VCSE sector to be effective, ambitious and enterprising.
- To be an effective and sustainable organisation.

VONNE's values



**We strive for
excellence**



**We value
Transparency**



**Inclusivity and
fairness**



**We encourage
learning and
sharing**

Public benefit

VONNE's objectives provide benefit to the public in North East England (area of benefit) by promoting and supporting the effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations.

Trustees of VONNE confirm they've read and paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Trustees confirm they've complied with their duties under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to public benefit. Having considered the guidance, trustees have concluded that VONNE's work directly supports and strengthens the North East VCSE community with guidance and information and increases its ability to influence policy and practice in the region.

Annual Review

Membership and Core Services

We support the North East VCSE sector to be effective, ambitious and enterprising. We aim to be an effective and sustainable organisation.

VONNE Membership

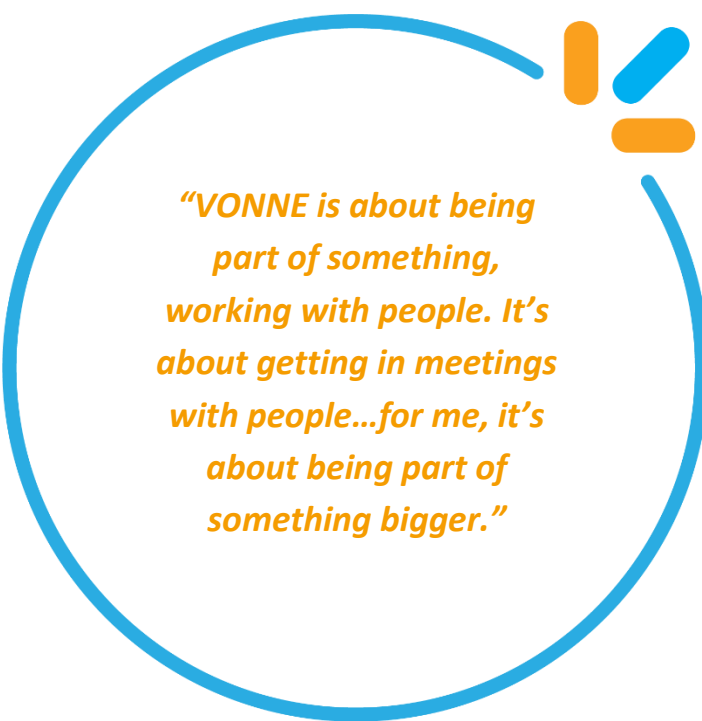
Our nearly 1,500 members give VONNE a collective voice that enables us to support, promote and advocate for the North East VCSE sector, both regionally and nationally.

2024-25 saw us moving towards a strategy with a greater emphasis on policy, members and engagement. To understand what that would look like for members, we asked for feedback on our future engagement and [members generously shared their views](#). This feedback will help guide future work.

Over the course of the year, we focussed on bringing member voices more fully into our work. Starting with our support for a [regional response to the summer's racist riots](#) and spotlighting member experiences at our Annual Conference, and continuing with coordination of a [regional response to the NCVO's Civil Society Covenant consultations](#), we worked to put member voices front and centre. [VONNE's report](#) on the impact of the increase to employer National Insurance Contributions on the North East VCSE sector connected member's voices to our policy work. The report attracted the attention of [BBC's Politics North](#) who included interviews with members about their experiences in their piece.

Through our FINE (Funding Information North East) project we continued to provide funding information and intelligence to our members and networks. FINE's specialist resources were accessed by unlimited users from almost 400 organisations, while intelligence from the project was shared with our wider networks and informed conversations with partners.

Core membership increased by nearly five per cent on the previous year. Membership+ numbers fell slightly. Membership+ gives members access to a range of additional benefits, and Bronze Membership+ is free to organisations with annual income under £50K. Income from fees help us deliver member services and keep access free to the smallest organisations.



"VONNE is about being part of something, working with people. It's about getting in meetings with people...for me, it's about being part of something bigger."



VONNE Job Finder

The recruitment landscape remained challenging in 2024-25, including for our sector and region. Nonetheless Job Finder advertised more than 600 job and trustee vacancies for North East VCSE organisations across the year.

To help our networks manage job market uncertainty, we changed our [Membership+ Salary Review Report](#) into an annual publication, giving members access to recent, relevant intelligence. The report uses data from [Job Finder adverts](#), so gives a unique perspective on salaries and employment trends specific to our sector and region. The insights shared help sector employers set salaries and benefits when recruiting.

We also worked with North East specialists from Nigel Wright Recruitment to host a session on [recruitment and retention in a tricky market](#). Regional Director, Sue Ormerod shared insights on navigating the challenging market to find the best candidates.

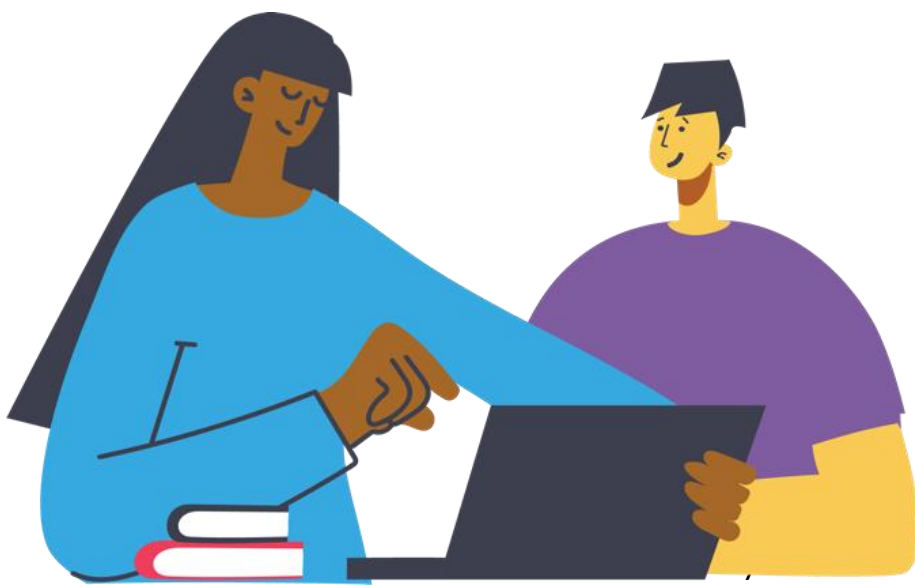
We continued to use Job Finder's platform to encourage good work in the sector, supporting key campaigns such as #WeShowTheSalary and #OpenToAll. As a National Living Wage employer, we also work to encourage sector support for the campaign.



Recruitment Support Service

Our valued Recruitment Support service attracted new and repeat customers in 2024-25. Through the service we help VCSE organisations who lack in-house HR expertise find the right people for their team, taking the stress out of recruitment while making sure processes and paperwork follow HR best practice and comply with legislation.

One small charity said: '...it was important to get the whole process right and for it not to swamp us in terms of responding to queries and promoting the opportunity. Right from the start, it felt like the VONNE team were on top of it'.





**1,500
members**

**Over 80 events held
with over 1,100
registered attendees**



**Information
and
intelligence
delivered to
over 10,000
subscribers**



**2024 – 2025
Impact**

**40% increase
in social
media
followers**



Information and Intelligence

We **raise the profile of the sector** and ensure it is valued as an **equal partner**. We're an **expert source of intelligence** on the sector and provide information to the VCSE community on issues that affect it.



Information and intelligence

We raise the profile of the sector and ensure it is valued as an equal partner. We're an expert source of intelligence on the sector and provide information to the VCSE community on issues that affect it.



Our communication channels

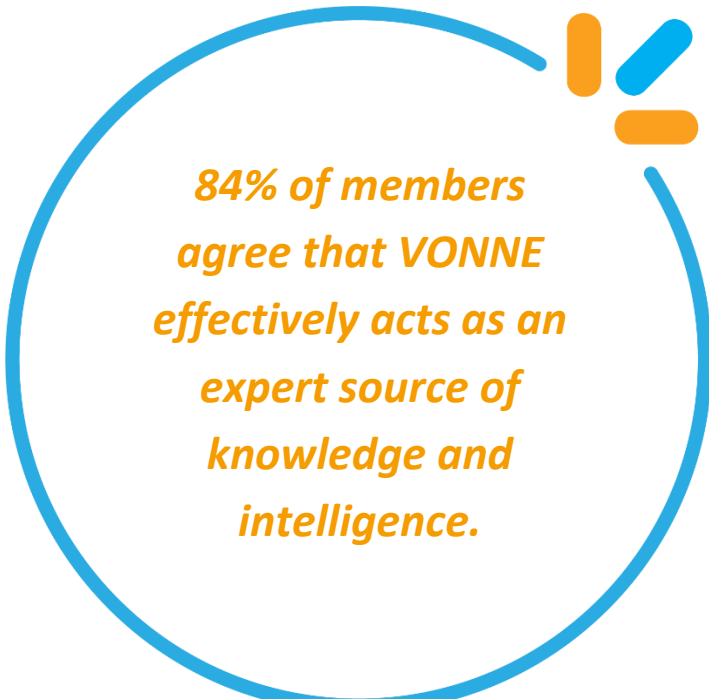
We keep North East VCSE organisations informed about key information through our social media channels and a number of regular eBulletins, including VONNEnews, VONNEJobs, FINE, Health & Wellbeing and a VONNE Members ebulletin.

In 2024/25 our communication developed a more holistic approach, responding to and advocating for the needs of the sector. With the North East Combined Authority (NECA) devolution deal coming to fruition and the inauguration of the North East Mayor, Kim McGuinness, VONNE have used our position within the NECA cabinet to disseminate information within the Combined Authority and to organisations in the VCSE sector.

VONNE created one of our largest communications campaigns in August 2024 when we coordinated a sector wide response to the racist summer riots. VONNE members and charity organisations across the region united in a joint statement published on the VONNE website. Our engagement with the sector around the riots helped to inform and develop our 25th Annual Conference where we focussed on devolution and community cohesion. The conference was the highest attended in-person conference we've held to date with 100% of attendees surveyed saying the event was interesting and insightful.

Later in the year, our campaign around Employer National Insurance Contribution increases gained media attention, with BBC Politics North covering the impact of NIC, interviewing our Chief Executive, Martin and some of our Membership+ members.

We continue to use our communication channels and networks to share information and insights with both our members and the wider sector. Our presence on LinkedIn continues to grow indicating this is an important and valued method of sharing information.



84% of members agree that VONNE effectively acts as an expert source of knowledge and intelligence.

EDI

VONNE continues to develop our EDI (equity, diversity and inclusion) work. We welcomed Michael Fawole as our Board EDI lead, and we commissioned Ngozi Lyn Cole Consultancy to carry out a survey to inform the development of an authentic EDI strategy. VONNE is committed to its EDI work as a means of developing and supporting its workforce to reflect the characteristics and expectations of the community/stakeholders we serve and to be an organisation that is inclusive and empowers every person to contribute their best. Our aim is to be proactive as an organisation, embracing EDI from both a strategic, operational and human perspective.

To date, our EDI working group continues to meet monthly to drive work forward and explore how we can embed EDI into our daily working practices. The EDI Training sub-group have developed an action plan identifying training priorities for the next two years.

“As a charity we benefit from all the information and knowledge that VONNE has...we want the representation, networks and knowledge at a regional level that VONNE can provide so that there’s a wider impact for the sector.”

VONNE Membership+ member



Partnership and collaboration



We **facilitate networks** to **strengthen the VCSE sector** and act as a 'connector', **bringing people and organisations together** to make things happen.

We **support external stakeholders** to **effectively engage and collaborate** with the VCSE community, through **effective system change** and **new approaches**.





Networks

CEO Peer Support Network

A renewed focus on our Gold & Silver CEO Peer Network brought opportunities to hear from members and help them connect. We hosted sessions on diverse topics including working with mayoral combined authorities, community cohesion and HR legal updates, and fed what we learned from sessions into our work supporting and advocating for the sector.

VCSE Skills, Inclusion and Employment Network (NECA area)

The VCSE Skills, Inclusion and Employment Network, hosted by VONNE, has over 290 network members (25 new members in 2025). Network meetings discussed the VCSE sector's role across the employment, skills and health system and how it can influence change. They also included updates and conversations with the North East Combined Authority and Department of Work and Pensions on Inclusive Growth, the Local Growth Plan and consultations on how the combined authority and other commissioners might better design and administer their investments.



North East Child Poverty Commission

As members of the North East Child Poverty Commission, we have continued to work with other members, VCSE organisations and other regional bodies to demand urgent government action to address the levels of child poverty in the region.

LIO Network

We support networks of Local Infrastructure Organisations (LIOs) across the region, bringing them together both to facilitate joint working, and to disseminate relevant policy information from VONNE to their grassroots member groups.



Partnership Projects

Continuing partnership projects include:

- **Local Access Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool (LARCH)**

Building the social economy in these places through enterprise development activities and access to blended social investment.

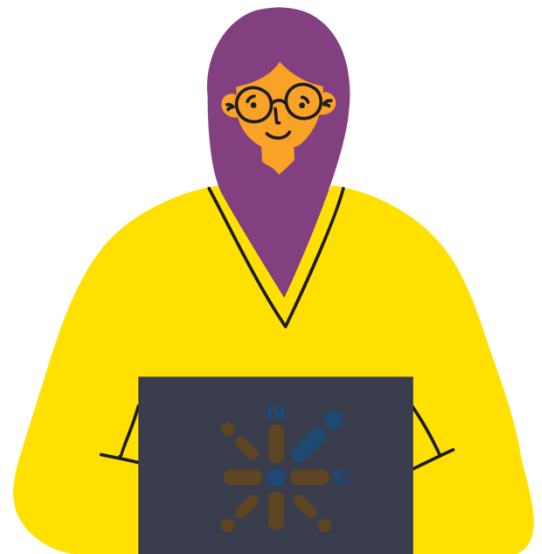
In August 2024, the Programme Manager left to take up a new role and the first round of recruitment to fill this role was unsuccessful. The role was eventually filled by Nicola Wylde in January 2025. In the interim, delivery of the programme was dramatically reduced with a consultant, in a client facing capacity, on a one day a week contract.

Since January 2025 there have been changes made to the processes of LARCH (as a result of the Governance and Operational Review in 2024) to make the application process more efficient and to make decision making more transparent. We are currently conducting a skills audit of the LARCH management board to identify any skills gaps.

The new role of Social Enterprise Development Officer within the LARCH team was created in the spring of 2025 and Stephen Goodall was successfully appointed in June. He is making good progress in tidying up the LARCH pipeline, reconnecting with clients and supporting them in making applications to LARCH and signposting to KeyFund where appropriate.

As part of our monitoring, evaluation and learning we are building a collection of case studies to showcase how LARCH intervention has impacted organisations. We will be launching a client survey in September to gather quantitative data. Results of both will help us shape the future of the programme as well as provide us with stories for promotion.

A LARCH celebration event is being planned for Spring 2026 at F.R.O.G (a LARCH client) where we will be bringing together clients, stakeholders and partners to showcase the support that LARCH has given so far, to grow the understanding of social enterprise/finance in the area and to develop the peer-to-peer network. This will play a part in laying the foundations for the legacy of LARCH.



- **Going Green Together**

Going Green Together supports VCSE organisations to become more environmentally sustainable and engage in climate action. Following the success of the pilot, further funding was secured from the National Lottery Community Funds – Reaching Communities North East and Cumbria, and Point North to deliver phase 2 of the programme from June 2024 through to June 2027.

In September 2024, the project coordinator left to take up a new role and the first round of recruitment for the new project officer was also unsuccessful. A decision was therefore made to pause delivery of the project which was discussed and agreed with our funders. While outward

facing delivery was paused, work continued on the redesign of the website and development of the new structured sustainability pathway, led by the DCEO and communications manager. The latter is a key element of the new support offer for members that sign-up to receive support, enabling them to self-guide their way through a series of steps, actions and activities to support them on their environmental sustainability journey.

Following several rounds of recruitment, the new project officer and project coordinator started in post in March and May respectively. Work has begun in earnest to relaunch the project with a series of in-person and online events scheduled for July, alongside the launch of the redeveloped website and new sustainability pathway. Direct support for VCSE organisations will begin in quarter 2 of 2025/26.

“The training and guidance we have received so far has been invaluable...the knowledge we have gained will vastly change the way we look at our impact, and I can’t recommend the programme enough.”

Going Green Together phase 1 participant



Health and Wellbeing

- VCSE Partnership Programme**

The VCSE Partnership Programme is the VCSE alliance for the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System, bringing together the VCSE sector in a structured manner as an integral part of the health system. It hosts a growing Health and Wellbeing Network, sharing information via a 3-weekly Health and Wellbeing bulletin, with membership increasing from 847 to 960 from April 2024 to March 2025 (+13.3%). Partnership Forum meetings are held bi-monthly for senior VCSE managers responsible for organisational health policy and strategy. The forum hosts a variety of guest speakers including, Dan Jackson, Director of Policy, Public Affairs and Stakeholder Affairs, NENC ICB; Kerry McQuade, Director of Strategy, Planning and Transformation, North East Ambulance Service and Andrew Hodge, Director of Paramedicine and Allied Health Professionals, NEAS; Rachel Rooney, Deputy Director, Medical Directorate, NENC ICB and Siobhan Brown, Director of Transformation System Wide, NENC Integrated Care Board (ICB). The members act as a representative group with whom external stakeholders can engage. The Partnership Programme hosts 10 thematic networks to enable cross-ICS subject-specific working and collective VCSE input into NHS workstreams and clinical networks, supporting increased awareness of VCSE activity,

increased opportunities for in- and cross-sector working, and greater VCSE influence within the health system.

We have seen increasing VCSE representation at a strategic level within the ICS, with new digital, carers, and workforce representatives supported through the VCSE Partnership Programme. This has been possible through supporting the development of coordinated relationships with NHS workstreams and continuing to work with the ICB to create links into the programme networks. We currently have 13 VCSE representatives' spaces at different workstreams or NHS/ICB-specific meetings.

- **Partnership Programme key events/work**

On Monday, February 5th, the [VCSE Partnership Programme](#) hosted an online '[Change NHS](#)' Engagement Workshop on behalf of the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB). Following the event, a report was produced and shared with the ICB, highlighting the key priorities and concerns raised by the VCSE sector. [Read the full report here](#). Content from the report was also included in the ICB's own submission to Change NHS.

Recommendations from our VCSE Temperature Check Survey have been adopted in the Integrated Care Board's '[VCSE Stocktake report](#)', including a commitment to full cost recovery for services commissioned by health.

The Programme Director was a member of a national planning group to set up a new group of VCSE alliance leads, called ALLiance42, supported by NAVCA, to promote the inclusion of VCSE alliance input into national strategic health planning, and is now the North East, North Cumbria and Yorkshire regional lead with a one-year workplan including the ambition to directly influence government policy.

Influence at ICB board level has increased, with the Programme Director, who is the NENC ICB VCSE representative, actively contributing to board meetings and supporting the inclusion of the VCSE sector in strategic workplans, supporting the sector to be considered as an integral system partner.

- **Assura**

We secured £75,000 through Assura plc and Cheshire Community Foundation, to [co-design metrics for VCSE commissioning](#), helping to better evidence the impact of VCSE services in health and care pathways. This enabled us to recruit a new Coordinator from March 2025 to lead the work. The NENC ICB is our project partner and has committed to using the commissioning framework which will be co-created between the VCSE sector and the ICB as part of this work. A large portion of this funding will be funnelled out to the VCSE sector to pay for their contribution to this work. National interest has been expressed in this work from across the country, from both Integrated Care Systems and VCSE organisations.

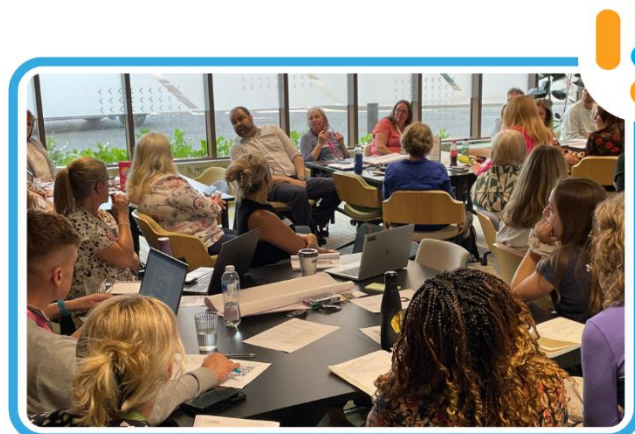
- **North East Ambulance Service (NEAS)**

NEAS partnered with VONNE to harness the strengths of the VCSE sector in engaging communities often overlooked by statutory services. Through dedicated funding and VONNE's extensive regional networks - including the VCSE Partnership Programme - this collaboration enabled trusted VCSE organisations to gather valuable insights from communities of interest. A joint initiative with Healthwatch further expanded the reach, resulting in 2,378 public responses and 65 direct submissions from VCSE organisations. This extensive engagement is shaping NEAS's new organisational strategy, ensuring community voices inform service delivery and strengthening

future collaboration with the voluntary sector. NEAS have shared publicly their appreciation of the work VONNE has done to support the success of this project. Overall funding was £200,000, with £120,000 of this going to VCSE organisations (including VONNE's project coordination).

- **Research Partnerships**

The research partnerships aspect of Health and Wellbeing continues to grow, with interest in the Research Partnerships Coordinator role remaining high across both VCSE and research sectors, with several partnerships developed including with Durham University Medical Humanities Faculty, and the Mental Health Research Leadership Award.



- **Research Engagement Network (REN)**

We have continued the Research Engagement Network project with health and research colleagues, with an additional £80,000 investment to support development of the Children and Young People's Health Research Network, with a large portion allocated to VCSE organisations' input into this work.

- **Community Engagement Toolkit**

We received a £40,000 grant from the NIHR Centre for Engagement and Dissemination to co-produce resources to support meaningful research partnerships between VCSE organisations and researchers. 4 co-production workshops took place across the North East North Cumbria to develop three new resources to help apply the principles of the [Community Engagement Toolkit](#) in practice.

- **NorthHFutures**

We have developed a strong and positive partnership with the NorthHFutures team, to ensure the needs of communities are at the heart of health-tech research and innovation. We have met with the team to advise on approaches to best reach the VCSE sector and attended workshops to bring the voice of the sector to these spaces, and sit on the project directorate to ensure the VCSE sector is embedded at the heart of their work.

- **Research Partnerships**

We have continued to deliver our Research Partnerships support, which has included delivering 2 training sessions on 'What is the VCSE sector?' to research colleagues, providing one-to-one support to researchers looking to work with the VCSE sector, and supporting VCSE organisations to become more research ready. Our coordinator left in September and although we had hoped to recruit immediately, complexities within the funders' organisations meant that we were not able to move ahead with this until January, with the new coordinator due to start in post in April 2025. The Health and Wellbeing team flexed to ensure work continued within this area during the period where we did



not have a coordinator, which strengthened relationships with the 8 different funding organisations.

- **Healthy Communities and Social Prescribing**

VONNE also operates as the lead for health inequalities work as part of the ICB's 'Healthier & Fairer' programme. Through our 'Healthy Communities and Social Prescribing' programme, we secured an ICB grant of £300,000 and this enabled us to invest in 13 infrastructure projects across our region, strengthening resilience and building capacity in social prescribing systems. We were also able to fund five partnership projects to support health champion schemes, delivering fantastic benefits to marginalised communities in key health priorities such as Cardio-Vascular Disease, Children's oral health and mental health support.

Over the year, our Healthy Communities and Social Prescribing network has grown from 346 to 441, with members receiving regular updates, webinars and in-person workshops.

Working with senior partners from the ICB and Public Health teams, we contributed to a detailed prioritisation exercise to inform future funding for all Healthier & Fairer programmes.

“Great to get so many perspectives and bring together so much knowledge.”

Social Prescribing event participant





FINANCIAL REVIEW

The 2024/25 financial year for VONNE was challenging with a reduction (45%) on project income, and an increase (12%) on expenditure. This was in part due to our continuation of project development and funding for our work where we received funding in the previous financial year. Despite this, VONNE remains in a strong cash position, with cash balances increasing by 65% (from £674,108 to £1,114,896), driven by the timing of project expenditure versus cash receipts and settlement of prior-year debtor balances.

Debtors reduced significantly by 95% (from £1,256,707 to £57,001), primarily due to the collection of outstanding grant claims and contract income from 2023/24. VONNE reports net assets of £1,067,842, confirming the organisation's continued financial sustainability. Better fund management and an increase in interest rates meant we earned 80% more interest on our cash balances than the previous year.

Multiple funders renewed their support for VONNE during the year including LARCH and Going Green Together, and VONNE secured new projects such as the North Futures Digital Health Hub and Assura, demonstrating continued trust in VONNE's expertise. Unrestricted income remained stable with continuing support from key funders including the Millfield House Foundation and Sir James Knott Trust, supplemented by sales and membership income.

The year ended with Unrestricted reserves of £74,961 and Designated Funds of £90,392.

Restricted funds ended the year with a balance of £902,489 with projects spending a net total of £600,114. This included previous years funding on several projects and expenditure on continuation funded projects. As a result, the restricted funds balance reduced from £1,502,603 to £902,489.

We transferred some designated funds consistent with our objectives and against allocations made towards the end of the previous financial year. The trustees have prepared a forecast for 2025-26 to consider the potential impact on VONNE of possible scenarios on funding, alongside measures that can be taken to mitigate this. Based on these assessments and the current reserves position, the trustees have concluded they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.



Reserves policy

VONNE believes it's important to maintain a reserves policy to ensure effective resource management, and to enable financial viability and longer-term sustainability. Four key elements have been taken into consideration to assess a realistic reserve level. These are:

- The reliability of current income sources and new income opportunities
- Expenditure on planned activities
- Future needs, contingencies and risks
- Consequences of being unable to meet forecast needs.

VONNE has no endowment funding and has no significant capital assets it could earn from, or dispose of, to realise additional income. Significant levels of activity are funded through grants or contracts from the public and charitable sectors, but these resources are generally time-limited and usually restricted by the funder. Uncertainties are compounded by the ongoing economic impact of the cost-of-living crisis/high inflation levels on VCSE sector organisations and wider political instability. In addition, the board considers there to be a higher level of uncertainty around funding and income streams for infrastructure organisations. Consequently, a conservative reserves policy is considered the most appropriate.

The VONNE Board uses a continual process of careful financial management, and will aim to review, establish and maintain adequate reserves to enable the organisation to function effectively. A cautious approach to investment is adopted, maximising income by using interest-earning, short-term, accessible bank accounts.

Annually, the Board will review the amount of funds designated for specific purposes, such as maternity and sickness salary cover, redundancy liability, and organisational development funds (outlined in full below). In addition, the board agrees to hold general unrestricted reserves to cover organisational running costs for between 6 and 12 months, with a target of 9 months, to continue VONNE's activities should anticipated income is not received.



Designated funds

The current total amount of funds designated for specific purposes is £90,392 (see below for further detail). Over and above this, VONNE holds a total of £74,961 in general unrestricted reserves, which would be sufficient to continue VONNE's core activities for 4 months should anticipated income is not received.

Since core costs change from year to year and have such an influence over the total level of reserves required, all elements of this policy will be reviewed bi-annually each June and December, or more frequently if requested by the board.

The trustees wish to allocate the unrestricted closing reserve level of £165,353 in the following manner:

Project development and innovation fund A project development fund to support new initiatives and unforeseen project activities to strengthen the VCSE sector in the North East or the sustainability of VONNE.	£10,000
Repair and renewals fund To meet the ongoing costs of repairing and replacing capital equipment, and in particular, IT equipment.	£2,500
Staff contingencies and liabilities fund To meet unexpected staffing costs related to parental leave, sickness leave and other periods of absence and to cover current redundancy liability for individuals whose posts may be lost during a restructure, or as a result of funding streams coming to an end. Redundancy costs are calculated on the basis of current weekly pay.	£61,958
Website Development Fund To meet the costs of the new website build in 2022/23 to provide better content, useability and customer service for our members and the wider VCSE sector. These costs will be amortised over the following 3 years.	£15,934
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS	£90,392
Unrestricted (free) reserves	£74,961



Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of VONNE 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. Under that law, the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.



In preparing these statements, trustees are required to:

- **select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently**
- **observe the methods and principles in the charity Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)**
- **make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent**
- **prepare financial statements on an ongoing 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, to enable them to ensure the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Auditors

The auditors BK Plus Audit Limited will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 5 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Alison Dunn (Chair)

Thank you!

Thank you to all of our funders, partners, collaborators, colleagues and most of all our members.

2024/2025 VONNE funders:

22 North Foundation	 ACCESS The Foundation for Social Investment	THE Barbour FOUNDATION	BIG SOCIETY CAPITAL
CHESHIRE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION	 Community Foundation North East	CATAPULT Digital	 European Union European Regional Development Fund
HADRIAN TRUST	 Millfield House Foundation	 COMMUNITY FUND	NHS North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
NHS North East and North Cumbria	 Newcastle University	NIHR National Institute for Health and Care Research NorthHFutures	NHS England
NE North East Combined Authority	point north	R.W.MANN TRUST	The Rothley Trust
 SIR JAMES KNOTT TRUST	The Joicey Trust	 VCS Emergencies Partnership	 MONEY FOUNDATION



STRENGTHENING & SUPPORTING THE SECTOR

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vonne@vonne.org.uk

0191 233 2000

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voluntary Organisations' Network North East (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

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

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. In this regard, our procedures include the following:

- enquiry of management around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business;
- challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates.

Because of the field in which the Association operates, we have identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements: Health and Safety; Employment Law; and compliance with the Companies, Charities, Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies, and Health and Social Care Acts.

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

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

Use of our report

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

Colin Chater FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of BK Plus Audit Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Azzurri House
Walsall Road
Aldridge
Walsall
WS9 0RB

5 December 2025

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

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

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	2	258	-	-	258	-
Charitable activities	4					
Policy & Consultancy Projects		95,384	-	610,923	706,307	334,244
Health & Wellbeing Projects		-	-	167,620	167,620	1,391,421
Climate Emergency Projects		-	-	77,416	77,416	430,736
Funding Information North East		-	-	8,500	8,500	6,000
North East Funders Network		-	-	-	-	15,383
Core		160,300	-	-	160,300	192,795
Investment income	3	<u>36,916</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,916</u>	<u>7,208</u>
Total		<u>292,858</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>864,459</u>	<u>1,157,317</u>	<u>2,377,787</u>
EXPENDITURE ON						
Charitable activities	5					
Policy & Consultancy Projects		14,880	-	416,277	431,157	372,157
Health & Wellbeing Projects		6,509	-	875,598	882,107	813,981
Climate Emergency Projects		-	-	145,597	145,597	196,373
Funding Information North East		-	-	11,184	11,184	9,975
North East Funders Network		-	-	4,444	4,444	15,383
Core		<u>393,742</u>	<u>12,429</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>406,171</u>	<u>289,799</u>
Total		<u>415,131</u>	<u>12,429</u>	<u>1,453,100</u>	<u>1,880,660</u>	<u>1,697,668</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(122,273)	(12,429)	(588,641)	(723,343)	680,119
Transfers between funds	17	<u>12,177</u>	<u>(704)</u>	<u>(11,473)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		(110,096)	(13,133)	(600,114)	(723,343)	680,119
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		<u>185,057</u>	<u>103,525</u>	<u>1,502,603</u>	<u>1,791,185</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>74,961</u>	<u>90,392</u>	<u>902,489</u>	<u>1,067,842</u>	<u>1,791,185</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Intangible assets	11	15,934	30,525
Tangible assets	12	<u>3,638</u>	<u>5,201</u>
		19,572	35,726
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	57,001	1,256,707
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>1,114,896</u>	<u>674,108</u>
		1,171,897	1,930,815
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(123,627)</u>	<u>(175,356)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>1,048,270</u>	<u>1,755,459</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,067,842	1,791,185
NET ASSETS		<u>1,067,842</u>	<u>1,791,185</u>
FUNDS	17		
Unrestricted funds		165,353	288,582
Restricted funds		<u>902,489</u>	<u>1,502,603</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>1,067,842</u>	<u>1,791,185</u>

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 5 December 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

C Henderson - Trustee

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	19	<u>406,492</u>	<u>(232,785)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>406,492</u>	<u>(232,785)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of intangible fixed assets		-	(21,000)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,620)	(1,434)
Interest received		<u>36,916</u>	<u>7,208</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>34,296</u>	<u>(15,226)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		440,788	(248,011)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>674,108</u>	<u>922,119</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>1,114,896</u></u>	<u><u>674,108</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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.

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

Going Concern

At the date of approval of these financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue for the foreseeable future and as such the financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

The income shown in the Statement of Financial Activities represents the value of all services delivered during the year, at selling price exclusive of Value Added Tax. Sales are recognised at the point at which the charity has fulfilled its contractual obligations to the customer.

Grant income

Revenue grants are credited to incoming resources on the earlier date of when they are received or receivable, unless they relate to a specific period, or alternatively, where there are conditions which must be fulfilled prior to entitlement or use of the grant, in which case they are deferred into subsequent accounting periods and are treated as grants or income in advance.

Resources expended and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis 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.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expenses for which it was incurred.

Support costs

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

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets are initially recorded at cost and are subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. Any intangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation, as determined by reference to an active market, less any subsequent accumulated amortisation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

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

Website development	-	33% on cost
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**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity, except to the extent it reverses a revaluation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in profit or loss. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent of any previously recognised revaluation increase accumulated in equity in respect of that asset. Where a revaluation decrease exceeds the accumulated revaluation gains accumulated in equity in respect of that asset, the excess shall be recognised in profit or loss.

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

Debtors

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

Cash at bank and in hand

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

Creditors and provisions

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

Financial instruments

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

Taxation

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

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.

Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectation of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations	<u>258</u>	<u>-</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Interest	<u>36,916</u>	<u>7,208</u>

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	2025	2024
		£	£
Grants	Policy & Consultancy Projects	710,923	293,293
Sales and events	Policy & Consultancy Projects	(4,616)	40,951
Grants	Health & Wellbeing Projects	167,620	1,344,965
Sales and events	Health & Wellbeing Projects	-	46,456
Grants	Climate Emergency Projects	77,416	430,736
Grants	Funding Information North East	8,500	6,000
Grants	North East Funders Network	-	15,383
Grants	Core	52,000	65,000
Sales and events	Core	<u>108,300</u>	<u>127,795</u>
		<u>1,120,143</u>	<u>2,370,579</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 6)	Totals
	£	£	£
Policy & Consultancy Projects	412,953	18,204	431,157
Health & Wellbeing Projects	853,989	28,118	882,107
Climate Emergency Projects	125,615	19,982	145,597
Funding Information North East	10,522	662	11,184
North East Funders Network	3,945	499	4,444
Core	<u>289,463</u>	<u>116,708</u>	<u>406,171</u>
	<u>1,696,487</u>	<u>184,173</u>	<u>1,880,660</u>

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

6. SUPPORT COSTS

	Depreciation £	Events & meetings £	Support costs £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Policy & Consultancy Projects	233	7,612	10,118	241	18,204
Health & Wellbeing Projects	519	4,892	22,164	543	28,118
Climate Emergency Projects	93	337	19,455	97	19,982
Funding Information North East	13	46	589	14	662
North East Funders Network	12	45	429	13	499
Core	<u>17,904</u>	<u>2,333</u>	<u>93,013</u>	<u>3,458</u>	<u>116,708</u>
	<u>18,774</u>	<u>15,265</u>	<u>145,768</u>	<u>4,366</u>	<u>184,173</u>

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Auditors' remuneration	3,800	2,324
Depreciation - owned assets	4,183	4,847
Website development amortisation	14,591	13,637
Rent	<u>30,253</u>	<u>20,191</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

9. STAFF COSTS

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	643,208	689,172
Social security costs	57,617	59,119
Other pension costs	<u>22,835</u>	<u>37,088</u>
	<u>723,660</u>	<u>785,379</u>

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

	2025	2024
Chief Executive Officer	1	1
Staff	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>
	<u>21</u>	<u>23</u>

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

9. STAFF COSTS - continued

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2025	2024
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

The key management personnel are defined under Reference and Administrative Details. The total remuneration and benefits paid to key management amounted to £108,524 (2024: £121,366).

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Charitable activities				
Policy & Consultancy Projects	40,951	-	293,293	334,244
Health & Wellbeing Projects	46,456	-	1,344,965	1,391,421
Climate Emergency Projects	-	-	430,736	430,736
Funding Information North East	-	-	6,000	6,000
North East Funders Network	-	-	15,383	15,383
Core	192,795	-	-	192,795
Investment income	<u>7,208</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,208</u>
Total	<u>287,410</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,090,377</u>	<u>2,377,787</u>
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities				
Policy & Consultancy Projects	40,951	-	331,206	372,157
Health & Wellbeing Projects	65,813	-	748,168	813,981
Climate Emergency Projects	-	-	196,373	196,373
Funding Information North East	-	-	9,975	9,975
North East Funders Network	-	-	15,383	15,383
Core	<u>289,799</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>289,799</u>
Total	<u>396,563</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,301,105</u>	<u>1,697,668</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(109,153)	-	789,272	680,119
Transfers between funds	<u>180,885</u>	<u>(62,308)</u>	<u>(118,577)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	71,732	(62,308)	670,695	680,119
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	<u>113,325</u>	<u>165,833</u>	<u>831,908</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>185,057</u>	<u>103,525</u>	<u>1,502,603</u>	<u>1,791,185</u>

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

11. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Website development £
COST	
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	<u>46,575</u>
AMORTISATION	
At 1 April 2024	16,050
Charge for year	<u>14,591</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>30,641</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2025	<u>15,934</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>30,525</u>

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2024	14,325	20,734	35,059
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>2,620</u>	<u>2,620</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>14,325</u>	<u>23,354</u>	<u>37,679</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024	12,481	17,377	29,858
Charge for year	<u>962</u>	<u>3,221</u>	<u>4,183</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>13,443</u>	<u>20,598</u>	<u>34,041</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	<u>882</u>	<u>2,756</u>	<u>3,638</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>1,844</u>	<u>3,357</u>	<u>5,201</u>

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	3,818	1,180,171
Other debtors	9,263	-
Prepayments and accrued income	43,920	76,536
	<u>57,001</u>	<u>1,256,707</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	52,062	119,935
Social security and other taxes	15,778	10,529
Other creditors	1,311	9,244
Accruals and deferred income	54,476	35,648
	<u>123,627</u>	<u>175,356</u>

Deferred Income

Included within Accruals and Deferred Income are the following amounts comprising those grants, donations and income specified as relating to a specific period and represent those parts of the grants, donations or income which relate to periods subsequent to the accounting year end and are treated as grants or income in advance, or alternatively where there are conditions which must be fulfilled prior to entitlement or use of the grant or donation by the charity.

	£
Balance at 1 April 2024	23,543
Released to income from charitable activities	(23,543)
Income deferred in year	<u>28,673</u>
Balance at 31 March 2025	<u>28,673</u>

15. LEASING AGREEMENTS

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Within one year	<u>7,500</u>	<u>30,000</u>

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total funds	2024 Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	3,638	15,934	-	19,572	35,726
Current assets	189,450	74,458	907,989	1,171,897	1,930,815
Current liabilities	(118,127)	-	(5,500)	(123,627)	(175,356)
	<u>74,961</u>	<u>90,392</u>	<u>902,489</u>	<u>1,067,842</u>	<u>1,791,185</u>

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	185,057	(122,273)	12,177	74,961
Project development & innovation fund	10,000	-	-	10,000
Repair and replacement fund	2,500	-	-	2,500
Maternity, sickness and jury service fund	62,662	-	(704)	61,958
Website development fund	28,363	(12,429)	-	15,934
	288,582	(134,702)	11,473	165,353
Restricted funds				
Funding Information North East	-	(2,684)	2,684	-
Research Engagement Network (REN)	66,556	481	-	67,037
Local Access Programme – Access Foundation	(1,688)	367,491	-	365,803
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	9,660	-	-	9,660
Digital Pathfinders NTCA	-	(1,172)	1,172	-
Going green together	91,292	(15,400)	(10,501)	65,391
North East Funders Network - National Lottery Community Fund	4,444	(4,444)	-	-
NENC ICB - Healthy Communities & Social Prescribing	565,195	(362,464)	(170,000)	32,731
NENC ICB - Health Champions	100,739	(12,025)	-	88,714
NENC ICB - VCSE Sector Representative fees	6,342	(1,075)	(5,267)	-
NIHR VCSE Research Partnerships	50,546	42,256	-	92,802
North East England Climate Coalition	3,053	-	(3,053)	-
Waiting Well Funding	4,775	(4,775)	-	-
Personalised Care - Social Prescribing	84,097	-	-	84,097
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Partnership Programme	-	(161,632)	180,267	18,635
Enrich the earth	306,667	(52,781)	(250,000)	3,886
NoTCA Social Finance Fund Roundtables	5,925	(5,925)	-	-
NENC ICB VCSE Partnership Programme	5,000	-	(5,000)	-
NEAS Voluntary Sector Community Engagement Support	200,000	(165,748)	(890)	33,362
NEAS Community First Responders / Defibs	-	(250,000)	250,000	-
NorthFutures Digital Health Hub	-	5,200	-	5,200
Assura	-	36,056	(885)	35,171
	1,502,603	(588,641)	(11,473)	902,489
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,791,185</u>	<u>(723,343)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,067,842</u>

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	292,858	(415,131)	(122,273)
Website development fund	-	(12,429)	(12,429)
	<u>292,858</u>	<u>(427,560)</u>	<u>(134,702)</u>
Restricted funds			
Funding Information North East	8,500	(11,184)	(2,684)
Research Engagement Network (REN)	37,000	(36,519)	481
Local Access Programme – Access Foundation	610,923	(243,432)	367,491
Digital Pathfinders NTCA	-	(1,172)	(1,172)
Going green together	77,416	(92,816)	(15,400)
North East Funders Network - National Lottery Community Fund	-	(4,444)	(4,444)
NENC ICB - Healthy Communities & Social Prescribing	-	(362,464)	(362,464)
NENC ICB - Health Champions	-	(12,025)	(12,025)
NENC ICB - VCSE Sector Representative fees	-	(1,075)	(1,075)
NIHR VCSE Research Partnerships	80,000	(37,744)	42,256
Waiting Well Funding	-	(4,775)	(4,775)
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Partnership Programme	727	(162,359)	(161,632)
Enrich the earth	-	(52,781)	(52,781)
NoTCA Social Finance Fund Roundtables	-	(5,925)	(5,925)
NEAS Voluntary Sector Community Engagement Support	-	(165,748)	(165,748)
NEAS Community First Responders / Defibs	-	(250,000)	(250,000)
NorthHFutures Digital Health Hub	12,393	(7,193)	5,200
Assura	<u>37,500</u>	<u>(1,444)</u>	<u>36,056</u>
	<u>864,459</u>	<u>(1,453,100)</u>	<u>(588,641)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>1,157,317</u></u>	<u><u>(1,880,660)</u></u>	<u><u>(723,343)</u></u>

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	87,459	(89,796)	180,885	178,548
Project development & innovation fund	10,000	-	-	10,000
Repair and replacement fund	2,500	-	-	2,500
Maternity, sickness and jury service fund	51,367	-	11,295	62,662
Organisational development fund	10,000	-	(10,000)	-
Office reconfiguration fund	2,800	-	(2,800)	-
Website development fund	42,000	-	(13,637)	28,363
Organisational restructure fund	43,000	-	(43,000)	-
ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund	4,166	-	(4,166)	-
National Academy for Social Prescribing	25,866	(19,357)	-	6,509
	279,158	(109,153)	118,577	288,582
Restricted funds				
Funding Information North East	-	(3,975)	3,975	-
Innovation Clusters	-	(3,448)	3,448	-
Research Engagement Network (REN)	-	66,556	-	66,556
Local Access Programme – Access Foundation	222,574	(224,262)	-	(1,688)
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	9,660	-	-	9,660
Digital Pathfinders NTCA	12,128	(12,128)	-	-
Going green together	160,209	(68,917)	-	91,292
North East Funders Network - National Lottery Community Fund	4,444	-	-	4,444
NENC ICB - Healthy Communities & Social Prescribing	316,242	248,953	-	565,195
NENC ICB - Health Champions	-	100,739	-	100,739
NENC ICB - VCSE Sector Representative fees	6,692	(350)	-	6,342
NIHR VCSE Research Partnerships	19,649	30,897	-	50,546
North East England Climate Coalition	6,440	(3,387)	-	3,053
Waiting Well Funding	-	4,775	-	4,775
Personalised Care - Social Prescribing	-	84,097	-	84,097
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Partnership Programme	73,870	56,130	(130,000)	-
VONNE Thrive Hub Development	-	(500)	500	-
VCSE Infrastructure Cost of Living Fund	-	(3,500)	3,500	-
Enrich the earth	-	306,667	-	306,667
NoTCA Social Finance Fund Roundtables	-	5,925	-	5,925
NENC ICB VCSE Partnership Programme	-	5,000	-	5,000
NEAS Voluntary Sector Community Engagement Support	-	200,000	-	200,000
	831,908	789,272	(118,577)	1,502,603
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,111,066</u>	<u>680,119</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,791,185</u>

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	158,003	(247,799)	(89,796)
Millfield House Foundation	42,000	(42,000)	-
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	14,880	(14,880)	-
Development & Co-ordination Support MEA Trust	26,071	(26,071)	-
National Academy for Social Prescribing	46,456	(65,813)	(19,357)
	287,410	(396,563)	(109,153)
Restricted funds			
Funding Information North East	6,000	(9,975)	(3,975)
Innovation Clusters	4,594	(8,042)	(3,448)
Research Engagement Network (REN)	162,234	(95,678)	66,556
Local Access Programme – Access Foundation	16,134	(240,396)	(224,262)
Digital Pathfinders NTCA	48,042	(60,170)	(12,128)
Going green together	90,942	(159,859)	(68,917)
NENC ICB - Healthy Communities & Social Prescribing	537,689	(288,736)	248,953
NENC ICB - Health Champions	158,822	(58,083)	100,739
NENC ICB - VCSE Sector Representative fees	50	(400)	(350)
NIHR VCSE Research Partnerships	69,862	(38,965)	30,897
North East England Climate Coalition	15,794	(19,181)	(3,387)
Waiting Well Funding	20,000	(15,225)	4,775
North East Funders Network	15,383	(15,383)	-
Personalised Care – Children & Young People	12,712	(12,712)	-
Personalised Care - Social Prescribing	84,097	-	84,097
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Partnership Programme	288,499	(232,369)	56,130
Investing for Social Impact	6,000	(6,000)	-
VCSE Policy Forum	7,648	(7,648)	-
VONNE Thrive Hub Development	-	(500)	(500)
VCSE Infrastructure Cost of Living Fund	-	(3,500)	(3,500)
Enrich the earth	324,000	(17,333)	306,667
NoTCA Social Finance Fund Roundtables	11,850	(5,925)	5,925
NENC ICB VCSE Partnership Programme	5,000	-	5,000
NEAS Voluntary Sector Community Engagement Support	200,000	-	200,000
Northern Powergrid Event Co-ordination	5,025	(5,025)	-
	2,090,377	(1,301,105)	789,272
TOTAL FUNDS	2,377,787	(1,697,668)	680,119

Designated Funds

The designated funds were established in 2007/08 for the initial support or extensions to special projects and are reviewed annually by the trustees. They are as follows:

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Project Development & Innovation Fund

A project development fund to aid project start up or set up funding constraints, support new initiatives and unforeseen project activities to strengthen the VCSE sector in the North East or the sustainability of VONNE

Maternity, Sickness, Redundancy and Jury Fund

To meet unexpected staffing costs including additional/cover costs relating to parental leave, longer-term sickness or jury service and liabilities fund including redundancy liability for individuals whose posts may be lost during restructure or because of funding streams coming to an end.

The fund has been decreased slightly in the year, to reflect staff changes.

Repairs and Replacement Fund

To meet the on-going costs of repairing and replacing capital equipment, and in particular IT equipment.

Website Development Fund

To meet the costs of the new website build in 2022/23 to provide better content, useability and customer service for our members and the wider VCSE sector. These costs will be amortised over the following 3 years.

Unrestricted Funds

Included within the general fund are the following:

Development & Coordination Support MEA Trust

To deliver development and coordination support activities with tenants of MEA House and the wider VCSE sector.

Millfield House Foundation

Strategic partner core funding to support the work of VONNE.

Sir James Knott Trust

Strategic partner core funding to support the work of VONNE.

National Academy for Social Prescribing - Thriving Communities Programme

Funding to deliver regional lead and coordination role for the North East, Yorkshire & Humber on behalf of the National Academy for Social Prescribing.

North East Local Enterprise Partnership Digital Inclusion Consultation

Facilitation of consultation sessions with VCSE organisations on a regional Digital Inclusion strategy.

Northern Powergrid Community Engagement

Partnership work with Northern Powergrid to support their engagement with the VCSE sector and services for vulnerable customers.

22 North

Funding towards an information, data, and policy hub is needed so we can better support and advocate for the VCSE sector.

Restricted Funds

They are as follows:

CVD Networks - VCS Engagement

Funding to support VCSE engagement in Cardio-Vascular Disease prevention and treatment.

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Digital Pathfinders - North of Tyne Combined Authority

Supporting the VCSE Sector across the North of Tyne area to adopt digital technologies through training, events and one to one support.

FINE - Funding Information North East

To provide funding information to North East VCSE sector organisations through e-bulletin and an online, searchable directory.

Local Access Redcar, Cleveland and Hartlepool

Funding from Access Foundation for the Local Access enterprise development & blended finance programme in Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool.

Going Green Together

Supports VCSE organisations to become more environmentally sustainable and engage in climate action. Funding was secured from the National Lottery Community Funds - Reaching Communities North East and Cumbria, and Point North to deliver phase 2 of the programme from June 2024 through to June 2027.

Personalised Care - Carers - NHS England

A research and development project on support for carers' experiences of hospital discharge in the North East & Yorkshire regions.

North East & North Cumbria (NENC) Core20Plus5 Health Champion Programme

Funding from the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board to manage the delivery and co-ordination of NENC Core20Plus5 Health Champion Programme to strengthen existing health champion activity, share models of best practice and support the development of Health Champions aligned to Core20Plus5 target groups and themes across each local authority area.

NENC Integrated Care System (ICS) Healthy Communities & Social Prescribing

Strategic oversight, development and delivery of a programme around Community Based Assets, supporting social prescribing, capacity (knowledge and skills) within the North East and North Cumbria VCSE to support the health inequalities & prevention agenda within the North East and North Cumbria (NENC) Integrated Care Board.

NENC ICS VCSE Sector Representative fees

Funding to sit alongside the NENC ICS VCSE Partnership Programme to fund attendance fees and expenses for VCSE representatives engaging in Integrated Care System structures and meetings.

NENC Integrated Care System VCSE Partnership Programme

Funding from the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System to support meaningful engagement of the VCSE sector in all levels of the Integrated Care System.

NENC Waiting Well VCSE Integration Programme - NENC Integrated Care Board

To support improved VCSE integration into development and delivery of the NENC NHS Waiting Well Programme at a regional and place-based level.

NIHR/ARC VCSE Research Partnerships

Funding from the National Institute of Health Research and the North East & North Cumbria Applied Research Collaborative to support a post to develop relationships between VCSE sector organisations and health researchers including funding the Health & Wellbeing Research Partnerships Coordinator role.

North East & Cumbria Funders Network - National Lottery Community Fund

Funding from The National Lottery Community Fund for the facilitation and coordination of the North East & Cumbria Funders Network.

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Enrich the Earth

Enrich the Earth Community Partnership is a community-led campaign that will create a composting revolution - cutting carbon emissions and protecting nature by engaging and involving communities and people through a range of partners, campaigns and activities.

NEAS Strategy Engagement

The North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) is creating its new organisational strategy, and it would like to use information gathered from members of the public and VCSE sector organisations to help ensure their services are the best they can be for the people and communities who use them.

NEAS Community First Responders/Defibs

North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) to direct investment into community organisations for their first responder training and defibrillation equipment.

Research Engagement Network

Funding from NENC Integrated Care Board as project partner to support Health & Wellbeing Research Partnerships Coordinator role, to sit as distinct budget attached to NIHR/ ARC VCSE Research Partnership.

North Futures

Partnership with the NorthFutures team, to ensure the needs of communities are at the heart of health-tech research and innovation.

Assura

Funding from Assura plc and Cheshire Community Foundation, to co-design metrics for VCSE commissioning, helping to better evidence the impact of VCSE services in health and care pathways.

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(723,343)	680,119
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	18,774	18,484
Interest received	(36,916)	(7,208)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	1,199,706	(764,310)
Decrease in creditors	(51,729)	(159,870)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u>406,492</u>	<u>(232,785)</u>

20. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/24 £	Cash flow £	At 31/3/25 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>674,108</u>	<u>440,788</u>	<u>1,114,896</u>
	<u>674,108</u>	<u>440,788</u>	<u>1,114,896</u>
Total	<u>674,108</u>	<u>440,788</u>	<u>1,114,896</u>

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK
NORTH EAST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

21. LEGAL STATUS

Voluntary Organisations' Network North East is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found within Reference and Administrative Details.

The liability of the Members is limited. Every Member of VONNE undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required (not exceeding £1) to VONNE's assets if it should be wound up while they are a Member or within one year after they cease to be a Member for payment of VONNE's debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a Member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

England & Wales - Charity number 1084083

Accounts

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Company Registration Number: 04061592
Charity Number: 1084083

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The board of trustees

Alison Dunn (Chair)
Steven Duckworth
Michael Fawole
Edward Kunonga (resigned November 2023)
Kerry Robinson (resigned November 2023)
Kumareswaradas Ramanathas
Jonathan Carling
Sandra Coulter (resigned November 2023)
Colin Hewitt
Jane Kingston (resigned November 2023)
Victoria Burnip (resigned November 2023)
Craig Henderson
Adam Hill
Catherine Parker (appointed November 2023)

Company secretary

Martin Brookes (appointed June 2024)
Carol Ownsworth (nee Botten) (resigned March 2024)

Registered office

Hadrian House
Higham Place
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE1 8AF

Accountants

Debére Limited
Chartered Accountants
Swallow House
Parsons Road
Washington
Tyne and Wear
NE37 1EZ

Auditors

Read, Milburn & Co
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors
71 Howard Street
North Shields
Tyne and Wear
NE30 1AF

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank Plc
Four Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2HB



STRENGTHENING & SUPPORTING THE SECTOR

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended March 31st, 2024

The Trustees, who are the directors of the organisation for the purpose of Company Law, present their annual director's report together with the charity's financial statements for the year ended March 31 2024, which are also prepared to meet the requirements of a director's report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, which is applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard that applies in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Reference and administrative details

Name: Voluntary Organisations' Network North East (VONNE)

Charity Registration Number: 1084083

Registered Office: Hadrian House, Higham Place, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8AF

Company Registration Number: 4061592

Names of the charity trustees at the date this report was approved:

Chair: Alison Dunn

Treasurer: Craig Henderson

Trustees:

Vice Chair: Steven Duckworth

Professor Edward Kunonga*, Colin Hewitt, Kerry Robinson*, Alison Dunn, Steven Duckworth, Michael Fawole, Kumareswaradas Ramanathas, Jonathan Carling, Sandra Coulter*, Colin Hewitt, Jane Kingston*, Victoria Burnip*, Adam Hill, Craig Henderson, Catherine Parker**.

*retired November 2023

** appointed November 2023

Company secretary: Martin Brookes (appointed June 2024), Carol Ownsworth (nee Botten) (resigned March 2024)

Key management personnel: Martin Brookes, Chief Executive (appointed June 2024), Carol Botten, Chief Executive (resigned March 2024), and Menisha Gela, Deputy Chief Executive

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank, Four Brindley Place, Birmingham B1 2JB

Accountants: Debere, Swallow House, Parsons Road, Washington, Tyne and Wear NE37 1EZ

Auditors: Read Milburn & Company, 71 Howard Street, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE30 1AF

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The organisation, a registered charity, is controlled by its governing document, the Articles of Association and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The VONNE Board of Trustees has between three and fifteen members. Trustees are nominated and elected from the membership. Notice is sent to all members prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM), with each member organisation entitled to vote. Up to six trustees may be appointed by serving trustees for their expertise, qualifications and knowledge.

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees have a full induction delivered by the Chief Executive and key team members prior to attending their first Board meeting. They are provided with an induction pack containing all the key information about VONNE, Charity Commission guidance, role descriptions and other relevant materials.

Organisational structure

VONNE is managed by a Board of Trustees elected from the membership and governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The Board takes all strategic decisions relating to VONNE, including:

- receiving and reviewing reports from the Chief Executive and Company Secretary
- acting as the formal employer of VONNE's staff, ensuring activity and performance is regularly reviewed and evaluated
- monitoring and assessing VONNE's financial position, including budget setting
- developing, reviewing and monitoring VONNE's strategic plan and annual work plan, to influence and direct VONNE's work
- agreeing and reviewing appropriate policies and ensuring VONNE meets its legal responsibilities
- communicating relevant information and views gathered outside VONNE to staff and trustees. There's a finance sub-group that reports to the Board on finance, internal policy and human resources issues.

Risk management

Trustees reviewed the risk register this year and monitor it regularly, with a full review carried out annually. Trustees are confident that risks have been identified, appropriate preventative measures are in place and remedial activities are available. VONNE's financial processes are regularly reviewed, both by the Board and externally, to ensure they continue to be robust.

Indemnity insurance

VONNE has professional indemnity insurance cover, in respect of the trustees and officers of the charity.

VONNE'S Mission



To support the development and sustainability of a strong, effective and well governed Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector, and promote engagement, involvement and collaboration with the sector as a valued partner.

VONNE's strategic aims 2018-2024

- To be the expert source of knowledge and intelligence on the VCSE sector in the North East with a particular focus on the existing and emerging needs of the people and communities it serves.
- To be a source of information to the VCSE sector on issues that impact upon it.
- To raise the North East sector's profile and be a leading voice for it.
- To support external stakeholders to effectively engage and collaborate with the VCSE community, through effective system change and new approaches.
- To support the North East VCSE sector to be effective, ambitious and enterprising.
- To be an effective and sustainable organisation.

VONNE's values

- Striving for excellence
- Transparency
- Inclusivity and fairness
- Learning and sharing

Public benefit

VONNE's objectives provide benefit to the public in North East England (area of benefit) by promoting and supporting the effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations.

Trustees of VONNE confirm they've read and paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Trustees confirm they've complied with their duties under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to public benefit. Having considered the guidance, trustees have concluded that VONNE's work directly supports and strengthens the North East VCSE community with guidance and information, and increases its ability to influence policy and practice in the region.

ANNUAL REVIEW

VONNE Membership

Our more than 1,400 members allow us to continue our work to strengthen and support the North East's VCSE sector. Our members give us a collective voice that enables us to represent our sector regionally and nationally.

Following feedback in last year's [Member and Stakeholder survey](#), work this year focussed on improving the user experience for members, with the aim of making benefits easier to find and use. The biggest improvement came with the launch of our new website in May 2023, which included a new member-only area with a dashboard to access benefits and manage accounts more easily. We also launched a member newsletter – a new monthly roundup of relevant content, member offers and early access to events like our annual conference – and improved the membership user journey.

Core membership increased by nearly three per cent on the previous year. Membership+ numbers increased by just over one per cent.

[Membership+](#), our enhanced membership scheme, gives members access to a range of additional benefits. Over 26 per cent of our members are also Membership+ supporters. Bronze Membership+ is free to organisations with annual income under £50K. Income from any fees contribute to core running costs, with every penny re-invested in our work.

VONNE Jobs

Our Job Finder service had a more challenging year, nonetheless we advertised over 930 job and trustee vacancies in sector organisations across the region through the year.

Although recruitment remains challenging for the North East VCSE sector, interest in Job Finder continued to grow, with a [job-seeker survey](#) generating useful insights which helped us improve search functions and user experience for mobile users. The [jobs pages](#) on our website received an average of around 23,000 page views each month, subscribers to our weekly ebulletin increased to over 3,300 and @VONNEJobs Twitter had more than more than 2,800 followers. We also started sharing Job Finder bulletins on our [LinkedIn page](#).

As part of our commitment to champion better recruitment practices in the North East VCSE sector, we continued to support key campaigns such as [#ShowTheSalary](#) and [#OpenToAll](#). We also continued to use our position as a National Living Wage employer to [encourage sector support](#) for the campaign.

Enhanced Recruitment Service

Our enhanced recruitment services, which includes our [recruitment support service](#) and a [trustee finder](#) service, have continued to provide support to a number of organisations this year. We look forward to developing this area of work in the coming years.

Information and intelligence

We raise the profile of the sector and ensure it is valued as an equal partner. We are an expert source of intelligence on the sector and provide information to the VCSE community on issues that affect it.

Our communication channels

We keep North East VCSE organisations informed about key information through our social media channels and a number of regular eBulletins, including VONNENews, VONNEJobs, FINE and Health & Wellbeing ebulletins. We also launched a monthly VONNE Members bulletin with information and exclusive offers for our members.

During 23/24 we sent a total of 123 ebulletins to more than 10,000 opted-in subscribers. Engagement remained consistent with a high interest in VONNE news and opinion articles, particularly around our Annual Conference, which focussed on AI for the charity sector and our project workstreams.

We further developed our social media branding and increased our engagement on LinkedIn, resulting in a 27% increase in followers.

In May 2023 we launched a new VONNE website with improved accessibility, user-led journeys and information about VONNE's work and values. This included a full re-brand which we've been rolling out across our internal and external communications.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) launched in April 2022, and since then VONNE has shared key intelligence and information with the sector, built strong relationships with the lead authorities for UKSPF in the region, and enabled engagement and consultation with the sector through our networks and specific events. We have worked collaboratively with North of Tyne Combined Authority and other lead authorities to scope and influence potential delivery and programme models. VONNE continued to represent the VCSE sector on the North of Tyne Combined Authority UK Shared Prosperity Fund Partnership Group during the year and provided regular UKSPF updates to our networks and through our communications channels.

Partnerships and collaboration

We facilitate networks to strengthen the VCSE sector and act as a 'connector', bringing people and organisations together to make things happen.

Networks

We provide learning opportunities and encourage collaboration through our Membership+ supporter scheme and CEO Peer Support Network, which is open to the CEOs of silver and gold Membership+ supporters enables leaders to hear about key policy issues impacting on the sector, share challenges and support each other in a 'safe space'.

We facilitate the North East and Cumbria Funders' Network, through which we share information and support funders to collaborate and better support grant applicants. The Funders Network has directly and regularly involved over 70 local and national funders in our forum for network members to share information on the funding landscape and support and encourage collaboration between funders, with a wider reach to 299 contacts on the mailing list for regular bulletins and updates.

We are a key partner of the North East Social Leaders Network, the North of Tyne Combined Authority Inclusive Economy Board, and within the North East LEP, on which our CEO served as a board member, we also represented the sector on the North East Skills Advisory Panel. We facilitate the VCSE Skills, Inclusion and Employment Network to feed in and back to these structures.

We have facilitated the North East Building Better Opportunities (BBO) Network documenting the key finding, learning and recommendations from the programme. We brought the BBO projects together with representatives from both the North East LEP, North of Tyne Combined Authority and Tees Valley Combined Authority to ensure learning and legacy was fed into UKSPF plans and wider employability provision and policy.

In 2022 we launched the North East VCSE Policy Forum, working in partnership with IPPR North and funded by the Millfield House Foundation which continues to provide a vehicle to bring VCSE sector leaders together to engage and respond to emerging policy themes impacting on the sector.

As members of the North East Child Poverty Commission, we have continued to work with other members, VCSE organisations and other regional bodies to demand urgent government action to address the levels of child poverty in the region.

We support networks of Local Infrastructure Organisations (LIOs) across the region, bringing them together both to facilitate joint working, and to disseminate relevant policy information from VONNE to their grassroots member groups.

Partnership Projects

Continuing partnership projects include:

- **Digital Pathfinders**, a three-year cross sector partnership which aimed to encourage digital adoption across sectors. VONNE acted as the VCSE partner and offers access to free, independent, high quality, digital expertise through events, training masterclasses and 12 hours of bespoke one to one support.

- **Local Access Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool (LARCH)**, is tackling localised community inequality in the Tees Valley's social economy through enterprise development support and access to blended social investment. The five-year LARCH programme has moved into its third year from January 2024, receiving over 115 inquiries from VCSE organisations and individuals to date. LARCH is innovative in its implementation, from informal support provided by our partnership to funded business support, mentoring, coaching, or training that best meets the needs of our target groups who are instrumental in solving the social issues in this unique place-based programme. In Year 3 our primary focus will be developing our learning of how the programme support has influenced and created a culture change, enabling the sector to become more financially resilient and sustainable as well as using this and the needs of local communities to inform our work going forward in creating a longer-term legacy for the programme.
- **Going Green Together** has been redesigned based on our learning from the pilot programme and further funding has been secured for the period 2024-27, our thanks to the National Lottery Community Fund, County Durham Community Foundation, and Tees Foundation. To date 22 organisations have achieved iiE accreditation of Bronze or higher. Through our climate action project development seed fund programme, 12 proposals were developed, and 3 organisations have so far attained further funding from third parties to deliver projects to engage local communities in climate action. The next phase will draw on our learning and enable VONNE to provide more one-to-one support for organisations, by redefining and convening Vonne Climate Action Alliance we aim to bring together partners and cultivate a culture of cross fertilisation across programme as well as identify opportunities to collaborate and collectively tackle the climate change agenda, and have a more active voice in climate action across the North East through convening strategy forums with our networks.
- **The cross-sectoral North East England Climate Coalition (NEECCo)**, hosted by VONNE, continued to work towards a regional approach to addressing the climate emergency, ecological collapse and the need for a just transition working across a number of areas including built environment, land use and agriculture, waste & resources, retrofitting housing, indicators, and sustainable finance. NEECCo came to an end at the end of March 2024, leaving a strong legacy of making a significant contribution to driving this agenda across sectors and across the region. Sustainability and tackling climate change is now being taken forward by VONNE through our Going Green Together Programme as well as the Vonne Climate Action Alliance (VCAA). The 2 Combined Authorities we now have in our region are also taking elements of the work forward with tools and learning from NEECCo being widely accessible to support this transition.
- **Developing a VCSE community hub with the MEA Trust at MEA House:** Engagement and development work continued in the early part of the year with the MEA House community to help create a hub for the VCSE sector. However, increasing costs resulted in the reluctant decision by the MEA House Trustees to sell the building. VONNE worked closely with the Trustees and the MEA House community to support the various VCSE sector tenants with information and support to find alternative accommodation and enable a smooth exit and transition to new premises.

Health and Wellbeing

VONNE is the lead partner in the **North East and North Cumbria (NENC) VCSE Partnership Programme**, an NHS England and NHS Improvement scheme supporting the VCSE community to create alliances to facilitate a coordinated VCSE voice at Integrated Care System (ICS) level and have greater strategic influence in emerging ICS governance structures. We have secured confirmation of funding from the Integrated Care Board (ICB) for 2024/25 including dedicated funds for reimbursement of VCSE representatives involved in ICS strategic meetings. We continue to facilitate VCSE representation on both ICS boards to further embed the VCSE within the system and have increased VCSE representation at strategic level within several health workstreams.

The Partnership Programme hosts a growing **Health and Wellbeing Network**, sharing information via a 3-weekly Health and Wellbeing bulletin, with membership increasing from 264 to 877 from the year 2022 to March 2024. Partnership Forum meetings are held bi-monthly for senior VCSE managers responsible for organisational policy and strategy. The forum hosts a variety of guest speakers including, Claire Riley, Chief Corporate Services Officer; Dan Jackson, Director of Policy, Public Affairs and Stakeholder Affairs, NENC ICB; and Kathryn Grayling, Director of People and Culture, Boost. The members act as a representative group with whom external stakeholders can engage. A VONNE Health and Wellbeing twitter account was set up to utilise the reach of social media, which has grown to 656 followers.

The programme's **VCSE Executive Group** consists of democratically nominated representatives from all sub-groups, external network partners and infrastructure organisations to gain broad geographic and thematic input from the whole sector across ICS footprint, to discuss and agree key collective issues, themes and messages to share at the strategic forums they sit within. At the request of the group, the VCSE Partnership Programme created a questionnaire to find out more about the VCSE sector's perception of the relationship with the ICB, and to get a clearer picture of the funding landscape for organisations. A [full report](#) and [infographic](#) showcasing key findings were developed and shared widely across the ICS, and were well received by both VCSE and statutory colleagues.

We have supported the development of coordinated relationships with NHS workstreams and continue to work with the ICB to create links into the programme sub-groups, of which there are now 10, including a Workforce sub-group led by the Health Partnerships Strategic Manager, who is the VCSE representative on the ICB People Committee.

We have supported the development of a longer-term piece of work supporting closer linkage of NHS Hospitals Charities and Local Infrastructure Organisations to enable future funding of community projects and are in the process of generating an ICB/VCSE bid to investigate evidencing impact of partnership working, which will support the development of better commissioning practices within the health system.

The Health & Wellbeing Research Partnerships Coordinator pilot post has delivered a second year of support focused on improving relationships between the VCSE and research. With a focus on supporting connections and partnership working, the role has also provided training and other learning opportunities to strengthen VCSE understanding and ability to advocate for reciprocal, sustainable partnerships and research that improves outcomes for their beneficiaries. The second year of the role has continued to be very successful, securing additional work and funding through a partnership with the EPSRC-funded Northern Futures Health Hub (NorthFutures Hub) for one day a week of Coordinator support from May 2024 – October 2026. In addition, an event co-hosted by VONNE has led to a newly funded project to create and disseminate practical resources to support greater VCSE and research integration through a £40K from the national NIHR Centre and Engagement & Dissemination.

VONNE led the successful Research Engagement Network Phase 2 bid, partnering with the ICB and research partners and secured £200K of funding, the majority of which was directed into the VCSE sector. An additional £30K was successfully applied for to extend the scope of this work, which will be delivered in 2024/5.

VONNE represents the VCSE within the Healthier and Fairer Group, previously known as the NENC ICS Health Inequalities Advisory Group and Operational Group, with the Health Partnerships Strategic Manager Co-Chairing the Healthy Communities and Social Prescribing Steering Group and leading on a work programme funded by the ICB. We received investment of £300k for this work, £240k of which is reallocated to VCSE partners through our Infrastructure Investment Programme. This programme aims to build capacity and resilience of social prescribing across the North East and North Cumbria region, 12 partners received funding during the year, enabling a range of projects to commence, details of which can be found on our [Healthy Communities and Social Prescribing web pages](#).

We are also active partners across a number of Healthier and Fairer work programmes, ensuring that the voice of the VCSE is heard and promote collaboration and partnership to address health inequalities and the broad prevention agenda. We host a HC&SP network of over 350 partners and host Stakeholder events twice per year.

We have continued to host a regional network of health champion leads, and during 2023 we published a learning resource, capturing experiences from local champion programmes. We have also identified five new health champion projects who will receive development funding for 2024/5.

VONNE's role as the North East & Yorkshire regional lead for the **National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP) Thriving Communities Programme** came to an end on 30 September 2023, following a new strategy and restructure at NASP.

VONNE is co-lead for a North East pilot project '**Reading for Wellbeing**' supported by the author Ann Cleeves, who donated funds matched by 6 local authorities to support recruitment of community reading workers linked to library services working in a range of community settings targeting those experiencing loneliness, social isolation and health issues. In 2023, 4 more local authority areas recruited community reading workers and we have continued to support bringing areas together to share learning, provide access to training via Opening the Book and work with evaluators to support implementation of a consistent monitoring and reporting framework. We have supported development of a website: <https://readingforwellbeing.org.uk/> and [NIHR supported evaluation of the phase 1 pilot which has been published](#).

At the end of 2023/4, VONNE agreed to help the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) to direct investment into community organisations for their first responder training and defibrillation equipment. VONNE also instigated a partnership with Healthwatch to engage in wide public and VCSE sector consultation to support the development of NEAS's new organisational strategy, which will commence in 2024/5.

Digital and Innovation

This year VONNE continued our support for the sector with digital and innovation through our ERDF funded Catalysing Innovation project, working with the Innovation Super Network; the Digital Pathfinders programme; and support for the sector with digital inclusion. Working with external stakeholders this year we held workshops for the sector on:

- Project Management methodologies
- Design Thinking and how to adopt them in a VCSE organisation
- Doing recruitment differently roundtable where organisations could share best practice to overcome the sector-wide challenge.
- Two Easyfundraising webinars to support organisations to diversify their income with innovative fundraising through retailers.
- Two North East Ambition Information sessions to raise awareness about the workforce development support available to organisations through the Education Trust's project.
- Communicating the Climate Crisis with ACT Climate Labs to help organisations identify misinformation and develop their communications strategy around the climate crisis.

Within the Digital Pathfinders programme, we held workshops on a variety of topics including digital fundraising, cyber security, data and many more. This year we hosted 8 masterclasses and engaged 54 organisations in the programme.

During this year we continued our work in digital inclusion including involvement in workshops and activities to support the development of Digital Inclusion strategies with the North East Local Enterprise Partnership and the Tees Valley Combined Authority.

Support and resilience

We provide the sector with up to date and relevant funding information through our **Funding Information North East (FINE)** ebulletin and searchable funding directory. We also encourage and support sector organisations to actively consider and develop more diverse income streams including earned and contract income and social investment. Through the NE and Cumbria Funders Network we also work to increase understanding among funders, social investors, and statutory bodies of the sector's needs.

Last year, we:

- continued our community support and engagement work with Northern Powergrid, sitting on their Social Experts Advisory Group and main Stakeholder Panel;
- sponsored the North East Charity Awards encouraging organisations to nominate themselves and for the wider sector and region, to celebrate and promote the sector's vital work across the region.

Future Plans

The challenges and opportunities facing the voluntary and community sector have shifted with both regional and national political and policy changes, as well as developments in the funding landscape. To reflect these changes and the way we work, in 24-25 we will be reviewing VONNE's strategy.

The North East has some of the poorest regions in the country, with high levels of poverty, unemployment, poor health and health inequalities. The voluntary sector is relied upon to deliver crucial support to people in these communities. Ensuring these communities are well understood and served is part of VONNE's work.

The riots in the summer of 2024 highlight another area of opportunity. Different towns and cities in the North East experienced these events markedly differently, and the charity sector is heavily embedded within communities that are trying to rebuild, strengthen and foster positive relationships and greater cohesion. There are signs that in some areas it was the strength of the sector and its connections which helped stop or limit trouble. Our Conference in November 2024 will centre on **Devolution and Community Cohesion**, with a particular focus on the aftermath of the **summer riots** and the impact on the North East region. With the region now governed by two Combined Authorities—the **North East Combined Authority** and the **Tees Valley Combined Authority**—there is a unique opportunity for the charity sector to participate in meaningful conversations about the future of our communities.

We will also work to influence the combined authorities on “local growth plans”. We hope to work with both combined authorities to put the VCSE sector at the heart of these regional plans, ensuring that they are more equitable and help the most vulnerable in society. In a similar spirit, we continue to work with a range of NHS structures across the region, including the ICB, through the Partnership Programme and the Healthier and Fairer programme.

Our work in all these areas is information – its collection, collation, analysis, and then presentation. We are undertaking a strategy review in the second half of 2024-25 and will examine which of our activities are going well and where we need to change things. This would build on all our existing work aiming to ensure the sector is even better understood, appreciated, and supported. In turn this means the sector would be able to serve communities even more effectively and sustainably. The core work of VONNE will remain the same, but we are likely to refresh how we present the work of VONNE, so it is better understood by all.

Our Member Services Team will continue to increase our membership in 2024-25. The online Workspace Finder and our Enhanced Recruitment services continue to be developed to support the sector.

We will be reviewing our LARCH (Local Access Redcar, Cleveland and Hartlepool) project and progress to date including partnership structures and outcomes of the enterprise development programme to focus on future priorities and begin legacy planning and Phase 2 of Going Green Together will launch in 2024.

We are focussing on equality, diversity and inclusion in 2024-25 and ensuring this is embedded in every aspect of our work through our strategy.

We continue to recruit new staff into the organisation including our new CEO, dedicated project staff and a Finance Manager.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The 2023/24 financial year saw further growth of project income (21%) and expenditure (27%) from the previous financial year, due in part to continuation of project development and funding for our work addressing the climate emergency: Going Green Together, and the continuation of other significant projects such as LARCH and Digital Pathfinders. Our health & wellbeing portfolio also continued to grow, including our VCSE Partnership Programme engaging the VCSE sector with the North East & North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB), further involvement through our Health & Wellbeing Research Partnership in the national Research Engagement Network Development project, as well as further investment in the Health Communities & Social Prescribing activities, as part of the ICB's 'Healthier & Fairer' health inequalities programme. Further health project funding was also secured at the year end from NEAS (North East Ambulance Service) to support VCSE engagement in development of their strategy in 24/25. Our core earned income from membership fees and job advertising increased again during this financial year.

At year end, there was a £109,153 deficit on the general unrestricted fund, before transfers from our designated funds. We ended the year with a significant surplus of £789,272 in our restricted funds. We spent out the existing restricted funds relating to a number of projects but received further restricted income in continuation funding for several projects, which increased the funds held in restricted reserves back up to £1,502,603. We anticipate that all restricted funds as at 31 March 2024 will be utilised in 2024/25.

Accounting for unspent restricted funds, the overall surplus for the year is £679,768. We transferred some designated funds consistent with our strategic objectives and against allocations made towards the end of the previous financial year. The trustees have prepared a forecast for 2024-2025 to consider the potential impact on VONNE of possible scenarios on funding, alongside measures that can be taken to mitigate this. Based on these assessments and the current reserves position, the trustees have concluded they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

Reserves policy

VONNE believes it is important to maintain a reserves policy to ensure effective resource management, and to enable the financial viability and longer term sustainability of the organisation. The Board consider that the VONNE should hold sufficient funds to cover::

- any unforeseen need for funds and operational costs.
- expenditure which may be incurred before grant funding is required.

In determining the financial amount that is to be held for any unforeseen need for funds and operational costs, the Board have considered the organisations risk register, which they consider to be a prudent way of determining the potential financial impact of unforeseen events.

They have also considered the average value of certain grant funds which are received in arrears in determining the amounts needed to fund the working capital shortfall of incurring expenditure in advance of funds being received.

Following these considerations, the Board consider that it is appropriate to hold £255,000 in reserve. As at 31 March 2024 free reserves held by the Charity amounted to £282,073.

The VONNE board uses a continual process of careful financial management, and will aim to review, establish and maintain adequate reserves to enable the organisation to function effectively. A cautious approach to investment is adopted, maximising income by using interest-earning, short term accessible bank accounts.

Annually, the Board will review the amount of funds to designate for specific purposes (outlined in full below).

The trustees wish to allocate the unrestricted closing reserve level of £103,525 in the following manner:

Project development and innovation fund A project development fund to support new initiatives and unforeseen project activities to strengthen the VCSE sector in the North East or the sustainability of VONNE.	£10,000
Repair and renewals fund To meet the ongoing costs of repairing and replacing capital equipment, and in particular, IT equipment.	£2,500
Staff contingencies and liabilities fund To meet unexpected staffing costs related to parental leave, sickness leave and other periods of absence and to cover current redundancy liability for individuals whose posts may be lost during a restructure, or as a result of funding streams coming to an end. Redundancy costs are calculated on the basis of current weekly pay.	£62,662
Website development To meet the costs of the new website build in 2022/23 to provide better content, useability and customer service for our members and the wider VCSE sector. These costs will be amortised over the following 3 years.	£28,363
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS	£103,525
Unrestricted (allocated) reserves	£6,509
Unrestricted (free) reserves	£178,548

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of VONNE 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 trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company, and of the income and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these statements, trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the charity Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare financial statements on an ongoing 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, to enable them to ensure the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Auditors

In accordance with Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution for the re-appointment of Read, Milburn & Co. as auditors of the charity is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

On 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 19 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Alison Dunn (Chair)

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voluntary Organisations' Network North East (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

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

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. In this regard, our procedures include the following:

- Enquiry of management around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates.

Because of the field in which the charity operates, we have identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements: Health and Safety; Employment Law; and compliance with the Companies and Charities Acts.

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

Use of our report

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



Nicholas Liley FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Read, Milburn & Co
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
71 Howard Street
North Shields
Tyne and Wear
NE30 1AF

19 December 2024

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME FROM:						
Investment income	4	7,208	–	–	7,208	63
Charitable activities	5	<u>280,202</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>2,090,377</u>	<u>2,370,579</u>	<u>1,864,292</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>287,410</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>2,090,377</u>	<u>2,377,787</u>	<u>1,864,355</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:						
<i>Charitable activities</i>		<u>(396,563)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(1,301,105)</u>	<u>(1,697,668)</u>	<u>(1,242,875)</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6	<u>(396,563)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(1,301,105)</u>	<u>(1,697,668)</u>	<u>(1,242,875)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>(109,153)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>789,272</u>	<u>680,119</u>	<u>621,480</u>
Transfers between funds	14	<u>180,885</u>	<u>(62,308)</u>	<u>(118,577)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>
Net movement in funds	7	<u>71,732</u>	<u>(62,308)</u>	<u>670,695</u>	<u>680,119</u>	<u>621,480</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		<u>113,325</u>	<u>165,833</u>	<u>831,908</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>	<u>489,586</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>185,057</u>	<u>103,525</u>	<u>1,502,603</u>	<u>1,791,185</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 23 to 39 form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST*Registered Number 04061592***BALANCE SHEET****31 MARCH 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Intangible assets	10	30,525	23,162
Tangible assets	11	<u>5,201</u>	<u>8,614</u>
		35,726	31,776
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	12	1,256,707	492,397
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>674,108</u>	<u>922,119</u>
		1,930,815	1,414,516
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(175,356)</u>	<u>(335,226)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		1,755,459	1,079,290
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>1,791,185</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>1,791,185</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund		185,057	113,325
Designated funds		<u>103,525</u>	<u>165,833</u>
		288,582	279,158
Restricted funds		<u>1,502,603</u>	<u>831,908</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	14	<u>1,791,185</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>

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

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

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 19 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Craig Henderson (Treasurer)

The notes on pages 23 to 39 form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash generated from operating activities	16	<u>(232,785)</u>	<u>282,751</u>
Net cash from operating activities		<u>(232,785)</u>	<u>282,751</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of intangible assets		(21,000)	(22,575)
Purchase of tangible assets		(1,434)	(5,964)
Interest received		<u>7,208</u>	<u>63</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(15,226)</u>	<u>(28,476)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(248,011)	254,275
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>922,119</u>	<u>667,844</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		<u>674,108</u>	<u>922,119</u>

The notes on pages 23 to 39 form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Voluntary Organisations' Network North East is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Hadrian House, Higham Place, Newcastle Upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE1 8AF.

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective from 1 January 2019, the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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 £.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the levels of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern. Based on the assessments made in order to mitigate the current adverse conditions, and the current resources available, the trustees have concluded that they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Income

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

The income shown in the statement of financial activities represents the value of all services delivered during the year, at selling price exclusive of Value Added Tax. Sales are recognised at the point at which the charity has fulfilled its contractual obligations to the customer.

Grant income

Revenue grants are credited to incoming resources on the earlier date of when they are received or receivable, unless they relate to a specific period, or alternatively, where there are conditions which must be fulfilled prior to entitlement or use of the grant, in which case they are deferred into subsequent accounting periods and are treated as grants or income in advance.

Resources expended and Irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis 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.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expenses for which it was incurred.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

Support costs

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

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets are initially recorded at cost and are subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. Any intangible assets carried at revalued amounts, are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation, as determined by reference to an active market, less any subsequent accumulated amortisation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

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

Website development	–	33% on cost
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Tangible fixed assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity, except to the extent it reverses a revaluation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in profit or loss. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent of any previously recognised revaluation increase accumulated in equity in respect of that asset. Where a revaluation decrease exceeds the accumulated revaluation gains accumulated in equity in respect of that asset, the excess shall be recognised in profit or loss.

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

Debtors

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

Cash at bank and in hand

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

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

Creditors and provisions

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

Financial instruments

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

Statement of cash flow

The charity has prepared a statement of cash flow on the basis that they are defined as a large charity.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

Designated funds include amounts allocated to various funds by 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.

Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Capital commitments

The charity has no contractual commitments at the year end.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectation of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2. Company Status

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

3 Statement of Financial Activities for the prior year

		<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Designated Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total Funds</i>
	<i>Notes</i>	<i>General Funds</i>	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Funds</i>
		<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>2023</i>
		<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
INCOME FROM:					
Investment income	4	63	—	—	63
Charitable activities	5	<u>349,567</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,514,725</u>	<u>1,864,292</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>349,630</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,514,725</u>	<u>1,864,355</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities		<u>(320,751)</u>	<u>(62,086)</u>	<u>(860,038)</u>	<u>(1,242,875)</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6	<u>(320,751)</u>	<u>(62,086)</u>	<u>(860,038)</u>	<u>(1,242,875)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		28,879	(62,086)	654,687	621,480
Transfers between funds	14	<u>(7,486)</u>	<u>(16,764)</u>	<u>24,250</u>	<u>—</u>
Net movement in funds	7	21,393	(78,850)	678,937	621,480
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>91,932</u>	<u>244,683</u>	<u>152,971</u>	<u>489,586</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>113,325</u>	<u>165,833</u>	<u>831,908</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted	2023
	2024	£
	£	£
Deposit account interest receivable	<u>7,208</u>	<u>63</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5 Income from resources from charitable activities

	Grant income £	Sales And events £	Total Restricted Funds £	Total Un- restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Policy & Consultancy Projects	293,293	40,951	293,293	40,951	334,244	461,417
Health & Wellbeing Projects	1,344,965	46,456	1,344,965	46,456	1,391,421	859,407
Climate Emergency Projects	430,736	–	430,736	–	430,736	357,074
Funding Information North East	6,000	–	6,000	–	6,000	7,500
North East Funders Network	15,383	–	15,383	–	15,383	14,714
VONNE – Core Income	<u>65,000</u>	<u>127,795</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>192,795</u>	<u>192,795</u>	<u>164,180</u>
Total	<u>2,155,377</u>	<u>215,202</u>	<u>2,090,377</u>	<u>280,202</u>	<u>2,370,579</u>	<u>1,864,292</u>

6 Charitable activities costs

	Direct costs £	Depre- ciation £	Support Costs £	Events & Meetings £	Governance costs £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Policy & Consultancy Projects	360,514	525	10,299	819	–	372,157	325,874
Health & Wellbeing Projects	795,174	2,706	16,101	–	–	813,981	475,972
Climate Emergency Projects	187,332	528	4,720	3,793	–	196,373	199,943
Funding Information North East	9,217	93	665	–	–	9,975	7,500
North East Funders Network	14,842	79	462	–	–	15,383	10,270
VONNE – Core Expenditure	<u>177,387</u>	<u>14,553</u>	<u>85,521</u>	<u>9,850</u>	<u>2,488</u>	<u>289,799</u>	<u>223,316</u>
Total	<u>1,544,466</u>	<u>18,484</u>	<u>117,768</u>	<u>14,462</u>	<u>2,488</u>	<u>1,697,668</u>	<u>1,242,875</u>

In the year ended 31 March 2024 total expenditure was £1,697,668. Included with this is £396,563 (2023: £382,837) of unrestricted expenditure and £1,301,105 (2023: £860,038) of restricted.

Direct costs are made up as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs (per note 9)	785,379	617,439
Recruitment costs	548	755
Research and consultancy	739,191	444,475
Travel and subsistence	3,280	3,573
Training projects	<u>16,068</u>	<u>5,766</u>
	<u>1,544,466</u>	<u>1,072,008</u>

Governance costs are made up as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
AGM and Board member expenses	164	409
Auditors' remuneration	<u>2,324</u>	<u>2,265</u>
	<u>2,488</u>	<u>2,674</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Net movement in funds

Net movement in funds are stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024 £	2023 £
Auditors' remuneration	2,324	2,265
Depreciation – owned assets	4,847	5,698
Website development amortisation	13,637	1,939
Rent	<u>20,191</u>	<u>13,179</u>

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

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

9 Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	689,172	542,963
Social security costs	59,119	45,878
Pension costs	<u>37,088</u>	<u>28,598</u>
	<u>785,379</u>	<u>617,439</u>

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

	2024	2023
Chief Executive Officer	1	1
Staff	<u>22</u>	<u>19</u>
	<u>23</u>	<u>20</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2024	2023
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>—</u>

The total remuneration and benefits paid to key management amounted to £121,366 (2023: £87,835)

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

10 Intangible fixed assets

	Website Development £
COST	
At 1 April 2023	39,325
Additions	<u>21,000</u>
At 31 March 2024	60,325
AMORTISATION	
At 1 April 2023	16,163
Charge for the year	<u>13,637</u>
At 31 March 2024	29,800
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2024	<u>30,525</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>23,162</u>

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Fittings and fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
COST			
At 1 April 2023	12,891	20,734	33,625
Additions	<u>1,434</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,434</u>
At 31 March 2024	14,325	20,734	35,059
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023	11,605	13,406	25,011
Charge for year	<u>876</u>	<u>3,971</u>	<u>4,847</u>
At 31 March 2024	12,481	17,377	29,858
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	<u>1,844</u>	<u>3,357</u>	<u>5,201</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>1,286</u>	<u>7,328</u>	<u>8,614</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

12 Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,180,171	405,649
Prepayments	2,117	28,005
Accrued income	74,419	58,685
Other debtors	<u>–</u>	<u>58</u>
	<u>1,256,707</u>	<u>492,397</u>

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	119,935	33,497
Taxation and social security	10,529	17,931
Accruals	12,105	101,060
Deferred income	23,543	175,096
Other creditors	<u>9,244</u>	<u>7,642</u>
	<u>175,356</u>	<u>335,226</u>

Accrued and Deferred income

Included in accruals and deferred income / prepayments and accrued income are the following provisions for deferred income/(accrued income):

	<i>1 April</i> 2023	Receivable	Released	31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Membership income	35,278	44,931	(56,666)	23,543
North East Funders Network	(7,357)	22,740	(15,383)	–
Innovation clusters	(3,831)	8,425	(4,594)	–
North East England	(5,371)	21,165	(15,794)	–
Digital Pathfinders	(19,082)	29,005	(48,042)	(38,119)
NENC ICS Partnership Programme	(200)	287,599	(287,399)	–
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	(3,720)	18,600	(14,880)	–
Development & Co-ordination Support MEA Trust	(17,374)	23,949	(26,071)	(19,496)
Local Access Redcar, Cleveland and Hartlepool	–	(220)	(15,734)	(15,954)
National Academy for Social Prescribing	4,789	41,667	(46,456)	–
Events sponsorship	(850)	–	–	(850)
Policy & Consultancy	(400)	800	(400)	–
Office accommodation	(500)	4,500	(4,000)	–
Personalised Care – Children & Young People	12,712	–	(12,712)	–
NENC Health Champions programme	8,822	130,200	(139,022)	–
The Rothley Trust (FINE)	1,000	–	(1,000)	–
North East VCSE Policy Forum	5,000	2,648	(7,648)	–
Waiting Well Engagement	20,000	(2,500)	(17,500)	–
Research Engagement Network	<u>87,495</u>	<u>67,739</u>	<u>(155,234)</u>	<u>–</u>
	<u>116,411</u>	<u>701,248</u>	<u>(868,535)</u>	<u>(50,876)</u>

The deferrals included in creditors relate to those grants, donations and income specified as relating to a specific period and represent those parts of the grants, donations or income which relate to periods subsequent to the accounting year end and are treated as grants or income in advance, or alternatively where there are conditions which must be fulfilled prior to entitlement or use of the grant or donation by the charity.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Movement in funds

For the year ended 31 March 2024	At 1 April 2023 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2024 £
Designated funds				
Project development & innovation fund	10,000	–	–	10,000
Repair and replacement fund	2,500	–	–	2,500
Maternity, sickness and jury service fund	51,367	–	11,295	62,662
Organisational development fund	10,000	–	(10,000)	–
Office reconfiguration fund	2,800	–	(2,800)	–
Website development fund	42,000	–	(13,637)	28,363
Organisational restructure fund	43,000	–	(43,000)	–
ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund	<u>4,166</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(4,166)</u>	<u>–</u>
	165,833	–	(62,308)	103,525
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	87,459	(89,796)	180,885	178,548
National Academy for Social Prescribing	<u>25,866</u>	<u>(19,357)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>6,509</u>
	113,325	(109,153)	180,885	185,057
Restricted funds				
Funding Information North East	–	(3,975)	3,975	–
Innovation Clusters	–	(3,448)	3,448	–
Research Engagement Network	–	66,556	–	66,556
Local Access Redcar, Cleveland and Hartlepool	222,574	(224,262)	–	(1,688)
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	9,660	–	–	9,660
Digital Pathfinders	12,128	(12,128)	–	–
Going green	160,209	(68,917)	–	91,292
North East Funders Network – Together	4,444	–	–	4,444
NENC ICS – Healthy Communities + Social Prescribing	316,242	248,953	–	565,195
NENC ICS – Healthy Champions programme	–	100,739	–	100,739
NENC ICS – VCSE Sector Representative fees	6,692	(350)	–	6,342
NIHR/ ARC VCSE Research Partnerships	19,649	30,897	–	50,546
North East England Climate Coalition	6,440	(3,387)	–	3,053
Waiting Well Engagement	–	4,775	–	4,775
Personalised Care – Carers	–	84,097	–	84,097
NENC ICS VCSE Partnership Programme	73,870	56,130	(130,000)	–
VONNE Thrive Hub	–	(500)	500	–
VCSE Infrastructure Cost of Living Fund	–	(3,500)	3,500	–
Enrich the Earth	–	306,667	–	306,667
NOTCA social finance fund roundtables coord	–	5,925	–	5,925
NENC ICS VCSE Sector Finance Strategy engagement	–	5,000	–	5,000
NEAS Strategy Engagement	<u>–</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>200,000</u>
	<u>831,908</u>	<u>789,272</u>	<u>(118,577)</u>	<u>1,502,603</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,111,066</u>	<u>680,119</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>1,791,185</u>

Of the amounts received during the year in relation to NENC ICS VCSE Partnership Programme, the board of trustees decided to reallocate £130,000 to be spent of projects with similar objectives.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Movement in funds (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	158,003	(247,799)	(89,796)
Millfield House Foundation	42,000	(42,000)	–
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	14,880	(14,880)	–
Development & Co-ordination Support MEA Trust	26,071	(26,071)	–
National Academy for Social Prescribing	<u>46,456</u>	<u>(65,813)</u>	<u>(19,357)</u>
	287,410	(396,563)	(109,153)
Restricted funds			
Funding Information North East	6,000	(9,975)	(3,975)
Innovation Clusters	4,594	(8,042)	(3,448)
Research Engagement Network	162,234	(95,678)	66,556
Local Access Redcar, Cleveland and Hartlepool	16,134	(240,396)	(224,262)
Waiting Well Engagement	20,000	(15,225)	4,775
North East Funders Network	15,383	(15,383)	–
NENC ICS – Healthy Communities & Social Prescribing	537,689	(288,736)	248,953
NENC ICS – Health Champions Programme	158,822	(58,083)	100,739
NENC ICS – VCS Sector Representative fees	50	(400)	(350)
NENC ICS VCSE Sector Finance Strategy Engagement	5,000	–	5,000
NIHR/ ARC VCSE Research Partnership	69,862	(38,965)	30,897
North East England Climate Coalition	15,794	(19,181)	(3,387)
Digital Pathfinders	48,042	(60,170)	(12,128)
Personalised Care - Children & Young People	12,712	(12,712)	–
Personalised Care - Carers	84,097	–	84,097
VONNE Climate Action Alliance – Going Green Together	90,942	(159,859)	(68,917)
Enrich the Earth	324,000	(17,333)	306,667
VONNE Thrive Hub Development	–	(500)	(500)
NENC ICS VCSE Partnership Programme	288,499	(232,369)	56,130
Investing for Social Impact	6,000	(6,000)	–
VCSE Policy Forum	7,648	(7,648)	–
NOTCA Social finance fund Round Tables Co-Ord	11,850	(5,925)	5,925
NEAS Strategy Engagement Support	200,000	–	200,000
Northern Powergrid Event Co-ordination	5,025	(5,025)	–
VCSE Infrastructure Cost of Living Fund	<u>–</u>	<u>(3,500)</u>	<u>(3,500)</u>
	<u>2,090,377</u>	<u>(1,301,105)</u>	<u>789,272</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>2,377,787</u>	<u>(1,697,668)</u>	<u>680,119</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Movement in funds (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	At 1 April 2022 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2023 £
Designated funds				
Project development & innovation fund	20,000	(5,000)	(5,000)	10,000
Redundancy fund	65,066	(55,237)	(9,829)	–
Repair and replacement fund	2,500	–	–	2,500
Maternity, sickness and jury service fund	37,952	–	13,415	51,367
Organisational development fund	20,000	–	(10,000)	10,000
COVID-19 working arrangements reconfiguration fund	2,500	–	(2,500)	–
Office reconfiguration fund	7,000	(1,849)	(2,351)	2,800
Website development fund	30,000	–	12,000	42,000
Organisational restructure fund	43,000	–	–	43,000
ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund	<u>16,665</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(12,499)</u>	<u>4,166</u>
	<u>244,683</u>	<u>(62,086)</u>	<u>(16,764)</u>	<u>165,833</u>
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	91,932	3,013	(7,486)	87,459
National Academy for Social Prescribing	<u>–</u>	<u>25,866</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>25,866</u>
	<u>91,932</u>	<u>28,879</u>	<u>(7,486)</u>	<u>113,325</u>
Restricted funds				
Innovation Clusters	–	(14,011)	14,011	–
Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund	16,266	(16,266)	–	–
Local Access Redcar, Cleveland and Hartlepool	47,309	175,265	–	222,574
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	9,750	(90)	–	9,660
Digital Pathfinders	12,128	–	–	12,128
VONNE Climate Action Alliance	9,518	150,691	–	160,209
North East Funders Network - National Lottery Community Fund	–	4,444	–	4,444
NENC Integrated Care System – Healthy Communities	–	316,242	–	316,242
NENC Integrated Care System – Healthy Champions Programme	–	(86)	86	–
NENC Integrated Care System – VCS Sector	–	–	–	–
Representative fees	–	6,692	–	6,692
NIHR/ ARC VCSE Research Partnership	–	19,649	–	19,649
North East England Climate Coalition – NENC Integrated Care System	–	6,440	–	6,440
Safeguarding Partnership	–	(1,445)	1,445	–
Personalised Care - Children & Young People	–	(7,894)	7,894	–
Personalised Care – Carers	–	(814)	814	–
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Partnership Programme	50,000	23,870	–	73,870
VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA/ British Red Cross	<u>8,000</u>	<u>(8,000)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>
	<u>152,971</u>	<u>654,687</u>	<u>24,250</u>	<u>831,908</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>489,586</u>	<u>621,480</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Movement in funds (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in funds £
Designated funds			
Redundancy fund	–	(55,237)	(55,237)
Office Reconfiguration fund	–	(1,849)	(1,849)
Project development & innovation fund	–	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>
	–	(62,086)	(62,086)
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	122,243	(119,230)	3,013
Millfield House Foundation	42,000	(42,000)	–
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	14,880	(14,880)	–
North East LEP Digital Inclusion Consultation	9,800	(9,800)	–
North of Tyne Combined Authority – Equalities Assembly	25,500	(25,500)	–
Development & Co-ordination Support MEA Trust	30,536	(30,536)	–
National Academy for Social Prescribing	<u>104,671</u>	<u>(78,805)</u>	<u>25,866</u>
	349,630	(320,751)	28,879
Restricted funds			
Funding Information North East	7,500	(7,500)	–
Innovation Clusters	12,549	(26,560)	(14,011)
Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund	–	(16,266)	(16,266)
Local Access Redcar, Cleveland and Hartlepool	302,631	(127,366)	175,265
VCSE Infrastructure Cost of Living Fund	5,000	(5,000)	–
North East Funders Network - National Lottery Community Fund	14,714	(10,270)	4,444
NENC Integrated Care System – Healthy Communities & Social Prescribing	363,257	(47,015)	316,242
NENC Integrated Care System – Health Champions	19,659	(19,745)	(86)
NENC Integrated Care System – VCS Sector Representative fees	10,000	(3,308)	6,692
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Sector Finance Strategy	7,648	(7,648)	–
NIHR/ ARC VCSE Research Partnership	44,162	(24,513)	19,649
Safeguarding Partnership	–	(1,445)	(1,445)
North East England Climate Coalition	58,701	(52,261)	6,440
Digital Pathfinders	39,421	(39,421)	–
Personalised Care - Children & Young People	16,349	(24,243)	(7,894)
Personalised Care - Carers	94,518	(95,332)	(814)
VONNE Climate Action Alliance – Going Green Together	298,373	(147,682)	150,691
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	–	(90)	(90)
VONNE Thrive Hub Development	15,100	(15,100)	–
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Partnership Programme	199,143	(175,273)	23,870
VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA/ British Red Cross	<u>6,000</u>	<u>(14,000)</u>	<u>(8,000)</u>
	1,514,725	(860,038)	654,687
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,864,355</u>	<u>(1,242,875)</u>	<u>621,480</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Movement in funds (*continued*)

Designated Funds:

The designated funds were established in 2007/08 for the initial support or extensions to special projects and are reviewed annually by the trustees. They are as follows:

Organisational Development Fund

To meet the development costs of new income generation/sustainability activities for VONNE including significant staff development investments. Any activities funded would include a proportion of related staff costs.

Project Development & Innovation Fund

A project development fund to aid project start up or set up funding constraints, support new initiatives and unforeseen project activities to strengthen the VCSE sector in the North East or the sustainability of VONNE

Maternity, Sickness and Jury Fund

To cover additional staffing costs due to extended periods of absence. The fund has been decreased slightly in the year, to reflect staff changes.

Staff contingencies and liabilities fund

To meet unexpected staffing costs including additional/ cover costs relating to parental leave, longer-term sickness or jury service and liabilities fund including redundancy liability for individuals whose posts may be lost during restructure or because of funding streams coming to an end.

ERDF Innovation Clusters Match Fund

Funding committed to match ERDF funding for the Innovation Clusters project. Due to the project continuing to 2024, a transfer has been made into designated reserves to match the forecasted spends.

Repairs and Replacement Fund

To meet the on-going costs of repairing and replacing capital equipment, and in particular IT equipment.

Redundancy Fund

In previous years this was to cover the costs of redundancy for individuals whose posts may be lost during restructure or as a result of funding streams coming to an end. This was increased in the year due to the length of service with staff continuing to increase. This has now been replaced by the staff contingencies and liabilities fund.

COVID-19 Working Arrangements Reconfiguration Fund

To meet the specific costs of COVID-19 reconfigurations to the VONNE office.

Office Reconfiguration Fund

To meet the costs of longer-term reconfigurations to the VONNE office to enable a more flexible working space.

Unrestricted Funds:

They are as follows:

Ann Cleeves Reading for Wellbeing

Ann Cleeves donation to support match funding for Community Reading Workers to help people access books and reading for pleasure to improve their health and wellbeing in six North East local authority areas.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Movement in funds (*continued*)

Development & Coordination Support MEA Trust

To deliver development and coordination support activities with tenants of MEA House and the wider VCSE sector.

Millfield House Foundation

Strategic partner core funding to support the work of VONNE.

National Academy for Social Prescribing - Thriving Communities Programme

Funding to deliver regional lead and coordination role for the North East, Yorkshire & Humber on behalf of the National Academy for Social Prescribing.

North East Local Enterprise Partnership Digital Inclusion Consultation

Facilitation of consultation sessions with VCSE organisations on a regional Digital Inclusion strategy.

North of Tyne Combined Authority - Equalities Assembly Coordination

Facilitation of a partnership of VCSE sector organisations to support the North of Tyne Combined Authority in the development and delivery of an Equalities Assembly on employment.

Northern Powergrid Community Engagement

Partnership work with Northern Powergrid to support their engagement with the VCSE sector and services for vulnerable customers.

Restricted Funds:

They are as follows:

CVD Networks – VCS Engagement

Funding to support VCSE engagement in Cardio-Vascular Disease prevention and treatment.

Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund

Funding to support digital adoption and implementation within VCSE infrastructure organisations.

Digital Pathfinders – North of Tyne Combined Authority

Supporting the VCSE Sector across the North of Tyne area to adopt digital technologies through training, events and one to one support.

Innovation Clusters

ERDF/ Innovate UK funded project to support the VCSE sector with innovation.

FINE – Funding Information North East

To provide funding information to North East VCSE sector organisations through e-bulletin and an online, searchable directory.

Digital Pathfinders – North of Tyne Combined Authority

Local Access Redcar, Cleveland and Hartlepool

Funding from Access Foundation for the Local Access enterprise development & blended finance programme in Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Movement in funds (*continued*)

Personalised Care – Carers – NHS England

A research and development project on support for carers' experiences of hospital discharge in the North East & Yorkshire regions.

Personalised Care – Children & Young People – NHS England

Supporting social prescribing work to support children and young people in the North East & North Cumbria.

North East & North Cumbria (NENC) Core20Plus5 Health Champion Programme

Funding from the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board to manage the delivery and co-ordination of NENC Core20Plus5 Health Champion Programme to strengthen existing health champion activity, share models of best practice and support the development of Health Champions aligned to Core20Plus5 target groups and themes across each local authority area.

NENC Integrated Care System (ICS) Healthy Communities & Social Prescribing

Strategic oversight, development and delivery of a programme around Community Based Assets, supporting social prescribing, capacity (knowledge and skills) within the North East and North Cumbria VCSE to support the health inequalities & prevention agenda within the North East and North Cumbria (NENC) Integrated Care Board.

NENC ICS VCSE sector Finance Strategy engagement

Funding from the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System to engage the VCSE sector in the development of their Finance strategy.

NENC ICS VCSE Sector Representative fees

Funding to sit alongside the NENC ICS VCSE Partnership Programme to fund attendance fees and expenses for VCSE representatives engaging in Integrated Care System structures and meetings.

NENC Integrated Care System VCSE Partnership Programme

Funding from the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System to support meaningful engagement of the VCSE sector in all levels of the Integrated Care System.

NENC Waiting Well VCSE Integration Programme – NENC Integrated Care Board

To support improved VCSE integration into development and delivery of the NENC NHS Waiting Well Programme at a regional and place-based level.

NIHR/ ARC VCSE Research Partnerships

Funding from the National Institute of Health Research and the North East & North Cumbria Applied Research Collaborative to support a post to develop relationships between VCSE sector organisations and health researchers including funding the Health & Wellbeing Research Partnerships Coordinator role.

North East & Cumbria Funders Network – National Lottery Community Fund

Funding from The National Lottery Community Fund for the facilitation and coordination of the North East & Cumbria Funders Network.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Movement in funds (*continued*)

North East England Climate Coalition

Facilitation of a cross-sectoral coalition across the North East to address the climate emergency, ecological breakdown and the transition to a low carbon future.

North East VCSE Policy Forum

Funding from the Millfield House Foundation's Policy Learning Partnership to facilitate a North East VCSE Policy Forum.

Research Engagement Network

Funding from NENC Integrated Care Board as project partner to support Health & Wellbeing Research Partnerships Coordinator role, to sit as distinct budget attached to NIHR/ ARC VCSE Research Partnerships

Safeguarding Partnerships

Funded jointly by Department for Digital Culture Media and Sport and The National Lottery Community Fund to disseminate NCVO safeguarding resources locally and deliver regular training sessions and create new or build on existing networks.

VCS Emergencies Partnership – British Red Cross/ NAVCA

Funding for VONNE's North East regional Local Lead role within the VCS Emergencies Partnership, to facilitate intelligence and information sharing at a regional and sub-national level.

VCSE Infrastructure Cost of Living Fund - Dept. for Culture, Media and Sport via NAVCA

Funding for VCSE infrastructure organisations providing information, coordination and influencing support to VCSE organisations relating to the Cost-of-Living crisis.

VONNE Climate Action Alliance- Going Green Together

Project funding from the National Lottery Community Fund, and County Durham Community Foundation to support the North East & Cumbria VCSE sector with organisational environment sustainability and providing seedcorn funding for the development of climate action projects. Other local funders have also provided additional grants to offer bursaries to organisations to participate in the programme

VONNE Thrive Hub development project

Development funding from the Virgin Money Foundation to establish the VONNE Thrive Hub to enable VCSE organisations to access consultancy support via a number of Thrive Hub Associates.

Enrich the Earth

Enrich the Earth Community Partnership is a community-led campaign that will create a composting revolution - cutting carbon emissions and protecting nature by engaging and involving communities and people through a range of partners, campaigns and activities.

NEAS Strategy Engagement

The North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) is creating its new organisational strategy, and it would like to use information gathered from members of the public and VCSE sector organisations to help ensure their services are the best they can be for the people and communities who use them.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31 March 2024 £
Fixed assets	35,726	–	–	35,726
Net current assets/(liabilities)	<u>149,331</u>	<u>103,525</u>	<u>1,502,603</u>	<u>1,755,459</u>
	<u>185,057</u>	<u>103,525</u>	<u>1,502,603</u>	<u>1,791,185</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31 March 2023 £
Fixed assets	31,776	–	–	31,776
Net current assets/(liabilities)	<u>81,549</u>	<u>165,833</u>	<u>831,908</u>	<u>1,079,290</u>
	<u>113,325</u>	<u>165,833</u>	<u>831,908</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>

16 Cash generated from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net movement in funds	680,119	621,480
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	18,484	7,637
Interest receivable	(7,208)	(63)
Changes in:		
Debtors	(764,310)	(309,420)
Creditors	<u>(159,870)</u>	<u>(36,883)</u>
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(232,785)</u>	<u>282,751</u>

17 Commitments under operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within 1 year	30,000	16,300
Within 2 – 5 years	<u>–</u>	<u>36,675</u>

18 Related Party Disclosures

No transactions with related parties were undertaken such as are required to be disclosed under Financial Reporting Standard 102.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

England & Wales - Charity number 1084083

Accounts

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Company Registration Number: 04061592
Charity Number: 1084083

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The board of trustees

Ian Dodds (retired November 2022)
Alison Dunn (Chair)
Donna Bulmer (retired November 2022)
Jennifer Clark (nee McAteer) (retired November 2022)
Steven Duckworth
Michael Fawole
Edward Kunonga
Kerry Robinson
Kumareswaradas Ramanathas
Jonathan Carling
Sandra Coulter
Colin Hewitt
Jane Kingston
Victoria Burnip (previously Mc Mann)
Craig Henderson (appointed November 2022)
Adam Hill (appointed November 2022)

Company secretary

Carol Ownsworth (nee Botten)

Registered office

4th Floor
MEA House
Ellison Place
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE1 8XS

Accountants

Debêre Limited
Chartered Accountants
Swallow House
Parsons Road
Washington
Tyne and Wear
NE37 1EZ

Auditors

Read, Milburn & Co
Chartered Accountants
71 Howard Street
North Shields
Tyne and Wear
NE30 1AF

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank Plc
Four Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2HB

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023

vonne.org.uk

STRENGTHENING & SUPPORTING THE SECTOR



Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended March 31st, 2023

The trustees, who are the directors of the organisation for the purpose of Company Law, present their annual director's report together with the charity's financial statements for the year ended March 31st, 2023, which are also prepared to meet the requirements of a director's report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, which is applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard that applies in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Reference and administrative details

Name: Voluntary Organisations' Network North East (VONNE)

Registered Office: 4th Floor, MEA House, Ellison Place, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8XS

Charity Registration Number: 1084083

Company Registration Number: 4061592

Names of the charity trustees at the date this report was approved:

Chair: Alison Dunn

Treasurer: Craig Henderson**, Donna Bulmer*

Trustees:

Vice Chair: Steven Duckworth

Professor Edward Kunonga, Colin Hewitt, Kerry Robinson, Alison Dunn, Steven Duckworth, Michael Fawole, Kumareswaradas Ramanathas, Jonathan Carling, Sandra Coulter, Colin Hewitt, Jane Kingston, Victoria Burnip, Adam Hill **, Craig Henderson**, Ian Dodds OBE*, Jenny Clark* and Donna Bulmer*

*retired November 2022

** appointed November 2022

Company secretary: Carol Ownsworth (nee Botten)

Key management personnel: Carol Botten, Chief Executive, and Menisha Gela, Deputy Chief Executive

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank, Four Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2JB

Accountants: Debere, Swallow House, Parsons Road, Washington, Tyne and Wear NE37 1EZ

Auditors: Read Milburn & Company, 71 Howard Street, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE30 1AF

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The organisation, a registered charity, is controlled by its governing document, the Articles of Association and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The VONNE board of trustees has between three and 15 members. Trustees are nominated and elected from the membership. Notice is sent to all members prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM), with each member organisation entitled to vote. Up to six trustees may be appointed by serving trustees for their particular expertise, qualifications and knowledge.

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees have a full induction delivered by the chief executive and key team members prior to attending their first board meeting. They are provided with an induction pack containing all the key information about VONNE, Charity Commission guidance, role descriptions and other relevant materials.

Organisational structure

VONNE is managed by a board of trustees elected from the membership and governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The board takes all strategic decisions relating to VONNE, including:

- receiving and reviewing reports from the chief executive and company secretary
- acting as the formal employer of VONNE's staff, ensuring activity and performance is regularly reviewed and evaluated.
- monitoring and assessing VONNE's financial position, including budget setting
- developing, reviewing and monitoring VONNE's strategic plan and annual work plan, to influence and direct VONNE's work
- agreeing and reviewing appropriate policies and ensuring VONNE meets its legal responsibilities
- communicating relevant information and views gathered outside VONNE to staff and trustees. There's a finance and general purpose sub-group that reports to the board on finance, internal policy and human resources issues.

Risk management

Trustees reviewed the risk register this year and monitor it regularly, with a full review carried out annually. Trustees are confident that risks have been identified, appropriate preventative measures are in place and remedial activities are available. VONNE's financial processes are regularly reviewed, both by the board and externally, to ensure they continue to be robust.

Indemnity insurance

VONNE has professional indemnity insurance cover, in respect of the trustees and officers of the charity.

VONNE'S Mission



To support the **development** and **sustainability** of a **strong, effective** and **well governed Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector**, and promote **engagement**, involvement and **collaboration** with the sector as a valued partner.



VONNE's strategic aims 2019-2023

- To be the expert source of knowledge and intelligence on the VCSE sector in the North East with a particular focus on the existing and emerging needs of the people and communities it serves.
- To be a source of information to the VCSE sector on issues that impact upon it.
- To raise the North East sector's profile and be a leading voice for it.
- To support external stakeholders to effectively engage and collaborate with the VCSE community, through effective system change and new approaches.
- To support the North East VCSE sector to be effective, ambitious and enterprising.
- To be an effective and sustainable organisation.

VONNE's values



**We strive for
excellence**



**We value
Transparency**



**We champion
inclusivity and
fairness**



**We encourage
learning and
sharing**

Public benefit

VONNE's objectives provide benefit to the public in North East England (area of benefit) by promoting and supporting the effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations.

Trustees of VONNE confirm they've read and paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Trustees confirm they've complied with their duties under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 with regard to public benefit. Having considered the guidance, trustees have concluded that VONNE's work directly supports and strengthens the North East VCSE community with guidance and information, and increases its ability to influence policy and practice in the region.



VONNE Membership

Our 1,386 members allow us to continue our work to strengthen and support the North East's VCSE sector. Our members give us a collective voice that enables us to represent our sector regionally and nationally.

We brought members voices more fully into our work through our [Member and Stakeholder surveys](#), which gave great insights into what we're doing well as well as highlighting key areas for improvement. Thanks to everyone who took the time to complete the survey - we used the feedback to help shape our work, including the development of our new website. Core membership has increased by over six per cent since last year.

[Membership+](#) is our paid for membership scheme, which gives members access to a range of enhanced benefits. Nearly 27 per cent of our members are also Membership+ supporters. Income from fees contributes to core running costs, with every penny re-invested into our work. Membership+ numbers increased by over 15 per cent since last year.



VONNE Jobs

Our Job Finder service had another successful year - we advertised over 1,200 job and trustee vacancies in sector organisations across the region through the year.

The [jobs pages](#) on our website received an average of around 22,000 page views each month, while our weekly ebulletin was sent to over 3,200 subscribers and @VONNEJobs Twitter had more than more than 2,700 followers.

As part of our commitment to champion better recruitment practices in the North East VCSE sector, we continued to support key campaigns such as [#ShowTheSalary](#) and [#OpenToAll](#). #ShowTheSalary is a national campaign to always include salaries in job adverts to promote transparency and encourage fairer wages across the VCSE sector. #OpenToAll means employers not asking for a degree in job adverts unless one is essential for the role. Both initiatives aim to remove barriers to entry to roles in the VCSE sector.



Enhanced Recruitment Services

Our enhanced recruitment services, which includes salary benchmarking, a trustee finder service and enhanced recruitment support has continue to provide support to a number of member organisations this year. Levels of demand increased for our salary benchmarking service as organisations restructured following Covid-19. We look forward to further growing this area of work in the coming years.



**1,300+
members**

**8,300 ebulletin
subscribers**



**22,000
monthly
website
views**



**Over 600
organisations
engaged in our
projects work.**

**1,200 job
vacancies
listed.**



Information and Intelligence

We **raise the profile of the sector** and ensure it is valued as an **equal partner**. We're an **expert source of intelligence** on the sector and provide information to the VCSE community on issues that affect it.





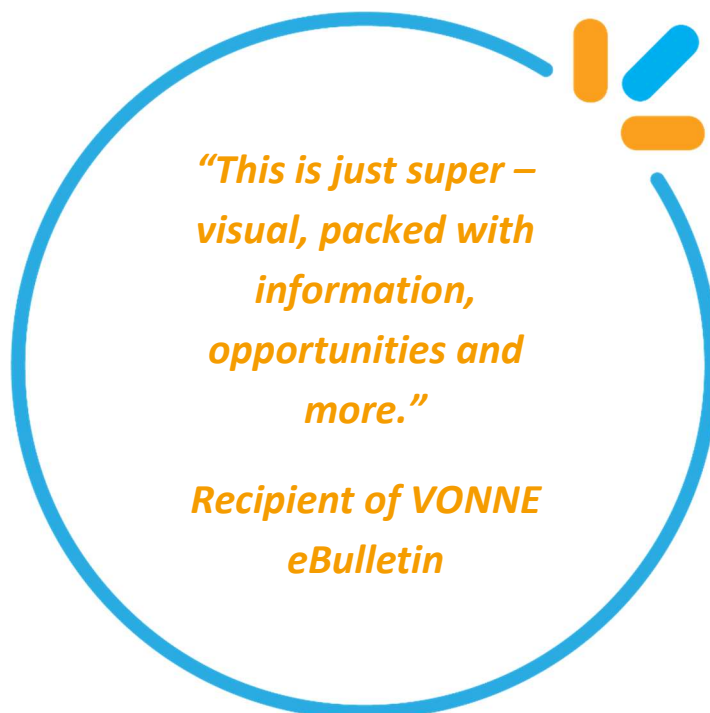
Our communication channels

We keep North East VCSE organisations informed about key information through our social media channels and a number of regular eBulletins, including VONNEnews, VONNEJobs, FINE and Health & Wellbeing ebulletins.

Last year we sent a total of 116 ebulletins to more than 8,300 opted-in subscribers. Engagement remained consistent with a high interest in VONNE news and opinion articles, particularly around recruitment.

We developed our social media branding and increased our engagement on LinkedIn, resulting in a 56% increase in followers.

We started planning the development of a new VONNE website, which will be launched in May 2023 and have improved accessibility, user-led journeys and information about VONNE's work and values.



VCS Emergencies Partnership

VONNE continued in our role as regional Local Lead for the VCS Emergencies Partnership project, which shares local intelligence with regional and national structures to inform emergency responses and influence policy decisions. During the year 2022-23 we have disseminated key messages relating to the Cost of Living crisis, support for Ukrainian and other refugees and opportunities for capacity awareness and training on emergency responses, preparedness and resilience to the North East VCSE sector to inform the mobilisation of regional support.

“VONNE takes the sectors voice into rooms and networks where it had not previously been heard – well done – that isn’t easy to be achieved. Keep up the good work.”





UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) launched in April 2022, and in the 12 months that followed VONNE shared key intelligence and information with the sector, built strong relationships with the lead authorities for UKSPF in the region, and enabled engagement and consultation with the sector through our networks and specific events.

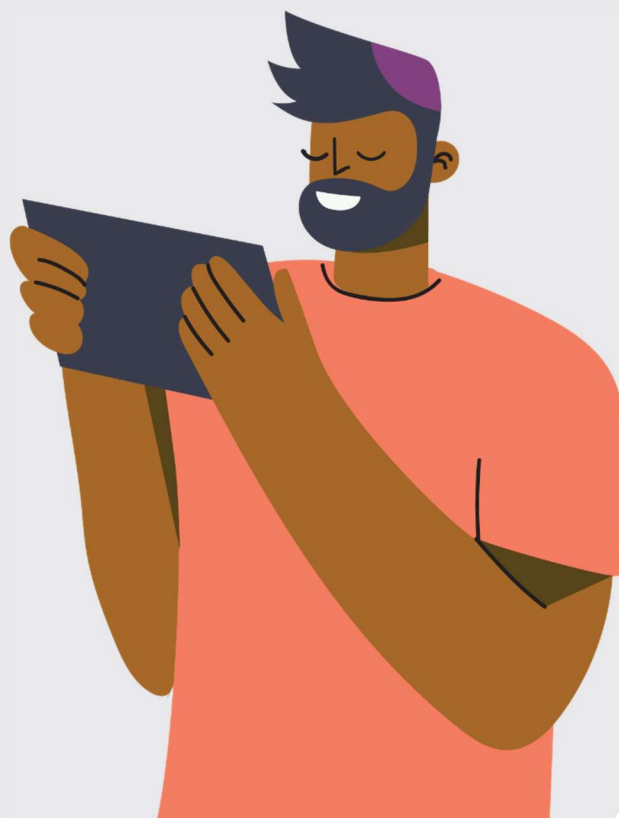
We have worked collaboratively with North of Tyne Combined Authority and other lead authorities to scope and influence potential delivery and programme models. VONNE continues to represent the VCSE sector on the North of Tyne Combined Authority UK Shared Prosperity Fund Partnership Group and provides regular UKSPF updates to our networks and through our communications channels.

What our members think about us

In a members and stakeholder survey held this year, **84% of members** agreed that VONNE effectively acts as an **expert source of knowledge and intelligence** for the VCSE sector.

Sharing information and intelligence

This year, we've been involved in over **35 networks** where we promote **engagement, involvement, and collaboration** with the VCSE sector as a valued partner.



Partnership and collaboration

We **facilitate networks** to **strengthen the VCSE sector** and act as a 'connector', **bringing people and organisations together** to make things happen.





Networks

We provide learning opportunities and encourage collaboration through our Membership+ supporter scheme and CEO Peer Support Network, which is a benefit of silver and gold Membership+ that usually meets monthly. The network, which is open to the CEOs of silver and gold Membership+ supporters enables leaders to share challenges and support each other in a 'safe space'.

We facilitate the North East and Cumbria Funders' Network, through which we share information and support funders to collaborate and better support grant applicants. In 2022/23 we have focused on EDI in grant making practice, reflected on the findings from Third Sector Trends research, the impact of the cost-

of-living crisis on sector organisations and the people and communities they serve. In addition, we have continued to provide a forum for network members to share information on the funding landscape and support and encourage collaboration between funders with a particular focus on support to youth sector organisations.



We're a key partner of the North of Tyne Combined Authority Inclusive Economy Board, and within the North East LEP, on which our CEO serves as a board member, we also represent the sector on the North East Skills Advisory Panel. We facilitate the VCSE Skills, Inclusion and Employment Network to feed in and

back to these structures.

"If I'd thrown out that challenge to any other region in the country, people would still be sitting in a room discussing the reasons why it wouldn't be possible... Look what you've achieved here!"

We've facilitated the North East Building Better Opportunities (BBO) Network documenting the key findings, learning and recommendations from the programme. We have brought the BBO projects together with representatives from both the North East LEP, North of Tyne Combined Authority and Tees Valley Combined Authority to ensure learning and legacy can be fed into UKSPF plans and wider employability provision and policy.

In 2022 we launched the North East VCSE Policy Forum, working in partnership with IPPR North and funded by the Millfield House Foundation. The Policy Forum provides a vehicle to ensure a unified VCSE sector voice to policy makers at a local, regional and national level either by scrutinising and responding to emerging policies and legislation or by pro-actively engaging in the development of regional policies or strategies.

As members of the North East Child Poverty Commission, we worked with other members, VCSE organisations and other regional bodies to demand urgent government action to address the levels of child poverty in the region.

We support networks of Local Infrastructure Organisations (LIOs) across the region, bringing them together both to facilitate joint working, and to disseminate relevant policy information from VONNE to their grassroots member groups.

Continuing partnership projects include:

- **Digital Pathfinders**, a three-year cross sector partnership which aims to encourage digital adoption across sectors. VONNE acts as the VCSE partner and offers access to free, independent, high quality, digital expertise through events, training masterclasses and 12 hours of bespoke one to one support.
- **Local Access Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool (LARCH)**, which is tackling localised community inequality in the Tees Valley's social economy through enterprise development support and access to blended social investment. The five-year LARCH programme moved into its second year from Jan 22, and received over 70 enquiries from VCSE organisations and individuals. LARCH is innovative in its implementation, from informal support provided by our partnership to funded business support, mentoring, coaching, or training that best meets the needs of our target groups. The programme has awarded funds and continuing to work closely with 8 clients who are at the beginning of their development journey. In Year 2 we have had a focus on developing our learning of how the programme support has influenced and created a culture change, enabling the sector to become more financially resilient and sustainable.
- The **VONNE Climate Action Alliance**, which successfully secured National Lottery Community Fund and County Durham Community Foundation funding to launch the next stage of our **Going Green Together** programme. Building upon the original website (www.goinggreentogether.org) launched in September 2021, the Going Green Together project is divided into three new programmes.
 - Think Green Together offers open access tools, resources and events, alongside subsidised Carbon Literacy Training.
 - Become Green Together is an intensive 12-month support programme, providing tools and guidance for VCSE organisations to create and implement environmental sustainability strategies, gain accreditation with Investors in the Environment, and calculate and reduce their carbon footprint.

- Act Green Together is a seed fund programme supporting organisations to co-design new climate action projects with local beneficiaries from marginalised, disadvantaged, and under-represented communities.

We have been engaging participants into each of these strands over the past year and gathering learning about their needs and environmental journeys. As the first programme of its kind in England, we are sharing our learning with other regions and working collaboratively with others to explore the potential for scaling up or replicating this work elsewhere.

- The cross-sectoral **North East England Climate Coalition (NEECCo)**, hosted by VONNE, continues to work towards a regional approach to address the climate emergency, ecological collapse and the need for a just transition working across a number of areas including built environment, land use and agriculture, waste & resources, retrofitting housing, indicators, and sustainable finance.
- **Developing a VCSE community hub with the MEA Trust at MEA House:** Engagement and development work has continued with the MEA House community to help create a hub for the VCSE sector.



Health and Wellbeing

VONNE is the lead partner in the **North East and North Cumbria (NENC) VCSE Partnership Programme**, an NHS England and NHS Improvement-instigated scheme supporting the VCSE community to create alliances to facilitate a coordinated VCSE voice at Integrated Care System (ICS) level, and have greater strategic influence in emerging ICS governance structures resulting from the white paper, Integration and Innovation: working together to improve health and social care for all, which set out legislation to move ICSs onto a statutory footing. We have secured confirmation of funding from the Integrated Care Board (ICB) for 2023/24 including dedicated funds for reimbursement of VCSE representatives involved in ICS strategic meetings. We continue to facilitate VCSE representation on both ICS boards to further embed the VCSE within the system.

The Partnership Programme hosts a growing **Health and Wellbeing Network**, sharing information via a 3-weekly Health and Wellbeing bulletin, with membership increasing from 264 to 628 over the year 2022/23. Partnership Forum meetings are held bi-monthly for senior VCSE managers responsible for organisational policy and strategy. The forum hosts a variety of guest speakers including Claire Riley Executive Director of Corporate Governance, Communications and Involvement, and the members act as a representative group with whom external stakeholders can engage. A VONNE Health and Wellbeing twitter account was set up to utilise the reach of social media, which has grown to 425 followers.

The programme also launched its Executive Group in October, consisting of democratically nominated representatives from all sub-groups, external network partners and infrastructure organisations to gain broad geographic and thematic input from the whole sector across ICS footprint, to discuss and agree key collective issues, themes and messages to share at the strategic forums they sit within.

We have supported the development of coordinated relationships with NHS workstreams, and continue to work with the ICB to create links into the programme sub-groups, of which there are now 10, including a Workforce sub-group led by the new Health Partnerships Strategic Manager, who is the VCSE representative on the ICB People Committee.

The programme structure was tested successfully with a concern around VCSE contracts raised at a sub-group in January, which was escalated to the Partnership Forum and then raised by the VCSE representative at the ICB Board meeting, resulting in plans for the programme to work directly with the ICB to support improved arrangements and timescales for all.

The **Health & Wellbeing Research Partnerships Coordinator** post, funded by a partnership with the Creating Connections research network, commenced in July to facilitate improved relationships between the VCSE and research, and to strengthen VCSE understanding and ability to direct research in support of improved outcomes for beneficiaries.

This work has been highly successful and the Coordinator facilitated the inclusion and support of VCSE organisations within the national **Research Engagement Network Development project**, in which the Partnership Programme was a key partner alongside the ICS, supporting £84,000 of the £100,000 total funding to be invested directly into the VCSE sector to support the engagement of children and young people within mental health research.

VONNE represents the VCSE within the Healthier and Fairer Group, previously known as the NENC ICS Health Inequalities Advisory Group and Operational Group, with the Health Partnerships Strategic Manager Co-Chairing the Healthy Communities and Social Prescribing Steering Group. In October 2022, the ICB confirmed investment of £300k per year for this workstream for 2023/4 and 2024/5. The majority of this funding will be invested through local infrastructure partners to build capacity and resilience of social prescribing across the North East and North Cumbria region.

VONNE is the North East & Yorkshire regional lead for the **National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP) Thriving Communities Programme**, a national programme for voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) groups supporting communities most impacted by Covid-19. During the year we have delivered regional 'Learning Together' programmes involving over 170 VCFSE leaders, to share learning, gain ideas, access funding and develop partnerships across sectors. We will be continuing and expanding the programme during 2022/23.

Our Health and Wellbeing Associate is the **NENC Social Prescribing Facilitator**, working with NHS England and Improvement to provide strategic support to embed social prescribing across health settings working with the VCSE and wider stakeholders. We have established and support a NENC social prescribing virtual network bringing together regional and local NHS partners with VCSE.

We secured additional funding via the North East & North Cumbria ICS to support expanding the network in 2022/23 to become a Healthy Communities and Social Prescribing Network to foster greater collaboration and partnerships to support social prescribing and tackling health inequalities.

In addition, further investment was secured under the **NENC Healthy Communities and Social Prescribing Programme** to host a NENC Community Connector Programme to aid collaboration/ sharing of learning from Health & Covid Champions in Gateshead and Middlesbrough with Local Authorities across the North East and North Cumbria, as well as 27 months of funding to support the development of social prescribing and engagement of the VCSE organisations in local social prescribing models and networks across the region.

During the year we received additional **NHSE Personalised Care resource** to support work to encourage development of social prescribing for children and young people and to lead on a piece of research and development work exploring unpaid carers experiences of the discharge from hospital process for the person they care for. Northumbria University were commissioned to undertake the research work which will be completed during 2023.

VONNE is co-lead for a North East pilot project '**Reading for Wellbeing**' supported by the author Ann Cleaves, who has donated funds matched by 6 local authorities to recruit 9 community reading workers, supporting people to access books and reading to improve their health and wellbeing. In February 2023 a Celebration event hosted with the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities showcased the value of the programme. Several other Local Authority areas within and outside of the North East region are interested in developing the programme in their areas which will be the focus of work in 2023/24.

The Health and Wellbeing team has restructured to reflect the increased workload, integration into health structures and planned retirement of the Health and Wellbeing Associate in April 2023, resulting in the creation of four new externally-funded posts; VCSE Engagement Coordinator, Health Partnerships Strategic Manager, Health Champion Project Manager and a part time Health and Wellbeing Projects Support Officer post, all of which commenced in 22/23.





Digital and Innovation

This year VONNE has continued our support for the sector with digital and innovation through our ERDF funded Catalysing Innovation project, working with the Innovation Super Network; the Digital Pathfinders programme; and support for the sector with digital inclusion. Working with external stakeholders this year we held workshops for the sector on:

- Project Management methodologies
- Design Thinking and how to adopt them in a VCSE organisation
- Doing recruitment differently roundtable where organisations could share best practice to overcome the sector-wide challenge.
- Two Easyfundraising webinars to support organisations to diversify their income with innovative fundraising through retailers.
- Two North East Ambition Information sessions to raise awareness about the workforce development support available to organisations through the Education Trust's project.
- Communicating the Climate Crisis with ACT Climate Labs to help organisations identify misinformation and develop their communications strategy around the climate crisis.

Within the Digital Pathfinders programme we held workshops on a variety of topics including digital fundraising, cyber security, data and many more. This year we hosted 8 masterclasses and engaged 54 organisations in the programme.

During this year we continued our work in digital inclusion including involvement in workshops and activities to support the development of Digital Inclusion strategies with the North East Local Enterprise Partnership and the Tees Valley Combined Authority.



Support and resilience



We provide the sector with up to date and relevant funding information through our **Funding Information North East (FINE)** ebulletin and searchable funding directory.

We also encourage and support sector organisations to actively consider and development more diverse income streams including earned and contract income and social investment.

Through the NE and Cumbria Funders Network we also work to increase understanding among funders, social investors, and statutory bodies of the sector's needs.



Last year, we:

- continued our community support and engagement work with Northern Powergrid, facilitating their *Future Fairness Panel* of representatives from VCSE organisations across the north, and sitting on their Social Experts Advisory Group and main Stakeholder Panel;
- sponsored the North East Charity Awards encouraging organisations to nominate themselves and for the wider sector and region, to celebrate and promote the sector's vital work across the region within and beyond the pandemic;
- Initiated work relating to People & Culture with VCSE organisations, hosting roundtables and explored the appetite for a Learning Community for organisations to identify common challenges, develop joint solution and share best practice.



FINANCIAL REVIEW

The 2022/23 financial year saw further growth of overall income (124%) and expenditure (73%) from the previous financial year, due in part to new project development and funding for our work addressing the climate emergency, engaging the VCSE sector with the ICS, Personalised Care and Health Communities & Social Prescribing funding and the continuation of other significant projects such as LARCH and Digital Pathfinders. Our core earned income from membership fees, job advertising and recruitment services increased again during this financial year with job advertising performing particularly well.

At year end, we achieved a £21,393 surplus on the general unrestricted fund, after transfers from our designated funds. We ended the year with a significant surplus of £678,937 in our restricted funds. We spent out the existing restricted funds relating to a number of projects but received further restricted income in continuation funding for several projects, which increased the funds held in restricted reserves back up to £831,908. We anticipate that all restricted funds as at 31 March 2023 will be utilised in 2023/24.

Accounting for unspent restricted funds, the overall surplus for the year is £621,480. We spent some designated funds consistent with our strategic objectives and against allocations made towards the end of the previous financial year. The trustees have prepared forecasts for 2023-2026 to consider the potential impact on VONNE of possible scenarios on funding, alongside measures that can be taken to mitigate this. Based on these assessments and the current reserves position, the trustees have concluded they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.



Reserves policy

VONNE believes it's important to maintain a reserves policy to ensure effective resource management, and to enable financial viability and longer-term sustainability. Four key elements have been taken into consideration to assess a realistic reserve level. These are:

- The reliability of current income sources and new income opportunities
- Expenditure on planned activities
- Future needs, contingencies and risks
- Consequences of being unable to meet forecast needs.

VONNE has no endowment funding and has no significant capital assets it could earn from, or dispose of, to realise additional income. Significant levels of activity are funded through grants or contracts from the public and charitable sectors, but these resources are generally time-limited and usually restricted by the funder. Uncertainties are compounded by the ongoing economic impact of the cost-of-living crisis/ high inflation levels on VCSE sector organisations and wider political instability. In addition, the board considers there to be a higher level of uncertainty around funding and income streams for infrastructure organisations. As a consequence, a conservative reserves policy is considered the most appropriate.

The VONNE board uses a continual process of careful financial management, and will aim to review, establish and maintain adequate reserves to enable the organisation to function effectively. A cautious approach to investment is adopted, maximising income by using interest-earning, short-term, accessible bank accounts.

Annually, the board will review the amount of funds designated for specific purposes, such as maternity and sickness salary cover, redundancy liability, and organisational development funds (outlined in full below). In addition, the board agrees to hold general unrestricted reserves to cover organisational running costs for between 6 and 12 months, with a target of 9 months, to continue VONNE's activities should anticipated income not be received.



Designated funds

The current total amount of funds designated for specific purposes is £165,833 (see below for further detail). Over and above this, VONNE holds a total of £113,325 in general unrestricted reserves, which would be sufficient to continue VONNE's core activities for 6.5 months should anticipated income not be received.

Since core costs change from year to year and have such an influence over the total level of reserves required, all elements of this policy will be reviewed bi-annually each June and December, or more frequently if requested by the board.

The trustees wish to allocate the unrestricted closing reserve level of £279,158 in the following manner:

Project development and innovation fund and innovation fund A project development fund to support new initiatives and unforeseen project activities to strengthen the VCSE sector in the North East or the sustainability of VONNE.	£10,000
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Innovation Clusters Match Fund To meet the ongoing costs of repairing and replacing capital equipment, and in particular, IT equipment.	£4,166
Repair and renewals fund To meet the ongoing costs of repairing and replacing capital equipment, and in particular, IT equipment.	£2,500
Staff contingencies and liability fund To meet unexpected staffing costs related to parental leave, sickness leave and other periods of absence and to cover current redundancy liability for individuals whose posts may be lost during a restructure, or as a result of funding streams coming to an end. Redundancy costs are calculated on the basis of current weekly pay.	£51,367
Organisational development fund To meet the development costs of new income generation/sustainability activities for VONNE, including significant staff development investments. Any activities funded would include a proportion of related staff costs.	£10,000
Website Development To meet the costs of the new website build in 2022/23 to provide better content, useability and customer service for our members and the wider VCSE sector. These costs will be amortised over the following 3 years.	£42,000
Organisational Restructure Fund To fund new core roles in VONNE to enable greater capacity for delivery of core & membership services as we grow our core income streams	£43,000
Office reconfiguration To meet the costs of longer-term reconfigurations to the VONNE office to enable a more flexible working space.	£2,800
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS	£165,833
Unrestricted (free) reserves	£113,325



Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of VONNE 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 trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company, and of the income and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period.



In preparing these statements, trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the charity Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare financial statements on an ongoing 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, to enable them to ensure the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Auditors

The auditors Read Milburn & Company will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the board:

Alison Dunn (Chair)

Thank you!

Thank you to all of our funders, partners, collaborators, colleagues and most of all our members.

2022/2023 VONNE funders:



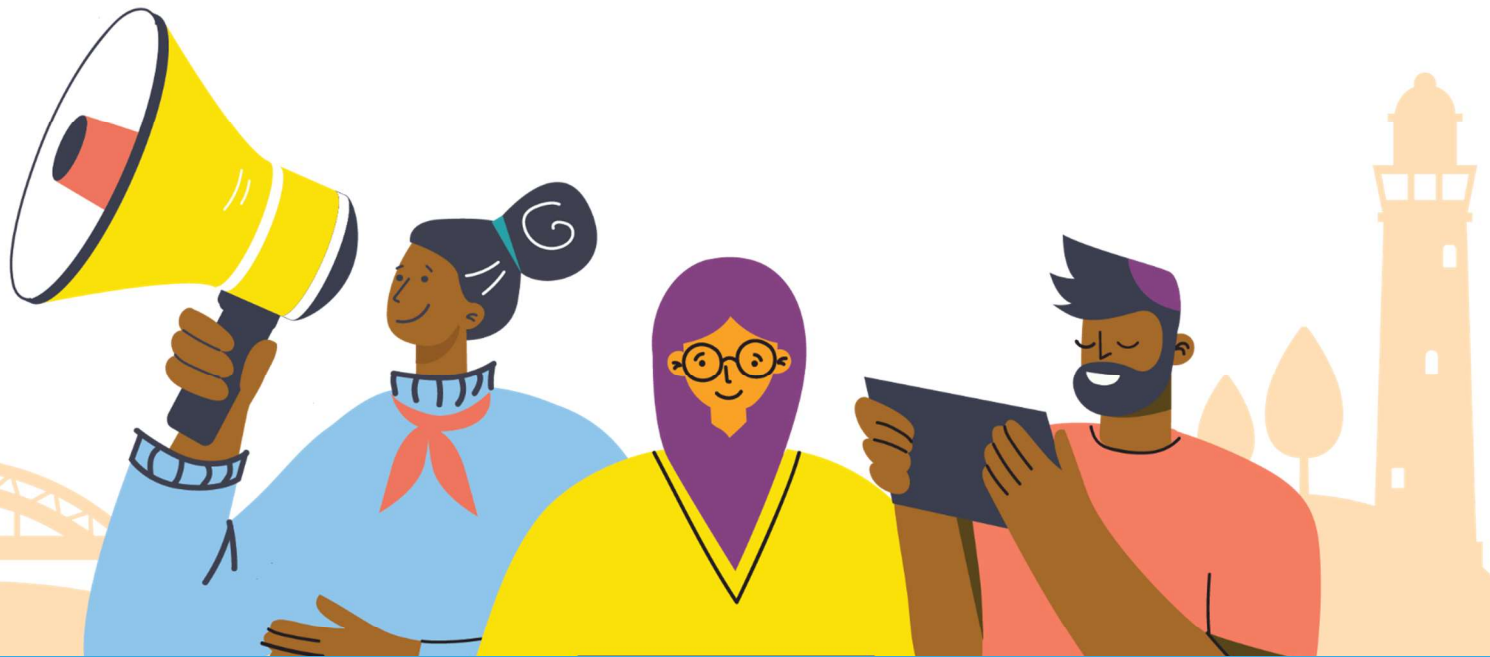
 Millfield House Foundation	 SIR JAMES KNOTT TRUST	 Community Foundation
		
		
		
		
		

and FINE grant funders Hadrian Trust, RW Mann Trust, Rothley Trust and the Barbour Foundation.



VONNE

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST



STRENGTHENING & SUPPORTING THE SECTOR

vonne.org.uk

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VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voluntary Organisations' Network North East (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

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

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. In this regard, our procedures include the following:

- Enquiry of management around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates.

Because of the field in which the charity operates, we have identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements: Health and Safety; Employment Law; and compliance with the Companies and Charities Acts.

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

Use of our report

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



Nicholas Liley FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Read, Milburn & Co
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
71 Howard Street
North Shields
Tyne and Wear
NE30 1AF

Date: 8 November 2023

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		Unrestricted Funds Desig-			Total	Total
	Notes	General Funds £	nated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Funds 2023 £	Funds 2022 £
INCOME FROM:						
Investment income	4	63	—	—	63	535
Charitable activities	5	<u>349,567</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,514,725</u>	<u>1,864,292</u>	<u>831,151</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>349,630</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,514,725</u>	<u>1,864,355</u>	<u>831,686</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:						
<i>Charitable activities</i>		<u>(320,751)</u>	<u>(62,086)</u>	<u>(860,038)</u>	<u>(1,242,875)</u>	<u>(719,762)</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6	<u>(320,751)</u>	<u>(62,086)</u>	<u>(860,038)</u>	<u>(1,242,875)</u>	<u>(719,762)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		28,879	(62,086)	654,687	621,480	111,924
Transfers between funds	14	<u>(7,486)</u>	<u>(16,764)</u>	<u>24,250</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Net movement in funds	7	21,393	(78,850)	678,937	621,480	111,924
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		<u>91,932</u>	<u>244,683</u>	<u>152,971</u>	<u>489,586</u>	<u>377,662</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>113,325</u>	<u>165,833</u>	<u>831,908</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>	<u>489,586</u>

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 32 to 48 form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

Registered Number 04061592

BALANCE SHEET

31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Intangible assets	10	23,162	2,526
Tangible assets	11	<u>8,614</u>	<u>8,348</u>
		31,776	10,874
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	12	492,397	197,606
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>922,119</u>	<u>667,844</u>
		1,414,516	865,450
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(335,226)</u>	<u>(386,738)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		1,079,290	478,712
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>1,111,066</u>	<u>489,586</u>
NET ASSETS		1,111,066	489,586
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund		113,325	91,932
Designated funds		<u>165,833</u>	<u>244,683</u>
		279,158	336,615
Restricted funds		<u>831,908</u>	<u>152,971</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	14	<u>1,111,066</u>	<u>489,586</u>

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

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

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 7 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Craig Henderson (Treasurer)

The notes on pages 32 to 48 form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash generated from operating activities	16	<u>282,751</u>	<u>137,681</u>
Net cash from operating activities		282,751	137,681
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of intangible assets		(22,575)	–
Purchase of tangible assets		(5,964)	(6,625)
Interest received		<u>63</u>	<u>535</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		(28,476)	(6,090)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		254,275	131,591
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>667,844</u>	<u>536,253</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		<u>922,119</u>	<u>667,844</u>

The notes on pages 32 to 48 form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Voluntary Organisations' Network North East is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is MEA house, Ellison Place, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 8XS.

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective from 1 January 2019, the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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 £.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the levels of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the trustees have considered the impact on their business, alongside the measures they can take to mitigate the impact. Based on the assessments made in order to mitigate the current adverse conditions, and the current resources available, the trustees have concluded that they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Income

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

The income shown in the statement of financial activities represents the value of all services delivered during the year, at selling price exclusive of Value Added Tax. Sales are recognised at the point at which the charity has fulfilled its contractual obligations to the customer.

Grant income

Revenue grants are credited to incoming resources on the earlier date of when they are received or receivable, unless they relate to a specific period, or alternatively, where there are conditions which must be fulfilled prior to entitlement or use of the grant, in which case they are deferred into subsequent accounting periods and are treated as grants or income in advance.

Resources expended and Irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis 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.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expenses for which it was incurred.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

Support costs

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

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets are initially recorded at cost and are subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. Any intangible assets carried at revalued amounts, are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation, as determined by reference to an active market, less any subsequent accumulated amortisation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

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

Website development	–	33% on cost
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Tangible fixed assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity, except to the extent it reverses a revaluation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in profit or loss. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent of any previously recognised revaluation increase accumulated in equity in respect of that asset. Where a revaluation decrease exceeds the accumulated revaluation gains accumulated in equity in respect of that asset, the excess shall be recognised in profit or loss.

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

Debtors

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

Cash at bank and in hand

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

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

Creditors and provisions

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

Financial instruments

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

Statement of cash flow

The charity has prepared a statement of cash flow on the basis that they are defined as a large charity.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

Designated funds include amounts allocated to various funds by 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 which they relate.

Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Capital commitments

The charity has no contractual commitments at the year end.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectation of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

2. Company Status

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

3 Statement of Financial Activities for the prior year

		<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Desig-</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Notes</i>	<i>General Funds</i>	<i>nated Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Funds 2022</i>
		<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
INCOME FROM:					
Voluntary income		—	—	—	—
Investment income	4	535	—	—	535
Charitable activities	5	<u>329,902</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>501,249</u>	<u>831,151</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>330,437</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>501,249</u>	<u>831,686</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities		<u>(237,410)</u>	<u>(29,553)</u>	<u>(452,799)</u>	<u>(719,762)</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6	<u>(237,410)</u>	<u>(29,553)</u>	<u>(452,799)</u>	<u>(719,762)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		93,027	(29,553)	48,450	111,924
Transfers between funds	14	<u>(88,788)</u>	<u>86,110</u>	<u>2,678</u>	<u>—</u>
Net movement in funds	7	4,239	56,557	51,128	111,924
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>87,693</u>	<u>188,126</u>	<u>101,843</u>	<u>377,662</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>91,932</u>	<u>244,683</u>	<u>152,971</u>	<u>489,586</u>

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted 2023	2022 £
	£	
Deposit account interest receivable	<u>63</u>	<u>535</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5 Income from resources from charitable activities

	Grant income	Sales and events	Total Restricted Funds	Total Unrestricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Policy & Consultancy Projects	380,701	80,716	380,701	80,716	461,417	326,398
Health & Wellbeing Projects	754,736	104,671	754,736	104,671	859,407	241,695
Climate Emergency Projects	357,074	—	357,074	—	357,074	71,344
Funding Information North East	7,500	—	7,500	—	7,500	13,500
North East Funders Network	14,714	—	14,714	—	14,714	10,000
VONNE – Core Income	<u>65,000</u>	<u>99,180</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>164,180</u>	<u>164,180</u>	<u>168,214</u>
Total	<u>1,579,725</u>	<u>284,567</u>	<u>1,514,725</u>	<u>349,567</u>	<u>1,864,292</u>	<u>831,151</u>

6 Charitable activities costs

	Direct costs	Depreciation	Support Costs	Events & Meetings	Governance costs	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Policy & Consultancy Projects	315,188	568	7,178	2,910	30	325,874	264,399
Health & Wellbeing Projects	446,280	1,933	19,983	7,673	103	475,972	236,335
Climate Emergency Projects	178,466	352	3,363	17,744	18	199,943	86,583
COVID-19 Response & Recovery Projects	—	—	—	—	—	—	23,008
FINE	7,450	—	50	—	—	7,500	13,500
North East Funders Network	9,995	25	228	21	1	10,270	10,000
VONNE – Core Expenditure	<u>114,629</u>	<u>4,759</u>	<u>91,765</u>	<u>9,641</u>	<u>2,522</u>	<u>223,316</u>	<u>85,937</u>
Total	<u>1,072,008</u>	<u>7,637</u>	<u>122,567</u>	<u>37,989</u>	<u>2,674</u>	<u>1,242,875</u>	<u>719,762</u>

In the year ended 31 March 2023, total expenditure of £382,837 (2022: £266,963) was unrestricted and £860,038 (2022: £452,799) was restricted.

Direct costs are made up as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs (per note 9)	617,439	407,876
Recruitment costs	755	563
Research and consultancy	444,475	224,288
Travel and subsistence	3,573	636
Training projects	<u>5,766</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>1,072,008</u>	<u>633,363</u>

Governance costs are made up as follows:

	£ 2023	£ 2022
AGM and Board member expenses	409	93
Auditors' remuneration	<u>2,265</u>	<u>2,385</u>
	<u>2,674</u>	<u>2,478</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

7 Net movement in funds

Net movement in funds are stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023 £	2022 £
Auditors' remuneration	2,265	2,385
Depreciation – owned assets	5,698	3,572
Website development amortisation	1,939	5,527
Rent	<u>13,179</u>	<u>20,187</u>

8 Trustees' remuneration and benefits

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

Trustees' expenses

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

9 Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	542,963	359,236
Social security costs	45,878	26,976
Pension costs	<u>28,598</u>	<u>21,664</u>
	<u>617,439</u>	<u>407,876</u>

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

	2023	2022
Chief Executive Officer	1	1
Staff	<u>19</u>	<u>13</u>
	<u>20</u>	<u>14</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2022: £60,000).

The total remuneration and benefits paid to key management amounted to £87,835 (2022: £99,565)

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

10 Intangible fixed assets

	Website Development £
COST	
At 1 April 2022	16,750
Additions	<u>22,575</u>
At 31 March 2023	39,325
AMORTISATION	
At 1 April 2022	14,224
Charge for the year	<u>1,939</u>
At 31 March 2023	16,163
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2023	<u>23,162</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,526</u>

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Fittings and fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
COST			
At 1 April 2022	12,891	14,770	27,661
Additions	—	5,964	5,964
Disposals	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>12,891</u>	<u>20,734</u>	<u>33,625</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022	10,808	8,505	19,313
Charge for year	797	4,901	5,698
Disposals	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>11,605</u>	<u>13,406</u>	<u>25,011</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2023	<u>1,286</u>	<u>7,328</u>	<u>8,614</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,083</u>	<u>6,265</u>	<u>8,348</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

12 Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	405,649	142,159
Prepayments	28,005	1,360
Accrued income	58,685	53,879
Other debtors	<u>58</u>	<u>208</u>
	<u>492,397</u>	<u>197,606</u>

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	33,497	7,574
Taxation and social security	17,931	42,634
Accruals	101,060	10,363
Deferred income	175,096	322,986
Other creditors	<u>7,642</u>	<u>3,181</u>
	<u>335,226</u>	<u>386,738</u>

Accrued and Deferred income

Included in accruals and deferred income / prepayments and accrued income are the following provisions for deferred income/(accrued income):

	<i>1 April 2022</i>	Receivable	Released	31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Membership income	22,437	44,265	(31,424)	35,278
North East Funders Network	(7,500)	14,857	(14,714)	(7,357)
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters	(3,093)	11,811	(12,549)	(3,831)
North East Climate Coalition	20,880	32,450	(58,701)	(5,371)
Digital Pathfinders NTCA	(33,814)	54,153	(39,421)	(19,082)
NENC ICS Partnership Programme	68,468	130,475	(199,143)	(200)
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	(7,440)	18,600	(14,880)	(3,720)
Development & Co-ordination Support MEA Trust	(282)	13,444	(30,536)	(17,374)
Local Access Programme	1,619	301,012	(302,631)	–
National Academy for Social Prescribing	30,908	78,552	(104,671)	4,789
Events sponsorship	(850)	–	–	(850)
Policy & Consultancy	(400)	–	–	(400)
Office accommodation	(500)	–	–	(500)
Personalised Care – Children & Young People	29,061	–	(16,349)	12,712
VONNE Association Thrive Hub	15,100	–	(15,100)	–
Personalised Care - Carers	94,518	–	(94,518)	–
NIHR/ ARC Research Partnership Coordination	39,995	4,167	(44,162)	–
NENC Health Champions	–	28,481	(19,659)	8,822
Rothley Trust	–	1,000	–	1,000
North East VCSE Policy Forum	–	5,000	–	5,000
Waiting Well Funding	–	20,000	–	20,000
Research Engagement Network Development	–	<u>87,495</u>	–	<u>87,495</u>
	<u>269,107</u>	<u>845,762</u>	<u>(998,458)</u>	<u>116,411</u>

The deferrals included in creditors relate to those grants, donations and income specified as relating to a specific period and represent those parts of the grants, donations or income which relate to periods subsequent to the accounting year end and are treated as grants or income in advance, or alternatively where there are conditions which must be fulfilled prior to entitlement or use of the grant or donation by the charity.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14 Movement in funds

For the year ended 31 March 2023	<i>At 1 April 2022</i>	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Designated funds				
Project development & innovation fund	20,000	(5,000)	(5,000)	10,000
Redundancy fund	65,066	(55,237)	(9,829)	–
Repair and replacement fund	2,500	–	–	2,500
Maternity, sickness and jury service fund	37,952	–	13,415	51,367
Organisational development fund	20,000	–	(10,000)	10,000
COVID-19 working arrangements reconfiguration fund	2,500	–	(2,500)	–
Office reconfiguration fund	7,000	(1,849)	(2,351)	2,800
Website development fund	30,000	–	12,000	42,000
Organisational restructure fund	43,000	–	–	43,000
ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund	<u>16,665</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(12,499)</u>	<u>4,166</u>
	<u>244,683</u>	<u>(62,086)</u>	<u>(16,764)</u>	<u>165,833</u>
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	91,932	3,013	(7,486)	87,459
National Academy for Social Prescribing	<u>–</u>	<u>25,866</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>25,866</u>
	<u>91,932</u>	<u>28,879</u>	<u>(7,486)</u>	<u>113,325</u>
Restricted funds				
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in North East Clusters	–	(14,011)	14,011	–
Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund	16,266	(16,266)	–	–
Local Access Programme – Access Foundation	47,309	175,265	–	222,574
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	9,750	(90)	–	9,660
Digital Pathfinders NTCA	12,128	–	–	12,128
VONNE Climate Action Alliance	9,518	150,691	–	160,209
North East Funders Network - National Lottery Community Fund	–	4,444	–	4,444
NENC Integrated Care System – Healthy Communities	–	316,242	–	316,242
NENC Integrated Care System – Healthy Champions	–	(86)	86	–
NENC Integrated Care System – VCS Sector Representative fees	–	6,692	–	6,692
NIHR/ ARC VCSE Research Partnership	–	19,649	–	19,649
North East England Climate Coalition – NENC Integrated Care System	–	6,440	–	6,440
Safeguarding Partnership	–	(1,445)	1,445	–
Personalised Care - Children & Young People	–	(7,894)	7,894	–
Personalised Care – Carers	–	(814)	814	–
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Partnership Programme	50,000	23,870	–	73,870
VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA/ British Red Cross	<u>8,000</u>	<u>(8,000)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>
	<u>152,971</u>	<u>654,687</u>	<u>24,250</u>	<u>831,908</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>489,586</u>	<u>621,480</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14 Movement in funds (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

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

	Incoming resources	Resources Expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Designated funds			
Redundancy fund	—	(55,237)	(55,237)
Office Reconfiguration fund	—	(1,849)	(1,849)
Project development & innovation fund	—	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>
	—	(62,086)	(62,086)
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	122,243	(119,230)	3,013
Millfield House Foundation	42,000	(42,000)	—
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	14,880	(14,880)	—
North East LEP Digital Inclusion Consultation	9,800	(9,800)	—
North of Tyne Combined Authority – Equalities Assembly	25,500	(25,500)	—
Development & Co-ordination Support MEA Trust	30,536	(30,536)	—
National Academy for Social Prescribing	<u>104,671</u>	<u>(78,805)</u>	<u>25,866</u>
	349,630	(320,751)	28,879
Restricted funds			
Funding Information North East	7,500	(7,500)	—
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters	12,549	(26,560)	(14,011)
Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund	—	(16,266)	(16,266)
Local Access Programme – Access Foundation	302,631	(127,366)	175,265
VCSE Infrastructure Cost of Living Fund	5,000	(5,000)	—
North East Funders Network - National Lottery Community Fund	14,714	(10,270)	4,444
NENC Integrated Care System – Healthy Communities & Social Prescribing	363,257	(47,015)	316,242
NENC Integrated Care System – Health Champions	19,659	(19,745)	(86)
NENC Integrated Care System – VCS Sector Representative fees	10,000	(3,308)	6,692
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Sector Finance Strategy	7,648	(7,648)	—
NIHR/ ARC VCSE Research Partnership	44,162	(24,513)	19,649
Safeguarding Partnership	—	(1,445)	(1,445)
North East England Climate Coalition	58,701	(52,261)	6,440
Digital Pathfinders NTCA	39,421	(39,421)	—
Personalised Care - Children & Young People	16,349	(24,243)	(7,894)
Personalised Care - Carers	94,518	(95,332)	(814)
VONNE Climate Action Alliance – Going Green Together	298,373	(147,682)	150,691
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	—	(90)	(90)
VONNE Thrive Hub Development	15,100	(15,100)	—
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Partnership Programme	199,143	(175,273)	23,870
VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA/ British Red Cross	<u>6,000</u>	<u>(14,000)</u>	<u>(8,000)</u>
	1,514,725	(860,038)	654,687
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,864,355</u>	<u>(1,242,875)</u>	<u>621,480</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14 Movement in funds (continued)

<i>For the year ended 31 March 2022</i>	<i>At 1 April 2021</i>	<i>Net movement in funds</i>	<i>Transfers between funds</i>	<i>At 31 March 2022</i>
£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds				
Project development & innovation fund	40,000	–	(20,000)	20,000
Redundancy fund	28,584	–	36,482	65,066
Repair and replacement fund	2,500	–	–	2,500
Maternity, sickness and jury service fund	45,377	(750)	(6,675)	37,952
Organisational development fund	40,000	–	(20,000)	20,000
COVID-19 working arrangements reconfiguration fund	5,000	(2,334)	(166)	2,500
Office reconfiguration fund	10,000	(3,028)	28	7,000
Website development fund	–	(6,776)	36,776	30,000
Organisational restructure fund	–	–	43,000	43,000
ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund	<u>16,665</u>	<u>(16,665)</u>	<u>16,665</u>	<u>16,665</u>
	<u>188,126</u>	<u>(29,553)</u>	<u>86,110</u>	<u>244,683</u>
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	85,020	95,700	(88,788)	91,932
Northern Powergrid – Event Co-ordination	1,633	(1,633)	–	–
Support – VCSE Engagement in Health	<u>1,040</u>	<u>(1,040)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>
	<u>87,693</u>	<u>93,027</u>	<u>(88,788)</u>	<u>91,932</u>
Restricted funds				
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in North East Clusters	–	(2,678)	2,678	–
Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund	–	16,266	–	16,266
Local Access Programme – Access Foundation	726	46,583	–	47,309
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	9,750	–	–	9,750
Digital Pathfinders NTCA	–	12,128	–	12,128
VONNE Climate Action Alliance – Lankelly Chase	24,757	(15,239)	–	9,518
Ann Cleaves Community Reading Facilitators	34,600	(34,600)	–	–
COVID-19 Recovery – County Durham Community Foundation	1,732	(1,732)	–	–
COVID-19 Response Grant National Lottery Community Fund	21,278	(21,278)	–	–
PHE Health Inequalities/ COVID-19	9,000	(9,000)	–	–
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Leadership Programme	–	50,000	–	50,000
VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA	<u>–</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>8,000</u>
	<u>101,843</u>	<u>48,450</u>	<u>2,678</u>	<u>152,971</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>377,662</u>	<u>111,924</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>489,586</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14 Movement in funds (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

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

	Incoming resources	Resources Expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Designated funds			
<i>Maternity, sickness and jury service fund</i>	—	(750)	(750)
<i>COVID-19 working arrangements reconfiguration fund</i>	—	(2,334)	(2,334)
<i>Office Reconfiguration fund</i>	—	(3,028)	(3,028)
<i>Website development fund</i>	—	(6,776)	(6,776)
<i>ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund</i>	—	<u>(16,665)</u>	<u>(16,665)</u>
	—	(29,553)	(29,553)
Unrestricted funds			
<i>General Fund</i>	126,749	(31,049)	95,700
<i>Millfield House Foundation</i>	42,000	(42,000)	—
<i>Clinks</i>	50,500	(50,500)	—
<i>Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement</i>	14,880	(14,880)	—
<i>North East Funders Network - National Lottery Community Fund</i>	10,000	(10,000)	—
<i>Northern Powergrid – Event Co-ordination</i>	5,133	(6,766)	(1,633)
<i>NENC Integrated Care System VCS Leadership Programme</i>	—	(1,040)	(1,040)
<i>National Academy for Social Prescribing</i>	<u>81,175</u>	<u>(81,175)</u>	—
	330,437	(237,410)	93,027
Restricted funds			
<i>Funding Information North East</i>	13,500	(13,500)	—
<i>ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters</i>	10,567	(13,245)	(2,678)
<i>Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund</i>	55,000	(38,734)	16,266
<i>Local Access Programme – Access Foundation</i>	72,181	(25,598)	46,583
<i>Safeguarding Partnership – funded jointly by Dept, for Digital Culture Media and Sport and the National Lottery Community Fund</i>	28,900	(28,900)	—
<i>North East England Climate Coalition – NENC Integrated Care System</i>	60,994	(60,994)	—
<i>Digital Pathfinders NTCA</i>	58,599	(46,471)	12,128
<i>Personalised Care - Children & Young People</i>	1,939	(1,939)	—
<i>VONNE Climate Action Alliance Catalyst Definition Programme</i>	5,000	(5,000)	—
<i>Personalised Care - Carers</i>	5,482	(5,482)	—
<i>VONNE Climate Action Alliance – Lankelly Chase</i>	350	(15,589)	(15,239)
<i>Ann Cleeves Community Reading Facilitators</i>	25,884	(60,484)	(34,600)
<i>COVID-19 Response Grant –County Durham Community Foundation</i>	—	(1,732)	(1,732)
<i>COVID-19 Response Grant National Lottery Community Fund</i>	—	(21,278)	(21,278)
<i>VONNE Climate Action Alliance Catalyst Development Programme</i>	5,000	(5,000)	—
<i>PHE Health Inequalities / COVID-19 Development & Co-ordination Support MEA Trust</i>	(4,500)	(4,500)	(9,000)
<i>NENC Integrated Care System VCS Leadership Programme</i>	131,715	(81,715)	50,000
<i>VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA</i>	<u>16,750</u>	<u>(8,750)</u>	<u>8,000</u>
	501,249	(452,799)	48,450
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>831,686</u>	<u>(719,762)</u>	<u>111,924</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14 Movement in funds (*continued*)

Designated Funds:

The designated funds were established in 2007/08 for the initial support or extensions to special projects and are reviewed annually by the trustees. They are as follows:

Organisational Development Fund

To meet the development costs of new income generation/sustainability activities for VONNE including significant staff development investments. Any activities funded would include a proportion of related staff costs.

Project Development & Innovation Fund

A project development fund to aid project start up or set up funding constraints, support new initiatives and unforeseen project activities to strengthen the VCSE sector in the North East or the sustainability of VONNE

Maternity, Sickness and Jury Fund

To cover additional staffing costs due to extended periods of absence. The fund has been decreased slightly in the year, to reflect staff changes.

Staff contingencies and liabilities fund

To meet unexpected staffing costs including additional/ cover costs relating to parental leave, longer-term sickness or jury service and liabilities fund including redundancy liability for individuals whose posts may be lost during restructure or because of funding streams coming to an end.

ERDF Innovation Clusters Match Fund

Funding committed to match ERDF funding for the Innovation Clusters project. Due to the project continuing to 2023, a transfer has been made into designated reserves to match the forecasted spends.

Repairs and Replacement Fund

To meet the on-going costs of repairing and replacing capital equipment, and in particular IT equipment.

Redundancy Fund

In previous years this was to cover the costs of redundancy for individuals whose posts may be lost during restructure or as a result of funding streams coming to an end. This was increased in the year due to the length of service with staff continuing to increase. This has now been replaced by the staff contingencies and liabilities fund.

COVID-19 Working Arrangements Reconfiguration Fund

To meet the specific costs of COVID-19 reconfigurations to the VONNE office.

Office Reconfiguration Fund

To meet the costs of longer-term reconfigurations to the VONNE office to enable a more flexible working space.

Unrestricted Funds:

They are as follows:

Ann Cleeves Reading for Wellbeing

Ann Cleeves donation to support match funding for Community Reading Workers to help people access books and reading for pleasure to improve their health and wellbeing in six North East local authority areas.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14 Movement in funds (*continued*)

Clinks

Engagement of the VCSE in criminal justice policy and practice.

Development & Coordination Support MEA Trust

To deliver development and coordination support activities with tenants of MEA House and the wider VCSE sector.

Millfield House Foundation

Strategic partner core funding to support the work of VONNE.

National Academy for Social Prescribing- Thriving Communities Programme

Funding to deliver regional lead and coordination role for the North East, Yorkshire & Humber on behalf of the National Academy for Social Prescribing.

North East Local Enterprise Partnership Digital Inclusion Consultation

Facilitation of consultation sessions with VCSE organisations on a regional Digital Inclusion strategy.

North of Tyne Combined Authority - Equalities Assembly Coordination

Facilitation of a partnership of VCSE sector organisations to support the North of Tyne Combined Authority in the development and delivery of an Equalities Assembly on employment.

Northern Powergrid Community Engagement

Partnership work with Northern Powergrid to support their engagement with the VCSE sector and services for vulnerable customers.

Restricted Funds:

They are as follows:

CVD Networks – VCS Engagement

Funding to support VCSE engagement in Cardio-Vascular Disease prevention and treatment.

Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund

Funding to support digital adoption and implementation within VCSE infrastructure organisations.

Digital Pathfinders – North of Tyne Combined Authority

Supporting the VCSE Sector across the North of Tyne area to adopt digital technologies through training, events and one to one support.

ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters

ERDF/ Innovate UK funded project to support the VCSE sector with innovation.

FINE – Funding Information North East

To provide funding information to North East VCSE sector organisations through e-bulletin and an online, searchable directory.

Digital Pathfinders – North of Tyne Combined Authority

Supporting the VCSE Sector across the North of Tyne area to adopt digital technologies through training, events and one to one support.

Local Access Programme – Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool

Funding from Access Foundation for the Local Access enterprise development & blended finance programme in Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14 Movement in funds *(continued)*

Personalised Care – Carers – NHS England

A research and development project on support for carers' experiences of hospital discharge in the North East & Yorkshire regions.

Personalised Care – Children & Young People – NHS England

Supporting social prescribing work to support children and young people in the North East & North Cumbria.

Personalised Care – Children & Young People – NHS England

Supporting social prescribing work to support children and young people.

Personalised Care – Carers – NHS England

A research and development project on support for carers.

North East & North Cumbria (NENC) Core20Plus5 Health Champion Programme

Funding from the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board to manage the delivery and co-ordination of NENC Core20Plus5 Health Champion Programme to strengthen existing health champion activity, share models of best practice and support the development of Health Champions aligned to Core20Plus5 target groups and themes across each local authority area.

NENC Integrated Care System (ICS) Healthy Communities & Social Prescribing

Strategic oversight, development and delivery of a programme around Community Based Assets, supporting social prescribing, capacity (knowledge and skills) within the North East and North Cumbria VCSE to support the health inequalities & prevention agenda within the North East and North Cumbria (NENC) Integrated Care Board.

NENC ICS VCSE sector Finance Strategy engagement

Funding from the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System to engage the VCSE sector in the development of their Finance strategy.

NENC ICS VCSE Sector Representative fees

Funding to sit alongside the NENC ICS VCSE Partnership Programme to fund attendance fees and expenses for VCSE representatives engaging in Integrated Care System structures and meetings.

NENC Integrated Care System VCSE Partnership Programme

Funding from the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System to support meaningful engagement of the VCSE sector in all levels of the Integrated Care System.

NENC Waiting Well VCSE Integration Programme – NENC Integrated Care Board

To support improved VCSE integration into development and delivery of the NENC NHS Waiting Well Programme at a regional and place-based level.

NIHR/ ARC VCSE Research Partnerships

Funding from the National Institute of Health Research and the North East & North Cumbria Applied Research Collaborative to support a post to develop relationships between VCSE sector organisations and health researchers including funding the Health & Wellbeing Research Partnerships Coordinator role.

North East & Cumbria Funders Network – National Lottery Community Fund

Funding from The National Lottery Community Fund for the facilitation and coordination of the North East & Cumbria Funders Network.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14 Movement in funds (*continued*)

North East England Climate Coalition

Facilitation of a cross-sectoral coalition across the North East to address the climate emergency, ecological breakdown and the just transition to a low carbon future.

North East VCSE Policy Forum

Funding from the Millfield House Foundation's Policy Learning Partnership to facilitate a North East VCSE Policy Forum.

Research Engagement Network Development

Funding from NENC Integrated Care Board as project partner to support Health & Wellbeing Research Partnerships Coordinator role, to sit as distinct budget attached to NIHR/ ARC VCSE Research Partnerships

Safeguarding Partnerships

Funded jointly by Department for Digital Culture Media and Sport and The National Lottery Community Fund to disseminate NCVO safeguarding resources locally and deliver regular training sessions and create new or build on existing networks.

VCS Emergencies Partnership – British Red Cross/ NAVCA

Funding for VONNE's North East regional Local Lead role within the VCS Emergencies Partnership, to facilitate intelligence and information sharing at a regional and sub-national level.

VCSE Infrastructure Cost of Living Fund - Dept. for Culture, Media and Sport via NAVCA

Funding for VCSE infrastructure organisations providing information, coordination and influencing support to VCSE organisations relating to the Cost-of-Living crisis.

VONNE Climate Action Alliance- Going Green Together

Project funding from the National Lottery Community Fund, and County Durham Community Foundation to support the North East & Cumbria VCSE sector with organisational environment sustainability and providing seedcorn funding for the development of climate action projects. Other local funders have also provided additional grants to offer bursaries to organisations to participate in the programme

VONNE Thrive Hub development project

Development funding from the Virgin Money Foundation to establish the VONNE Thrive Hub to enable VCSE organisations to access consultancy support via a number of Thrive Hub Associates.

COVID-19 Recovery Grants - Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland

Funding received from Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland to fund VONNE's work to support the VCSE sector's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	31,776	—	—	31,776
Net current assets/(liabilities)	<u>81,549</u>	<u>165,833</u>	<u>831,908</u>	<u>1,079,290</u>
	<u>113,325</u>	<u>165,833</u>	<u>831,908</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	10,874	—	—	10,874
Net current assets/(liabilities)	<u>81,058</u>	<u>244,683</u>	<u>152,971</u>	<u>478,712</u>
	<u>91,932</u>	<u>244,683</u>	<u>152,971</u>	<u>489,586</u>

16 Cash generated from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net movement in funds	621,480	111,924
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation	7,637	9,099
Interest receivable	(63)	(535)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Debtors	(309,420)	(37,063)
Creditors	<u>(36,883)</u>	<u>54,256</u>
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>282,751</u>	<u>137,681</u>

17 Commitments under operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Within 1 year	16,300	16,300
Within 2 – 5 years	<u>36,675</u>	<u>52,975</u>

18 Related Party Disclosures

No transactions with related parties were undertaken such as are required to be disclosed under Financial Reporting Standard 102.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The following pages do not form part of the statutory financial statements

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Investment income		
Deposit account interest receivable	<u>63</u>	<u>535</u>
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Local Access Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool (LARCH)	302,631	72,181
CLINKS – Regional Development Officer secondment	–	50,500
North East LEP – Digital Inclusion Consultation	9,800	–
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Partnership Programme	199,143	131,715
VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA/ British Red Cross	6,000	16,750
Northern Powergrid – Event Co-ordination	–	5,133
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	14,880	14,880
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters	12,549	10,567
Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund	–	55,000
VCSE Infrastructure Cost of Living Fund - Dept. for Culture, Media and Sport via NAVCA	5,000	–
Safeguarding Partnership –funded jointly by Dept. for Digital Culture Media and Sport and the National Lottery Community Fund	–	28,900
Development & Co-ordination Support – MEA Trust	30,536	13,888
Rothley Trust – FINE	–	1,000
North East England Climate Coalition	58,701	60,994
North of Tyne Combined Authority –Equalities Assembly Coordination	25,500	–
RW Mann Trust – FINE	2,500	2,000
Hadrian Trust – FINE	4,000	4,000
Sir James Knott Trust – FINE	–	5,000
The Barbour Foundation FINE	1,000	1,500
North East Funders Network – National Lottery Community Fund	14,214	10,000
Sales and events	96,162	119,324
Policy and consultancy	3,018	3,890
Millfield House Foundation – Core Grant	42,000	42,000
Sir James Knott Trust – Core Grant	10,000	–
Joicey Trust - Core Grant	3,000	3,000
Digital Pathfinders North of Tyne Combined Authority/ National Lottery Community Fund	39,421	58,599
Personalised Care – Children & Young People –NHS England	16,849	1,939
Personalised Care – Carers –NHS England	94,518	5,482
VONNE Climate Action Alliance Catalyst Definition Programme	–	5,000
VONNE Thrive Hub Development –Virgin Money Foundation	15,100	–
VONNE Climate Action Alliance – Going Green Together	298,373	350
Ann Cleeves Reading for Wellbeing	–	25,884
NENC Integrated Care Systems –Healthy Communities & Social Prescribing	363,257	–
NECN Health Champions Programme	19,659	–
NENC Integrated Care Systems – VCS Sector representative fees	10,000	–
NENC Integrated Care Systems – Finance Strategy engagement	7,648	81,175
National Academy for Social Prescribing – Thriving Communities	104,671	–
VONNE Climate Action Alliance Catalyst Development Programme	–	5,000
PHE Health Inequalities / COVID-19	–	(4,500)
NIHR/ARC VCSE Research Partnership	44,162	–
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear – COVID-19 Recovery Grant	<u>10,000</u>	<u>–</u>
	1,864,292	831,151
TOTAL INCOME	1,864,355	831,686

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

RESOURCES EXPENDED	2023	2022
	£	£
Charitable activities		
Wages	542,963	359,236
Social security costs	45,878	26,976
Pension contributions	28,598	21,664
Recruitment costs	755	563
Events and meetings	37,989	2,190
Research and consultancy	444,475	224,288
Travel and subsistence	3,573	636
Training projects	<u>5,766</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>1,109,997</u>	<u>635,553</u>
Governance costs		
AGM meeting expenses	409	93
Auditors' remuneration	<u>2,265</u>	<u>2,385</u>
	<u>2,674</u>	<u>2,478</u>
Support costs		
Unrecoverable VAT	<u>22,421</u>	<u>63</u>
Other		
Rent	14,476	20,247
Insurance	1,884	1,633
Telephone	2,082	2,232
Print, post and design costs	1,979	1,753
Sundries	3,333	1,533
Website costs	—	16,349
Professional fees	50,621	7,937
Management fees	—	1,485
Computer and IT costs	16,391	11,155
Subscriptions	2,590	2,417
Repairs and renewals	1,849	1,860
Website development amortisation	1,939	5,527
Computer equipment depreciation	4,901	3,167
Light and heat	1,468	453
Bank charges	3,473	3,516
Furniture and fixtures depreciation	<u>797</u>	<u>404</u>
	<u>107,783</u>	<u>81,668</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>1,242,875</u>	<u>719,762</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	<u>621,480</u>	<u>111,924</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

APPENDICES

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The following pages do not form part of the statutory financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

APPENDICES

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5 Income from resources from charitable activities

	Grant income £	Sales and events £	Total Restricted Funds £	Total Un- restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Policy & Consultancy Projects						
Local Access in Redcar & Cleveland & Hartlepool (LARCH) – Access Foundation	302,631	–	302,631	–	302,631	72,181
CLINKS – Regional Development Officer secondment	–	–	–	–	–	50,500
North East LEP – Digital Inclusion Consultation	–	9,800	–	9,800	9,800	–
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	–	14,880	–	14,880	14,880	14,880
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters	12,549	–	12,549	–	12,549	10,567
Northern Powergrid – Event Co-ordination	–	–	–	–	–	5,133
VCSE Infrastructure Cost of Living Safeguarding Partnership	5,000	–	5,000	–	5,000	55,000
Digital Pathfinders NTCA Development & Co-ordination	–	–	–	–	–	28,900
Support MEA Trust	39,421	–	39,421	–	39,421	58,599
North of Tyne Combined Authority VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA/ British Red Cross	–	30,536	–	30,536	30,536	13,888
Thrive Hub Development	–	25,500	–	25,500	25,500	–
	6,000	–	6,000	–	6,000	16,750
	<u>15,100</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>15,100</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>15,100</u>	<u>–</u>
	<u>380,701</u>	<u>80,716</u>	<u>380,701</u>	<u>80,716</u>	<u>461,417</u>	<u>326,398</u>
Health & Wellbeing Projects						
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Partnership Programme CVD Networks VCS Engagement	199,143	–	199,143	–	199,143	131,715
Ann Cleeves Reading for Wellbeing	–	–	–	–	–	–
National Academy for Social Prescribing	–	–	–	–	–	25,884
Personalised Care – Children & Young People	–	104,671	–	104,671	104,671	81,175
Personalised Care - Carers	16,349	–	16,349	–	16,349	1,939
PHE Health Inequalities / COVID-19	94,518	–	94,518	–	94,518	5,482
NENC Integrated Care System – Healthy Communities & SP	–	–	–	–	–	(4,500)
NENC – Health Champions	363,257	–	363,257	–	363,257	–
NENC ICS – Representative fees	19,659	–	19,659	–	19,659	–
NENC ICS – VCSE Sector Finance Strategy	10,000	–	10,000	–	10,000	–
NIHR/ARC VCSE Research Partnership	7,648	–	7,648	–	7,648	–
	<u>44,162</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>44,162</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>44,162</u>	<u>–</u>
	<u>754,736</u>	<u>104,671</u>	<u>754,736</u>	<u>104,671</u>	<u>859,407</u>	<u>241,695</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

APPENDICES

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5 Income from resources from charitable activities (continued)

	Grant income	Sales and events	Total Restricted Funds	Total Un- restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Climate Emergency Projects						
North East England Climate Coalition	58,701	—	58,701	—	58,701	60,994
VONNE Climate Action Alliance (VCAA) – Going Green Together	298,373	—	298,373	—	298,373	350
VCAA Catalyst Definition Programme	—	—	—	—	—	5,000
VCAA Catalyst Development Programme	—	—	—	—	—	5,000
	357,074	—	357,074	—	357,074	71,344
Funding Information North East						
Rothley Trust	—	—	—	—	—	1,000
RW Mann Trust	2,500	—	2,500	—	2,500	2,000
Hadrian Trust	4,000	—	4,000	—	4,000	4,000
The Barbour Foundation	1,000	—	1,000	—	1,000	1,500
Sir James Knott Trust	—	—	—	—	—	5,000
	7,500	—	7,500	—	7,500	13,500
North East Funders Network						
The National Lottery Community Fund	14,714	—	14,714	—	14,714	10,000
	14,714	—	14,714	—	14,714	10,000
VONNE – Core Income						
Sales and events	—	64,738	—	64,738	64,738	82,483
Membership income	—	31,424	—	31,424	31,424	36,841
Policy and consultancy	—	3,018	—	3,018	3,018	3,890
Millfield House Foundation – Core Grant	42,000	—	—	42,000	42,000	42,000
Sir James Knott Trust – Core Grant	10,000	—	—	10,000	10,000	—
Joicey Trust – Core Grant	3,000	—	—	3,000	3,000	3,000
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear – Covid 19 Recovery Grant	10,000	—	—	10,000	10,000	—
	65,000	99,180	—	164,180	164,180	168,214
Total	1,579,725	284,567	1,514,725	349,567	1,864,292	831,151

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

APPENDICES

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6 Charitable activities costs

	Direct costs £	Depre- ciation £	Support Costs £	Events & Meetings £	Governance costs £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Charitable activities:							
Policy & Consultancy Projects							
Local Access in Redcar & Cleveland & Hartlepool (LARCH) – Access Foundation	123,346	154	3,152	706	8	127,366	25,598
CLINKS – Regional Development Officer secondment	–	–	–	–	–	–	50,500
North East LEP Digital Inclusion Consultation	8,213	144	1,313	123	7	9,800	–
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	14,115	69	633	59	4	14,880	14,880
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters	26,560	–	–	–	–	26,560	29,910
VCSE Infrastructure Cost of Living	4,676	29	268	25	2	5,000	–
Northern Powergrid – Event Co-ordination	–	–	–	–	–	–	6,766
Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund	14,418	–	–	1,848	–	16,266	38,734
Safeguarding Partnership	1,445	–	–	–	–	1,445	28,900
Digital Pathfinders NTCA	39,186	–	235	–	–	39,421	46,471
Development & Co-ordination	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Support MEA Trust	29,957	52	479	45	3	30,536	13,888
North of Tyne Combined Authority	24,950	50	455	43	2	25,500	–
VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA/ British Red Cross	13,514	44	402	38	2	14,000	8,750
Thrive Hub Development	14,808	26	241	23	2	15,100	–
	315,188	568	7,178	2,910	30	325,874	264,397
Health & Wellbeing Projects							
NENC Integrated Care System	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
VCS Partnership Programme	165,088	690	8,423	1,035	37	175,273	82,755
CVD Networks –VCS	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Engagement	90	–	–	–	–	90	–
Ann Cleaves Reading for Wellbeing	–	–	–	–	–	–	60,484
National Academy for Social Prescribing	74,190	323	2,999	1,276	17	78,805	81,175
Personalised Care – Children & Young People	22,988	114	1,038	97	6	24,243	1,939
Personalised Care - Carers	93,474	168	1,537	144	9	95,332	5,482
PHE Health Inequalities / COVID-19	–	–	–	–	–	–	4,500
NENC Integrated Care System – Healthy Communities and SP	43,829	275	2,551	345	15	47,015	–
NENC Health Champions	14,992	223	2,037	2,481	12	19,745	–
NENC ICS –Representative Fees	3,083	–	–	225	–	3,308	–
NENC ICS – VCS Sector Finance Strategy	7,648	–	–	–	–	7,648	–
NIHR/ARC VCSE Research Partnership	20,898	140	1,398	2,070	7	24,513	–
	446,280	1,933	19,983	7,673	103	475,972	236,335

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

APPENDICES

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6 Charitable activities costs (continued)

	Direct costs £	Depre- ciation £	Support Costs £	Events & Meetings £	Govern- ance costs £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Climate Emergency Projects							
North East England Climate Coalition	47,295	176	1,660	3,121	9	52,261	60,994
VONNE Climate Action Alliance (VCAA) – Going Green Together	131,171	176	1,703	14,623	9	147,682	15,589
VCAA Catalyst Definition Programme	–	–	–	–	–	–	5,000
VCAA Catalyst Development Programme	–	–	–	–	–	–	5,000
	<u>178,466</u>	<u>352</u>	<u>3,363</u>	<u>17,744</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>199,943</u>	<u>86,583</u>
COVID-19 Response & Recovery Projects							
COVID-19 Response Grant	–	–	–	–	–	–	21,278
National Lottery Community Fund	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
County Durham Community Foundation – COVID-19	–	–	–	–	–	–	1,730
	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>23,008</u>
Funding Information North East & North East Funders Network							
FINE	7,450	–	50	–	–	7,500	13,500
North East Funders Network	<u>9,995</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>10,270</u>	<u>10,000</u>
	<u>17,445</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>278</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>17,770</u>	<u>23,500</u>
VONNE – Core Expenditure							
VONNE – Core	<u>114,629</u>	<u>4,759</u>	<u>91,765</u>	<u>9,641</u>	<u>2,522</u>	<u>223,316</u>	<u>85,937</u>
	<u>114,629</u>	<u>4,759</u>	<u>91,765</u>	<u>9,641</u>	<u>2,522</u>	<u>223,316</u>	<u>85,937</u>
Total	<u>1,072,008</u>	<u>7,637</u>	<u>122,567</u>	<u>37,989</u>	<u>2,674</u>	<u>1,242,875</u>	<u>719,762</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

England & Wales - Charity number 1084083

Accounts

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Company Registration Number: 04061592
Charity Number: 1084083

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The board of trustees	David Barker (retired November 2021) Ian Dodds Paul Ennals (retired November 2021) Michael Pratt (retired November 2021) Fiona Wharton (retired November 2021) Alison Dunn Donna Bulmer Jennifer Clark (nee McAteer) David Robinson (retired November 2021) Steven Duckworth Michael Fawole Edward Kunonga Kerry Robinson Kumareswaradas Ramanathas Jonathan Carling (appointed November 2021) Sandra Coulter (appointed November 2021) Colin Hewitt (appointed November 2021) Jane Kingston (appointed November 2021) Victoria McMann (appointed November 2021)
Company secretary	Carol Ownsworth (nee Botten)
Registered office	4 th Floor MEA House Ellison Place Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne and Wear NE1 8XS
Accountants	Debére Limited Chartered Accountants Swallow House Parsons Road Washington Tyne and Wear NE37 1EZ
Auditors	Read, Milburn & Co Chartered Accountants 71 Howard Street North Shields Tyne and Wear NE30 1AF
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank Plc Four Brindleyplace Birmingham B1 2HB

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees, who are the directors of the organisation for the purpose of Company Law, present their annual director's report together with the charity's financial statements for the year ended March 31st, 2022, which are also prepared to meet the requirements of a director's report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, which is applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard that applies in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Reference and administrative details

Name: Voluntary Organisations' Network North East (VONNE)

Charity Registration Number: 1084083

Registered Office: 4th Floor, MEA House, Ellison Place, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8XS

Company Registration Number: 4061592

Names of the charity trustees at the date this report was approved:

Chair: Alison Dunn (appointed as Chair November 2021), formerly Sir Paul Ennals (resigned November 2021)

Treasurer: Donna Bulmer

Trustees:

David Barker (retired November 2021)
Ian Dodds OBE
Paul Ennals (retired November 2021)
Michael Pratt (retired November 2021)
Fiona Wharton (retired November 2021)
Alison Dunn (appointed as Chair November 2021)
Donna Bulmer
Jennifer Clark (nee McAteer)
David Robinson (retired November 2021)
Steven Duckworth Vice Chair (appointed as Vice Chair November 2021)

Michael Fawole
Edward Kunonga
Kerry Robinson
Kumareswaradas Ramanathas
Jonathan Carling (appointed November 2021)
Sandra Coulter (appointed November 2021)
Colin Hewitt (appointed November 2021)
Jane Kingston (appointed November 2021)
Victoria McMann (appointed November 2021)

Company secretary: Carol Ownsworth (nee Botten)

Key management personnel: Carol Botten, Chief Executive, and Anne Fry, Deputy Chief Executive

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank, Four Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2JB

Accountants: Debere, Swallow House, Parsons Road, Washington, Tyne and Wear NE37 1EZ

Auditors: Read Milburn & Company, 71 Howard Street, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE30 1AF

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The organisation, a registered charity, is controlled by its governing document, the Articles of Association and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The VONNE board of trustees has between three and 15 members. Trustees are nominated and elected from the membership. Notice is sent to all members prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM), with each member organisation entitled to vote. Up to six trustees may be appointed by serving trustees for their particular expertise, qualifications and knowledge.

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees have a full induction delivered by the chief executive and key team members prior to attending their first board meeting. They are provided with an induction pack containing all the key information about VONNE, Charity Commission guidance, role descriptions and other relevant materials.

Organisation structure

VONNE is managed by a board of trustees elected from the membership and governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The board takes all strategic decisions relating to VONNE, including:

- receiving and reviewing reports from the chief executive and company secretary
- acting as the formal employer of VONNE's staff, ensuring activity and performance is regularly reviewed and evaluated
- monitoring and assessing VONNE's financial position, including budget setting
- developing, reviewing and monitoring VONNE's strategic plan and annual work plan, to influence and direct VONNE's work
- agreeing and reviewing appropriate policies and ensuring VONNE meets its legal responsibilities
- communicating relevant information and views gathered outside VONNE to staff and trustees. There's a finance sub-group that reports to the board on finance, internal policy and human resources issues.

Risk management

Trustees reviewed the risk register this year and monitor it regularly, with a full review carried out annually. Trustees are confident that risks have been identified, appropriate preventative measures are in place and remedial activities are available. VONNE's financial processes are regularly reviewed, both by the board and externally, to ensure they continue to be robust.

Indemnity insurance

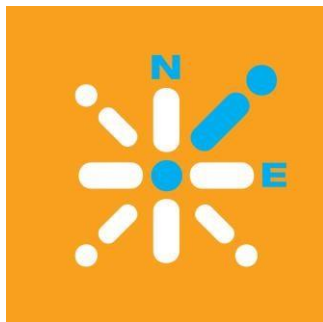
VONNE has professional indemnity insurance cover, in respect of the trustees and officers of the charity.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

VONNE'S Mission



To support the development and sustainability of a strong, effective and well governed Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector, and promote engagement, involvement and collaboration with the sector as a valued partner.

VONNE's strategic aims 2015-2022

- To be the expert source of knowledge and intelligence on the VCSE sector in the North East with a particular focus on the exiting and emerging needs of the people and communities it serves.
- To be a source of information to the VCSE sector on issues that impact upon it.
- To raise the North East sector's profile and be a leading voice for it.
- To support external stakeholders to effectively engage and collaborate with the VCSE community, through effective system change and new approaches.
- To support the North East VCSE sector to be effective, ambitious and enterprising.
- To be an effective and sustainable organisation.

VONNE's values

- Striving for excellence
- Transparency
- Inclusivity and fairness
- Learning and sharing

Public benefit

VONNE's objectives provide benefit to the public in North East England (area of benefit) by promoting and supporting the effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations.

Trustees of VONNE confirm they've read and paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Trustees confirm they've complied with their duties under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 with regard to public benefit. Having considered the guidance, trustees have concluded that VONNE's work directly supports and strengthens the North East VCSE community with guidance and information, and increases its ability to influence policy and practice in the region.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

ANNUAL REVIEW

VONNE Membership

Our 1,305 members, 25 per cent of whom are Membership+ supporters, allow us to continue our work to strengthen and support the North East's VCSE sector. Our members give us a collective voice that enables us to represent our sector regionally and nationally.

Membership numbers have increased slightly since last year.

Membership+ is our paid for membership scheme, which gives members access to a range of enhanced benefits. Membership+ fees contribute towards core running costs, with every penny re-invested into our work. Membership+ numbers have also increased slightly since last year.

VONNE Jobs

Our Job Finder service had another successful year, with a record number of listings.

The [jobs pages](#) on our website received an average of around 24,000 page views each month, while our weekly ebulletin was sent to over 3,000 subscribers and @VONNEJobs Twitter had more than more than 2,400 followers.

We advertised over 1,400 job and trustee vacancies in sector organisations across the region through the year, more than double the previous year. This is in line with national trends for VCSE job advertising services.

As part of our commitment to champion better recruitment practices in the North East VCSE sector, we continued to support key campaigns such as [#ShowTheSalary](#) and [#OpenToAll](#). [#ShowTheSalary](#) is a national campaign to always include salaries in job adverts to promote transparency and encourage fairer wages across the VCSE sector. [#OpenToAll](#) means employers not asking for a degree in job adverts unless one is essential for the role. Both initiatives aim to remove barriers to entry to roles in the VCSE sector.

Enhanced Recruitment Service

Our enhanced recruitment service, which includes salary benchmarking, a trustee finder service and enhanced recruitment support has generated an income of £9,035 throughout the year. We saw a particular increase in demand for our salary benchmarking service as organisations restructured following Covid-19. We look forward to further growing this area of work in the coming years.

Information and intelligence

We raise the profile of the sector and ensure it is valued as an equal partner. We're an expert source of intelligence on the sector and provide information to the VCSE community on issues that affect it.

Our ebulletins

Through our regular VONNENews, VONNEJobs, FINE and Health & Wellbeing ebulletins, we keep North East VCSE organisations informed about key information. In 2021-22 we also circulated the Criminal Justice ebulletin, although this will pass to CLINKS going forward.

Last year we sent a total of 123 ebulletins to more than 8,500 opted-in subscribers. We sent slightly fewer bulletins compared to 2020-21, however, subscriber numbers increased by over 300.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

VCS Emergencies Partnership

VONNE continued in our role as regional Liaison Lead for the VCS Emergencies Partnership project, which shares local intelligence with regional and national structures to inform emergency responses and influence policy decisions. During the year 2021-22 we have disseminated key messages relating to Covid-19 and the invasion of Ukraine to the North East VCSE sector to inform the mobilisation of regional support.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) launched in April 2022, and in the year prior VONNE has shared key intelligence and information with the sector, built strong relationships with the likely lead authorities for UKSPF in the region, and influenced approaches to plans for engagement and consultation with the sector and possible delivery and programme models. We facilitated specific roundtable sessions between local and combined authorities, representatives from the Dept. for Work & Pensions and the Education & Skills Funding Agency with VCSE organisations that work with black, minoritized and refugee and migrant communities, with the aims of raising awareness of the network of organisations able to deliver services and catalyse conversation about partnership working and great collaboration.

Partnerships and collaboration

We facilitate networks to strengthen the VCSE sector and act as a 'connector', bringing people and organisations together to make things happen.

Networks

We provide learning opportunities and encourage collaboration through our Membership+ supporter scheme and CEO Peer Support Network, which is a benefit of silver and gold Membership+ that usually meets monthly. The network, which is open to the CEOs of silver and gold Membership+ supporters enables leaders to share challenges and support each other in a 'safe space'.

We facilitate the North East and Cumbria Funders' Network, through which we share information and support funders to collaborate and better support grant applicants. In 2021/22 we have focused on aligning funding approaches with the needs of the sector as we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic and enabling the sharing of information between funders and other stakeholders.

We're a key partner of the North East Social Leaders Network, the North of Tyne Combined Authority Inclusive Economy Board, and within the North East LEP, on which our CEO serves as a board member, we also represent the sector on the North East Skills Advisory Panel. We facilitate the VCSE Skills, Inclusion and Employment Focus Group to feed in and back to these structures.

We've facilitated the North East Building Better Opportunities Network, bringing projects together with representatives from both the North East LEP and Tees Valley Combined Authority to ensure learning and legacy can be fed into UKSPF plans and wider employability provision and policy.

As members of the North East Child Poverty Commission, we worked with other members and the North East Chamber of Commerce to demand urgent government action to address the levels of child poverty in the region and widen access to free school meals.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

We support networks of Local Infrastructure Organisations (LIOs) across the region, bringing them together both to facilitate joint working, and to disseminate relevant policy information from VONNE to their grassroots member groups.

Continuing partnership projects include:

- **Digital Pathfinders**, a three year cross sector partnership which aims to encourage digital adoption across sectors. VONNE acts as the VCSE partner and offers access to free, independent, high quality, digital expertise through masterclasses and 12 hours of bespoke one to one support.
- **Safer Culture North East** with LIOs from across the region, which was reconfigured due to Covid-19, and supports organisations to understand their safeguarding responsibilities when delivering digital services. The project highlights the importance of safeguarding to informal community and mutual aid groups and delivers online training sessions for participants across the North East region.
- **Local Access Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool (LARCH)**, which is tackling local inequality by boosting the Tees Valley's social economy through enterprise development support and access to blended social investment. In early 2022 the LARCH Programme Manager was appointed and the programme will be fully launched in 2022.
- The **VONNE Climate Action Alliance**, through funding from the Catalyst & National Lottery Community Fund Development programme, and working with SIDE Labs developed and launched the Going Green Together website (www.goinggreentogether.org) and campaign. This new platform enables VCSE organisations to learn more about the climate emergency, provides actions and supporting information to enable organisations to take their first steps in climate action and encourages and enables organisations to share their work that they are doing to inspire others.
- The cross-sectoral **North East England Climate Coalition (NEECCo)**, hosted by VONNE, continues to work towards a regional approach to address the climate emergency, ecological collapse and the need for a just transition working across a number of areas including built environment, land use and agriculture, waste & resources, retrofitting housing, indicators, and sustainable finance.
- **Developing a VCSE community hub with the MEA Trust at MEA House**: Engagement and development work has continued with the MEA House community to help create a hub for the VCSE sector.
- The **National Lottery Community Fund's Digital Infrastructure programme**, which will allow us to work with Shift Design and DataKind to improve the quality, use and analysis of our data to strengthen our offer to the VCSE sector and share our learnings to benefit all members.

Health and Wellbeing

VONNE is the lead partner in the North East and North Cumbria (NENC) VCSE Partnership Programme, an NHS England and NHS Improvement-instigated scheme supporting the VCSE community to create alliances to facilitate a coordinated VCSE voice at Integrated Care System (ICS) level, and have greater strategic influence in emerging ICS governance structures resulting from the white paper, Integration and Innovation: working together to improve health and social care for all, which set out legislation to move ICSs onto a statutory footing. We have secured funding from stakeholders including the ICS for 2021/22, and full funding from the ICS for 2022/23 including dedicated funds for reimbursement of VCSE representatives involved in ICS strategic meetings. We have also secured places for VCSE representatives on both of the ICS boards to further embed the VCSE within the system.

The Partnership Programme hosts a growing Health and Wellbeing Network, with membership increasing from 113 to 264 over the year 2021/22. Partnership Forum meetings are held bi-monthly for senior VCSE managers responsible for organisational policy and strategy. The forum hosts a variety of guest speakers including new ICS Chief Executive Sam Allen, and the members act as a representative group with whom external stakeholders can engage.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

We have supported the development of coordinated relationships with NHS workstreams, establishing VCSE representatives within the Learning Disabilities and Autism and Ageing Well workstreams, as well as building on the relationship with the Mental Health Programme Board to double the funding in 2022/23 for the VCSE Mental Health lead, who is situated within the Partnership Programme in partnership with Blue Stone Collaborative.

Working in partnership with the Creating Connections research network, we have secured funding from the network for a Health & Wellbeing Research Partnerships Coordinator post commencing in 2022/23 to facilitate improved relationships between the VCSE and research, and to strengthen VCSE understanding and ability to direct research in support of improved outcomes for beneficiaries.

VONNE represents the VCSE within the NENC ICS Health Inequalities Advisory Group and Operational Group and has worked with NENC Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) health inequalities researchers and public health leads to produce qualitative research into exploring the pandemic's direct and indirect impact on vulnerable and at-risk groups, and to explore longer-term impacts on these groups and the VCSE orgs that support them.

VONNE is the North East & Yorkshire regional lead for the National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP) Thriving Communities Programme, a national programme for voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) groups supporting communities most impacted by Covid-19. During the year we have delivered regional 'Learning Together' programmes involving over 170 VCFSE leaders, to share learning, gain ideas, access funding and develop partnerships across sectors. We will be continuing and expanding the programme during 2022/23.

Our Health and Wellbeing Associate is the NENC Social Prescribing Facilitator, working with NHS England and Improvement to provide strategic support to embed social prescribing across health settings working with the VCSE and wider stakeholders. We have established and support a NENC social prescribing virtual network bringing together regional and local NHS partners with VCSE. We have secured additional funding via the North East & North Cumbria ICS to support expanding the network in 2022/23 to become a Healthy Communities and Social Prescribing Network to foster greater collaboration and partnerships to support social prescribing and tackling health inequalities.

During the year we received additional NHSE Personalised Care resource to support work to encourage development of social prescribing for children and young people and to lead on a piece of research and development work exploring unpaid carers experiences of the discharge from hospital process for the person they care for. We have commissioned Northumbria University to undertake the research work which will be completed by end of 2022/23.

Our Health and Wellbeing Associate was also part of a national NHS Volunteering Task Force which has put forward a set of recommendations to NHSE Board and Dept. Of Health & Social Care (DHSC) intended to 'realise the potential for volunteering to have a greater impact in the NHS and social care'.

VONNE is co-lead for a North East pilot project 'Reading for Wellbeing' supported by the author Ann Cleeves, who has donated funds matched by 6 local authorities to recruit 9 community reading workers, supporting people to access books and reading to improve their health and wellbeing. The project was formally launched in September 2021 and received significant press coverage nationally and regionally and has been showcased nationally at a NASP and Arts Council England Libraries and Social Prescribing Innovations 2021/22 Webinar.

The Health and Wellbeing team has been restructured to reflect the increased workload and integration into health structures, resulting in the creation of three new externally-funded posts; VCSE Engagement Manager, Social Prescribing Engagement Manager and Health and Wellbeing Projects Support Officer, all of which have been recruited.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Digital and Innovation

This year VONNE has continued our support for the sector with digital and innovation through our ERDF funded Catalysing Innovation project, working with the Innovation Super Network; the Digital Pathfinders programme; and support for the sector with digital inclusion. Working with external stakeholders this year we held workshops for the sector on:

- Data Protection Essentials exploring the key issues for organisations around compliance in an accessible, easy to understand format
- Healthy Ageing funding workshop with Innovate UK to promote their opportunities to the North East VCSE sector
- Introduction to easy fundraising, supporting organisations to raise funds through an innovative online shopping platform
- Working with Accenture's Tech for Good team we delivered workshops to the sector on
 - Hybrid Working
 - Project Management methodologies
 - Design Thinking and how to adopt them in a VCSE organisation

Within the Digital Pathfinders programme we held workshops on a variety of topics including accessible online content, understanding and using data, digital marketing and many more. This year we hosted 11 masterclasses and engaged 50 organisations in the programme.

During this year we continued our work in digital inclusion. This involved acting as subject lead within the VCS Emergencies Partnership and working in collaboration with two other infrastructure organisations to map digital inclusion activity in the sector across the North and produce a final report titled 'Are We All Included?'.

Criminal Justice

Our partnership with Clinks ensures the voluntary sector in the North East is kept up to date with changes to criminal justice policy, in partnership with local organisations and agencies, to build strategic relationships and represent voluntary organisations within local statutory structures.

A key focus for the year has been facilitating work to influence the new probation model which mobilised in June 2021. The Development Officer (DO) has developed relationships with the Regional Probation Director (RPD) to ensure the voluntary sector are at the forefront of discussions to support people in the criminal justice system. The DO has worked with the RPD to develop an engagement strategy for the sector with a commitment to holding regular meetings and events, as well as attending the North East criminal justice informal networking hours and criminal justice forums. This work will influence future commissioning strategies ensuring money is kept within the North East and not given to large, national providers. The Development Officer sits on a number of strategic boards including Reducing Reoffending Partnership Boards, providing a voice for the voluntary sector.

Moving to online delivery has strengthened the North East VCSE Criminal Justice Network, improving partnership working in the region and providing sector intelligence which our partner, Clinks, uses to influence Government policy.

From April 2022, Clinks will directly employ a role to develop and deliver regional networks and support activity across the North and our specific secondment arrangement to support the North East VCSE organisations working in criminal justice will come to an end.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Support and resilience

We provide the sector with funding information and encourage consideration of different funding streams. We also work to increase understanding among funders of the sector's needs.

Last year, we:

- continued our community support and engagement work with Northern Powergrid, facilitating their *Future Fairness Panel* of representatives from VCSE organisations across the north, and sitting on their Social Experts Advisory Group and main Stakeholder Panel;
- supported the North East Charity Awards encouraging organisations to nominate themselves and for the wider sector and region, to celebrate and promote the sector's vital work across the region within and beyond the pandemic;
- informed VCSE organisations of funding information and opportunities through our FINE services – the online searchable FINE directory open access, and fortnightly FINE ebulletins.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The 2021/22 financial year saw further growth of overall income (16%) and expenditure (30%) from the previous financial year, due in part to new project development and funding for our work addressing the climate emergency, engaging the VCSE sector with the ICS, Digital Pathfinders and Digital Infrastructure funding, as well as other project funding. Our core earned income from membership fees, job advertising and recruitment services increased again during this financial year with job advertising performing particularly well.

At year end, we achieved a £93,027 surplus on the general unrestricted fund, with some movements in our designated funds resulted in an overall surplus of £111,924 a better position than budgeted for due to additional income and reduced core costs. We spent some designated funds consistent with our strategic objectives and against allocations made towards the end of the previous financial year. We spent out the existing restricted funds relating to a number of projects but received further restricted income in continuation funding for several projects, which increased the funds held in restricted reserves back up to £152,971. We anticipate the majority of these restricted funds to be spent in 2022-2023.

The trustees have prepared forecasts for 2022-2025 to consider the potential impact on VONNE of possible scenarios on funding, alongside measures that can be taken to mitigate this. Based on these assessments and the current reserves position, the trustees have concluded they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

Reserves policy

VONNE believes it's important to maintain a reserves policy to ensure effective resource management, and to enable financial viability and longer-term sustainability. Four key elements have been taken into consideration to assess a realistic reserve level. These are:

- The reliability of current income sources and new income opportunities
- Expenditure on planned activities
- Future needs, contingencies and risks
- Consequences of being unable to meet forecast needs.

VONNE has no endowment funding and has no significant capital assets it could earn from, or dispose of, to realise additional income. Significant levels of activity are funded through grants or contracts from the public and charitable sectors, but these resources are generally time-limited and usually restricted by the funder. Uncertainties are compounded by the ongoing economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and wider political instability on the VCSE sector and wider economy. In addition, the board considers there to be a higher level of uncertainty around funding and income streams for infrastructure organisations. As a consequence, a conservative reserves policy is considered the most appropriate.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The VONNE board uses a continual process of careful financial management, and will aim to review, establish and maintain adequate reserves to enable the organisation to function effectively. A cautious approach to investment is adopted, maximising income by using interest-earning, short-term, accessible bank accounts.

Annually, the board will review the amount of funds designated for specific purposes, such as maternity and sickness salary cover, redundancy liability, and organisational development funds (outlined in full below). In addition, the board agrees to hold general unrestricted reserves to cover organisational running costs for between 6 and 12 months, with a target of 9 months, to continue VONNE's activities should anticipated income not be received.

Designed funds

The current total amount of funds designated for specific purposes is £244,683 (see below for further detail). Over and above this, VONNE holds a total of £91,932 in general unrestricted reserves, which would be sufficient to continue VONNE's core activities for 7 months should anticipated income not be received.

Since core costs change from year to year and have such an influence over the total level of reserves required, all elements of this policy will be reviewed bi-annually each June and December, or more frequently if requested by the board.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees wish to allocate the unrestricted closing reserve level of £336,615 in the following manner:

Project development and innovation fund A project development fund to support new initiatives and unforeseen project activities to strengthen the VCSE sector in the North East or the sustainability of VONNE.	£20,000
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Innovation Clusters match fund Agreed match funding for this ERDF-funded project to support innovation in the North East VCSE sector.	£16,665
Repair and renewals fund To meet the ongoing costs of repairing and replacing capital equipment, and in particular, IT equipment.	£2,500
Maternity cover and jury service reserve To meet the additional costs of maternity pay and cover, or the costs of longer-term sick leave or jury service.	£37,952
Redundancy fund To cover the costs of redundancy for individuals whose posts may be lost during a restructure, or as a result of funding streams coming to an end. Redundancy costs are calculated on the basis of current weekly pay.	£65,066
Organisational development fund To meet the development costs of new income generation/sustainability activities for VONNE, including significant staff development investments. Any activities funded would include a proportion of related staff costs.	£20,000
Covid-19 working arrangements reconfiguration fund To meet the specific costs of any Covid-19 related reconfigurations to the VONNE office or working practices.	£2,500
Office reconfiguration To meet the costs of longer-term reconfigurations to the VONNE office to enable a more flexible working space.	£7,000
Website Development Fund To meet the costs of development of the VONNE website to provide better content, useability and customer service for our members and the wider VCSE sector.	£30,000
Organisational Restructure Fund To meet the costs of salaries of new roles with the VONNE members services, operational and projects and partnerships team to increase capacity to deliver our wider programme of services, projects and initiatives.	£43,000
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS	£244,683
Unrestricted (free) reserves	£91,932

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of VONNE 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 trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company, and of the income and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these statements, trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the charity Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare financial statements on an ongoing 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, to enable them to ensure the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Auditors

The auditors Read Milburn & Company will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the board: ,



Alison Dunn (Chair)

Date: 9/11/2022

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voluntary Organisations' Network North East (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

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

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. In this regard, our procedures include the following:

- Enquiry of management around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

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

Use of our report

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



Nicholas Liley FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Read, Milburn & Co
71 Howard Street
North Shields
Tyne and Wear
NE30 1AF

Date: 10 November 2022

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

		Unrestricted Funds				
	Notes	General Funds £	Desig- nated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
INCOME FROM:						
Voluntary income	4	–	–	–	–	300
Investment income	5	535	–	–	535	3,156
Charitable activities	6	<u>329,902</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>501,249</u>	<u>831,151</u>	<u>692,055</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>330,437</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>501,249</u>	<u>831,686</u>	<u>695,511</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:						
<i>Charitable activities</i>		<u>(237,410)</u>	<u>(29,553)</u>	<u>(452,799)</u>	<u>(719,762)</u>	<u>(553,744)</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	7	<u>(237,410)</u>	<u>(29,553)</u>	<u>(452,799)</u>	<u>(719,762)</u>	<u>(553,744)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		93,027	(29,553)	48,450	111,924	141,767
Transfers between funds	15	<u>(88,788)</u>	<u>86,110</u>	<u>2,678</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>
Net movement in funds	8	4,239	56,557	51,128	111,924	141,767
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		<u>87,693</u>	<u>188,126</u>	<u>101,843</u>	<u>377,662</u>	<u>235,895</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>91,932</u>	<u>244,683</u>	<u>152,971</u>	<u>489,586</u>	<u>377,662</u>

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 20 to 35 form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

Registered Number 04061592

BALANCE SHEET

31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Intangible assets	11	2,526	8,053
Tangible assets	12	<u>8,348</u>	<u>5,295</u>
		10,874	13,348
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	197,606	160,543
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>667,844</u>	<u>536,253</u>
		865,450	696,796
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(386,738)</u>	<u>(332,482)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		478,712	364,314
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>489,586</u>	<u>377,662</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>489,586</u>	<u>377,662</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund		91,932	87,693
Designated funds		<u>244,683</u>	<u>188,126</u>
		336,615	275,819
Restricted funds		<u>152,971</u>	<u>101,843</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	15	<u>489,586</u>	<u>377,662</u>

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

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

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 21 October 22 and signed on their behalf by:



Donna Bulmer (Treasurer)

The notes on pages 20 to 35 form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Cash generated from operating activities	17	<u>137,681</u>	<u>253,918</u>
Net cash from operating activities		<u>137,681</u>	<u>253,918</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of intangible assets		–	(3,000)
Purchase of tangible assets		(6,625)	(3,090)
Interest received		<u>535</u>	<u>3,156</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(6,090)</u>	<u>(2,934)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		131,591	250,984
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>536,253</u>	<u>285,269</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		<u>667,844</u>	<u>536,253</u>

The notes on pages 20 to 35 form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Voluntary Organisations' Network North East is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Mea house, Ellison Place, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 8XS.

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective from 1 January 2019, the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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 £.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the levels of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the trustees have considered the impact on their business, alongside the measures they can take to mitigate the impact. Based on the assessments made in order to mitigate the current adverse conditions, and the current resources available, the trustees have concluded that they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Income

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

The income shown in the statement of financial activities represents the value of all services delivered during the year, at selling price exclusive of Value Added Tax. Sales are recognised at the point at which the charity has fulfilled its contractual obligations to the customer.

Grant income

Revenue grants are credited to incoming resources on the earlier date of when they are received or receivable, unless they relate to a specific period, or alternatively, where there are conditions which must be fulfilled prior to entitlement or use of the grant, in which case they are deferred into subsequent accounting periods and are treated as grants or income in advance.

Resources expended and Irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis 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.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expenses for which it was incurred.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

Support costs

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

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets are initially recorded at cost and are subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. Any intangible assets carried at revalued amounts, are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation, as determined by reference to an active market, less any subsequent accumulated amortisation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

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

Website development	–	33% on cost
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Tangible fixed assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity, except to the extent it reverses a revaluation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in profit or loss. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent of any previously recognised revaluation increase accumulated in equity in respect of that asset. Where a revaluation decrease exceeds the accumulated revaluation gains accumulated in equity in respect of that asset, the excess shall be recognised in profit or loss.

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

Debtors

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

Cash at bank and in hand

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

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

Creditors and provisions

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

Financial instruments

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

Statement of cash flow

The charity has prepared a statement of cash flow on the basis that they are defined as a large charity.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

Designated funds include amounts allocated to various funds by 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.

Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Capital commitments

The charity has no contractual commitments at the year end.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectation of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

2. Company Status

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

3 Statement of Financial Activities for the prior year

		Unrestricted Funds			Total Funds
	Notes	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 £
INCOME FROM:					
Voluntary income	4	300	—	—	300
Investment income	5	3,156	—	—	3,156
Charitable activities	6	<u>343,602</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>348,453</u>	<u>692,055</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>347,058</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>348,453</u>	<u>695,511</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:					
<i>Charitable activities</i>		<u>(261,122)</u>	<u>(24,066)</u>	<u>(268,556)</u>	<u>(553,744)</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	7	<u>(261,122)</u>	<u>(24,066)</u>	<u>(268,556)</u>	<u>(553,744)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		85,936	(24,066)	79,897	141,767
Transfers between funds	15	<u>(95,123)</u>	<u>73,177</u>	<u>21,946</u>	<u>—</u>
Net movement in funds	8	(9,187)	49,111	101,843	141,767
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>96,880</u>	<u>139,015</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>235,895</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>87,693</u>	<u>188,126</u>	<u>101,843</u>	<u>377,662</u>

4 Voluntary income

	Unrestricted 2022 £	2021 £
Donations	<u>—</u>	<u>300</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted 2022 £	2021 £
Deposit account interest receivable	<u>535</u>	<u>3,156</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

6 Income from resources from charitable activities

	Grant income £	Sales and events £	Total Restricted Funds £	Total Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Policy & Consultancy Projects	239,135	70,513	239,135	70,513	309,648	185,451
Health & Wellbeing Projects	134,636	107,059	160,520	81,175	241,695	137,118
Climate Emergency Projects	71,344	—	71,344	—	71,344	113,476
COVID-19 Response & Recovery Projects	16,750	—	16,750	—	16,750	78,662
Funding Information North East	13,500	—	13,500	—	13,500	10,000
North East Funders Network	—	10,000	—	10,000	10,000	10,000
VONNE – Core Income	<u>45,000</u>	<u>123,214</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>168,214</u>	<u>168,214</u>	<u>157,348</u>
Total	<u>520,365</u>	<u>310,786</u>	<u>501,249</u>	<u>329,902</u>	<u>831,151</u>	<u>692,055</u>

7 Charitable activities costs

	Direct costs £	Depreciation £	Support Costs £	Events & Meetings £	Governance costs £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Policy & Consultancy Projects	227,006	2,956	24,686	222	777	255,647	204,539
Health & Wellbeing Projects	210,070	2,871	21,731	907	756	236,335	82,728
Climate Emergency Projects	72,079	1,376	12,765	—	363	86,583	88,719
COVID-19 Response & Recovery Projects	20,213	1,387	9,795	—	365	31,760	55,652
FINE	11,588	191	1,671	—	50	13,500	10,499
North East Funders Network	9,348	78	554	—	20	10,000	10,000
VONNE – Core Expenditure	<u>83,059</u>	<u>240</u>	<u>1,430</u>	<u>1,061</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>85,937</u>	<u>101,607</u>
Total	<u>633,363</u>	<u>9,099</u>	<u>72,632</u>	<u>2,190</u>	<u>2,478</u>	<u>719,762</u>	<u>553,744</u>

In the year ended 31 March 2022, total expenditure of £266,963 (2021: £285,188) was unrestricted and £452,799 (2021: £268,556) was restricted.

Direct costs are made up as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs (per note 10)	407,876	285,315
Recruitment costs	563	120
Research and consultancy	224,288	199,700
Travel and subsistence	636	4,894
Training projects	<u>—</u>	<u>425</u>
	<u>633,363</u>	<u>490,454</u>

Governance costs are made up as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
AGM expenses	93	173
Auditors' remuneration	<u>2,385</u>	<u>2,295</u>
	<u>2,478</u>	<u>2,468</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

8 Net movement in funds

Net movement in funds are stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	<i>2021</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Auditors' remuneration	2,385	2,295
Depreciation – owned assets	3,572	2,219
Website development amortisation	5,527	4,538
Rent	<u>20,187</u>	<u>15,195</u>

9 Trustees' remuneration and benefits

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

Trustees' expenses

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

10 Staff costs

	2022	<i>2021</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Wages and salaries	359,236	248,935
Social security costs	26,976	18,780
Pension costs	<u>21,664</u>	<u>17,600</u>
	<u>407,876</u>	<u>285,315</u>

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

	2022	<i>2021</i>
Chief Executive Officer	1	1
Staff	<u>13</u>	<u>8</u>
	<u>14</u>	<u>9</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2021: £60,000).

The total remuneration and benefits paid to key management amounted to £99,565 (2021: £96,928)

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

11 Intangible fixed assets

	Website Development £
COST	
At 1 April 2021	16,750
Additions	—
Disposals	<u>—</u>
At 31 March 2022	16,750
AMORTISATION	
At 1 April 2021	8,697
Charge for the year	5,527
Amortisation written off in the year	<u>—</u>
At 31 March 2022	14,224
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,526</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>8,053</u>

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Fittings and fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
COST			
At 1 April 2021	10,476	10,560	21,036
Additions	2,415	4,210	6,625
Disposals	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
At 31 March 2022	12,891	14,770	27,661
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2021	10,404	5,337	15,741
Charge for year	404	3,168	3,572
Disposals	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
At 31 March 2022	10,808	8,505	19,313
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,083</u>	<u>6,265</u>	<u>8,348</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>72</u>	<u>5,223</u>	<u>5,295</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

13 Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	142,159	152,989
Prepayments	1,360	4,490
Accrued income	53,879	3,064
Other debtors	<u>208</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>197,606</u>	<u>160,543</u>

14 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	7,574	3,558
Taxation and social security	42,634	22,612
Accruals	10,363	20,207
Deferred income	322,986	284,747
Other creditors	<u>3,181</u>	<u>1,358</u>
	<u>386,738</u>	<u>332,482</u>

Accrued and Deferred income

Included in accruals and deferred income / prepayments and accrued income are the following provisions for deferred income/(accrued income):

	<i>1 April 2021</i>	Receivable	Released	31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
Membership income	18,607	40,671	(36,841)	22,437
North East Funders Network	—	2,500	(10,000)	(7,500)
VONNE Climate Action Alliance Catalyst Definition	(1,350)	1,350	—	—
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters	(1,364)	8,838	(10,567)	(3,093)
North East Climate Coalition	72,874	9,000	(60,994)	20,880
Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery	50,000	5,000	(55,000)	—
Digital Pathfinders NTCA	—	24,785	(58,599)	(33,814)
NENC ICS VCSE Leadership Programme	88,133	112,050	(131,715)	68,468
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	—	7,440	(14,880)	(7,440)
Development & Co-Ordination Support MEA Trust	—	13,606	(13,888)	(282)
Local Access Programme	—	73,800	(72,181)	1,619
Northern Powergrid – Events	5,133	—	(5,133)	—
National Academy for Social Prescribing	50,000	62,083	(81,175)	30,908
Events sponsorship	—	1,000	(1,850)	(850)
Policy & Consultancy	—	3,490	(3,890)	(400)
Office accommodation	—	1,000	(1,500)	(500)
Personalised Care – Children & Young People	—	31,000	(1,939)	29,061
VONNE Association Thrive Hub	—	15,100	—	15,100
Personalised Care - Carers	—	100,000	(5,482)	94,518
NIHR/ ARC Research Partnership Coordination	—	39,995	—	39,995
Recruitment Support Services	<u>(350)</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>281,683</u>	<u>553,058</u>	<u>(565,634)</u>	<u>269,107</u>

The deferrals included in creditors relate to those grants, donations and income specified as relating to a specific period and represent those parts of the grants, donations or income which relate to periods subsequent to the accounting year end and are treated as grants or income in advance, or alternatively where there are conditions which must be fulfilled prior to entitlement or use of the grant or donation by the charity.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

15 Movement in funds

For the year ended 31 March 2022	<i>At 1 April 2021 £</i>	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2022 £
Designated funds				
Project development & innovation fund	40,000	–	(20,000)	20,000
Redundancy fund	28,584	–	36,482	65,066
Repair and replacement fund	2,500	–	–	2,500
Maternity, sickness and jury service fund	45,377	(750)	(6,675)	37,952
Organisational development fund	40,000	–	(20,000)	20,000
COVID-19 working arrangements reconfiguration fund	5,000	(2,334)	(166)	2,500
Office reconfiguration fund	10,000	(3,028)	28	7,000
Website development fund	–	(6,776)	36,776	30,000
Organisational restructure fund	–	–	43,000	43,000
ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund	<u>16,665</u>	<u>(16,665)</u>	<u>16,665</u>	<u>16,665</u>
	<u>188,126</u>	<u>(29,553)</u>	<u>86,110</u>	<u>244,683</u>
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	85,020	95,700	(88,788)	91,932
Northern Powergrid – Event Co-ordination	1,633	(1,633)	–	–
Support – VCSE Engagement in Health	<u>1,040</u>	<u>(1,040)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>
	<u>87,693</u>	<u>93,027</u>	<u>(88,788)</u>	<u>91,932</u>
Restricted funds				
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in North East Clusters	–	(2,678)	2,678	–
Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund	–	16,266	–	16,266
Local Access Programme – Access Foundation	726	46,583	–	47,309
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	9,750	–	–	9,750
Digital Pathfinders NTCA	–	12,128	–	12,128
VONNE Climate Action Alliance – Lankelly Chase	24,757	(15,239)	–	9,518
Ann Cleeves Community Reading Facilitators	34,600	(34,600)	–	–
COVID-19 Recovery – County Durham Community Foundation	1,732	(1,732)	–	–
COVID-19 Response Grant National Lottery Community Fund	21,278	(21,278)	–	–
PHE Health Inequalities/ COVID-19	9,000	(9,000)	–	–
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Leadership Programme	–	50,000	–	50,000
VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA	<u>–</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>8,000</u>
	<u>101,843</u>	<u>48,450</u>	<u>2,678</u>	<u>152,971</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>377,662</u>	<u>111,924</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>489,586</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

15 Movement in funds *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2022 *(continued)*

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in funds £
Designated funds			
Maternity, sickness and jury service fund	–	(750)	(750)
COVID-19 working arrangements reconfiguration fund	–	(2,334)	(2,334)
Office Reconfiguration fund	–	(3,028)	(3,028)
Website development fund	–	(6,776)	(6,776)
ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund	–	<u>(16,665)</u>	<u>(16,665)</u>
	–	(29,553)	(29,553)
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	126,749	(31,049)	95,700
Millfield House Foundation	42,000	(42,000)	–
Clinks	50,500	(50,500)	–
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	14,880	(14,880)	–
North East Funders Network - National Lottery Community Fund	10,000	(10,000)	–
Northern Powergrid – Event Co-ordination	5,133	(6,766)	(1,633)
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Leadership Programme	–	(1,040)	(1,040)
National Academy for Social Prescribing	<u>81,175</u>	<u>(81,175)</u>	–
	330,437	(237,410)	93,027
Restricted funds			
Funding Information North East	13,500	(13,500)	–
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters	10,567	(13,245)	(2,678)
Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund	55,000	(38,734)	16,266
Local Access Programme – Access Foundation	72,181	(25,598)	46,583
Safeguarding Partnership – funded jointly by Dept, for Digital Culture Media and Sport and the National Lottery Community Fund	28,900	(28,900)	–
North East England Climate Coalition – NENC Integrated Care System	60,994	(60,994)	–
Digital Pathfinders NTCA	58,599	(46,471)	12,128
Personalised Care - Children & Young People	1,939	(1,939)	–
VONNE Climate Action Alliance Catalyst Definition Programme	5,000	(5,000)	–
Personalised Care - Carers	5,482	(5,482)	–
VONNE Climate Action Alliance – Lankelly Chase	350	(15,589)	(15,239)
Ann Cleaves Community Reading Facilitators	25,884	(60,484)	(34,600)
COVID-19 Response Grant – County Durham Community Foundation	–	(1,732)	(1,732)
COVID-19 Response Grant National Lottery Community Fund	–	(21,278)	(21,278)
VONNE Climate Action Alliance Catalyst Development Programme	5,000	(5,000)	–
PHE Health Inequalities / COVID-19 Development & Co-ordination Support MEA Trust	(4,500)	(4,500)	(9,000)
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Leadership Programme	13,888	(13,888)	–
VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA	<u>131,715</u>	<u>(81,715)</u>	<u>50,000</u>
	<u>16,750</u>	<u>(8,750)</u>	<u>8,000</u>
	501,249	(452,799)	48,450
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>831,686</u>	<u>(719,762)</u>	<u>111,924</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

15 Movement in funds (continued)

<i>For the year ended 31 March 2021</i>	<i>At 1 April 2020 £</i>	<i>Net movement in funds £</i>	<i>Transfers between funds £</i>	<i>At 31 March 2021 £</i>
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	96,830	83,313	(95,123)	85,020
Yes We Can Leadership	50	(50)	–	–
Northern Powergrid – Event Co-ordination	–	1,633	–	1,633
North of England Commissioning	–	–	–	–
Support – VCSE Engagement in Health	–	1,040	–	1,040
	96,880	85,936	(95,123)	87,693
Designated funds				
Project development & innovation fund	20,000	–	20,000	40,000
Redundancy fund	17,644	–	10,940	28,584
Repair and replacement fund	2,500	(4,698)	4,698	2,500
Maternity, sickness and jury service fund	43,253	(750)	2,874	45,377
Organisational development fund	22,000	–	18,000	40,000
COVID-19 working arrangements	–	–	–	–
reconfiguration fund	5,000	–	–	5,000
Office reconfiguration fund	10,000	–	–	10,000
ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund	18,618	(18,618)	16,665	16,665
	139,015	(24,066)	73,177	188,126
Restricted funds				
Connect Fund North East – Investing for				
Social Impact	–	(885)	885	–
Funding Information North East	–	(499)	499	–
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in North East				
Clusters	–	(20,562)	20,562	–
Local Access Programme – Access				
Foundation	–	726	–	726
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	–	9,750	–	9,750
VONNE Climate Action Alliance – Lankelly				
Chase	–	24,757	–	24,757
Ann Cleeves Community Reading				
Facilitators	–	34,600	–	34,600
COVID-19 Response Grant National Lottery				
Community Fund	–	21,278	–	21,278
PHE Health Inequalities / COVID-19	–	9,000	–	9,000
COVID-19 Recovery – County Durham				
Community Foundation	–	1,732	–	1,732
	–	79,897	21,946	101,843
TOTAL FUNDS	235,895	141,767	–	377,662

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

15 Movement in funds (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in funds £
Designated funds			
Repair and replacement fund	–	(4,698)	(4,698)
Maternity, sickness and Jury fund	–	(750)	(750)
ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund	–	<u>(18,618)</u>	<u>(18,618)</u>
	–	(24,066)	(24,066)
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	88,804	(5,491)	83,313
Yes We Can Leadership	–	(50)	(50)
Millfield House Foundation	42,000	(42,000)	–
Sir James Knott Trust – Ageing Well Community of Practice	30,000	(30,000)	–
Clinks	50,124	(50,124)	–
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	14,880	(14,880)	–
North East Funders Network - National Lottery Community Fund	10,000	(10,000)	–
Northern Powergrid – Event Co-ordination	12,967	(11,334)	1,633
Development & Co-ordination Support MEA Trust	15,165	(15,165)	–
National Academy for Social Prescribing	17,484	(17,484)	–
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Leadership Programme	<u>65,634</u>	<u>(64,594)</u>	<u>1,040</u>
	347,058	(261,122)	85,936
Restricted funds			
Funding Information North East	10,000	(10,499)	(499)
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters	6,446	(27,008)	(20,562)
Connect Fund North East – Investing for Social Impact	–	(885)	(885)
Local Access Programme – Access Foundation	17,574	(16,848)	726
Safeguarding Partnership – funded jointly by Dept, for Digital Culture Media and Sport and the National Lottery Community Fund	66,095	(66,095)	–
North East England Climate Coalition – NENC Integrated Care Systems	37,126	(37,126)	–
North East Climate Coalition – Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	10,000	(10,000)	–
Design HOPS	2,200	(2,200)	–
VONNE Climate Action Alliance Catalyst Definition Programme	1,350	(1,350)	–
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	10,000	(250)	9,750
VONNE Climate Action Alliance – Lankelly Chase	60,000	(35,243)	24,757
Ann Cleaves Community Reading Facilitators	35,000	(400)	34,600
COVID-19 Response Grant – County Durham Community Foundation	6,000	(6,000)	–
COVID-19 Response Grant Community Foundation Tyne & Wear & Northumberland	10,000	(10,000)	–
COVID-19 Response Grant National Lottery Community Fund	38,602	(17,324)	21,278
VONNE Climate Action Alliance Catalyst Discovery Programme	5,000	(5,000)	–
PHE Health Inequalities / COVID-19	9,000	–	9,000
VCS Emergencies Partnership - NAVCA	9,500	(9,500)	–
County Durham Community Foundation – COVID-19	5,000	(3,268)	1,732
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland Dept for DCMS (Big Night In)	<u>9,560</u>	<u>(9,560)</u>	<u>–</u>
	348,453	(268,556)	79,897
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>695,511</u>	<u>(553,744)</u>	<u>141,767</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

15 Movement in funds (*continued*)

Designated Funds:

The designated funds were established in 2007/08 for the initial support or extensions to special projects and are reviewed annually by the trustees. They are as follows:

Organisational Development Fund

To meet the development costs of new income generation/sustainability activities for VONNE including significant staff development investments. Any activities funded would include a proportion of related staff costs.

Project Development & Innovation Fund

A project development fund to support new initiatives and unforeseen project activities to strengthen the VCSE sector in the North East or the sustainability of VONNE.

Maternity, Sickness and Jury Fund

To cover additional staffing costs due to extended periods of absence. The fund has been decreased slightly in the year, to reflect staff changes.

ERDF Innovation Clusters Match Fund

Funding committed to match ERDF funding for the Innovation Clusters project. Due to the project continuing to 2023, a transfer has been made into designated reserves to match the forecasted spends.

Repairs and Replacement Fund

To meet the on-going costs of repairing and replacing capital equipment, and in particular IT equipment.

Redundancy Fund

To cover the costs of redundancy for individuals whose posts may be lost during restructure or as a result of funding streams coming to an end. This was increased in the year due to the length of service with staff continuing to increase.

COVID-19 Working Arrangements Reconfiguration Fund

To meet the specific costs of COVID-19 reconfigurations to the VONNE office.

Office Reconfiguration Fund

To meet the costs of longer-term reconfigurations to the VONNE office to enable a more flexible working space.

Unrestricted Funds:

They are as follows:

Millfield House Foundation

Strategic partner core funding to support the work of VONNE.

Clinks

Engagement of the VCSE in criminal justice policy and practice.

Development & Coordination Support MEA Trust

To deliver development and coordination support activities with tenants of MEA House and the wider VCSE sector.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

15 Movement in funds (*continued*)

Northern Powergrid Community Engagement

Partnership work with Northern Powergrid to support their engagement with the VCSE sector and services for vulnerable customers.

Northern Powergrid – Event Coordination

A contract to coordinate and deliver a Future Fairness Panel of VCSE organisations working with 'seldom heard' customers as part of their Stakeholder Engagement Programme.

North East Funders Network – National Lottery Community Fund

A Payment to deliver North East Funders Network activities.

National Academy for Social Prescribing

To deliver regional coordination role and deliver the Thriving Communities programme across the North East, Yorkshire & Humber on behalf of the National Academy for Social Prescribing.

Restricted Funds:

They are as follows:

ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters

ERDF/ Innovate UK funded project to support the VCSE sector with innovation.

FINE – Funding Information North East

To provide funding information to North East VCSE sector organisations through e-bulletin and an online, searchable directory.

Digital Infrastructure Programme – National Lottery Community Fund

Funding to support digital adoption and implementation within VCSE infrastructure organisations.

Local Access Programme – Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool

Funding from Access Foundation for the Local Access enterprise development & blended finance programme in Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool.

North East England Climate Coalition

Work to convene a cross-sectoral coalition across the North East to address the climate emergency, ecological breakdown and the just transition to a low carbon future.

Safeguarding Partnerships

Funded jointly by Department for Digital Culture Media and Sport and The National Lottery Community Fund to disseminate NCVO safeguarding resources locally and deliver regular training sessions and create new or build on existing networks.

VONNE Climate Action Alliance

An Alliance of 18 VCSE organisations seeking to support the wider VCSE sector to take climate action, and support nature and a just transition to a low carbon future. Funded by Lankelly Chase and the Catalyst Covid-19 Digital Definition & Development Programmes.

CVD Networks – VCS Engagement

Funding to support VCSE engagement in Cardio-Vascular Disease prevention and treatment.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

15 Movement in funds (*continued*)

Digital Pathfinders – North of Tyne Combined Authority

Supporting the VCSE Sector across the North of Tyne area to adopt digital technologies through training, events and one to one support.

Ann Cleeves Community Reading Facilitators

Donation from author Ann Cleeves to support Community Reading Facilitators to help people access books to improve their health and wellbeing in five North East local authorities.

Personalised Care – Children & Young People – NHS England

Supporting social prescribing work to support children and young people.

Personalised Care – Carers – NHS England

A research and development project on support for carers.

COVID-19 Response and Recovery Grants

Funding received from County Durham Community Foundation, Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland, Dept. for Digital, Media, Culture & Sport (Big Night In) and the National Lottery Community Fund to fund VONNE's work to support the VCSE response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

National Academy for Social Prescribing

Funding to deliver regional coordination role for the North East, Yorkshire & Humber on behalf of the National Academy for Social Prescribing.

Public Health England Health Inequalities / COVID-19

Funding to support VCSE sector engagement in health inequalities/ COVID-19 research

VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA

Funding for VONNE's North East regional Liaison Lead role with the VCS Emergencies Partnership, to promote the 'unmet needs' support service for the VCSE sector during the COVID-19 pandemic and facilitate intelligence and information sharing at a regional and sub-national level.

Design Hops – Cast

Funding from CAST (Centre for the Advancement of Social Technology) to host and facilitate Design Hop events in the North East.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31 March 2022 £
Fixed assets	10,874	–	–	10,874
Net current assets/(liabilities)	<u>81,058</u>	<u>244,683</u>	<u>152,971</u>	<u>478,712</u>
	91,932	244,683	152,971	489,586

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31 March 2021 £
<i>Fixed assets</i>	<i>13,348</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>13,348</i>
<i>Net current assets/(liabilities)</i>	<i><u>74,345</u></i>	<i><u>188,126</u></i>	<i><u>101,843</u></i>	<i><u>364,314</u></i>
	<i>87,693</i>	<i>188,126</i>	<i>101,843</i>	<i>377,662</i>

17 Cash generated from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net movement in funds	111,924	141,767
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation	9,099	6,757
Interest receivable	(535)	(3,156)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Debtors	(37,063)	35,512
Creditors	<u>54,256</u>	<u>73,038</u>
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>137,681</u>	<u>253,918</u>

18 Commitments under operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Within 1 year	16,300	–
Within 2 – 5 years	<u>52,975</u>	<u>–</u>

19 Related Party Disclosures

No transactions with related parties were undertaken such as are required to be disclosed under Financial Reporting Standard 102.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

England & Wales - Charity number 1084083

Accounts

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Company Registration Number: 04061592
Charity Number: 1084083

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The board of trustees

David Barker
Ian Dodds
Paul Ennals
Michael Pratt
Fiona Wharton
Alison Dunn
Donna Bulmer
Kasia Kurowska (retired March 2021)
Jennifer McAteer
David Robinson
Steven Duckworth
Michael Fawole
Edward Kunonga
Kerry Robinson
Kumareswaradas Ramanathas

Company secretary

Carol Ownsworth (nee Botten)

Registered office

4th Floor
MEA House
Ellison Place
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE1 8XS

Accountants

Debére Limited
Chartered Accountants
Swallow House
Parsons Road
Washington
Tyne and Wear
NE37 1EZ

Auditors

Read, Milburn & Co
Chartered Accountants
71 Howard Street
North Shields
Tyne and Wear
NE30 1AF

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank Plc
Four Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2HB

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees, who are the directors of the organisation for the purpose of Company Law, present their annual director's report together with the charity's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are also prepared to meet the requirements of a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective from 1 January 2019.

Reference and administrative details

Name: Voluntary Organisations' Network North East (VONNE)

Charity Registration Number: 1084083

Registered Office: 4th Floor, MEA House, Ellison Place, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8XS

Company Registration Number: 4061592

Names of the charity trustees at the date this report was approved:

Chair: Sir Paul Ennals

Treasurer: Donna Bulmer

Trustees:

Vice Chair: David Barker MBE

Ian Dodds, Fiona Wharton, Mike Pratt, Kerry Robinson, Alison Dunn, Jenny McAteer, David Robinson, Kasia Kurowska*, Steven Duckworth, Michael Fawole, Professor Edward Kunonga and Kumareswaradas Ramanathas

*retired March 2021

Company Secretary: Carol Ownsworth (nee Botten)

Key Management Personnel: Carol Botten, Chief Executive; Anne Fry, Deputy Chief Executive

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank plc, Four Brindleyplace, Birmingham, B1 2HB

Accountants: Debére, Swallow House, Parsons Road, Washington, Tyne and Wear, NE37 1EZ

Auditors: Read Milburn & Company, 71 Howard Street, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE30 1AF

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The organisation is controlled by its governing document, the Articles of Association and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006, and is a registered charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The VONNE trustee board has between three and fifteen members. Trustees to the VONNE board are nominated and elected from the membership. Notice is sent to all members prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM), with each member organisation entitled to vote. Up to six trustees may be appointed by serving trustees for their particular expertise, qualifications, and knowledge.

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees have a full induction delivered by the chief executive and key team members prior to attending their first board meeting. They are provided with an induction pack containing all the key information about VONNE, Charity Commission guidance, role descriptions and other relevant materials.

Organisational structure

VONNE is managed by a Board of Trustees elected from the membership and governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The board takes all strategic decisions relating to VONNE, including:

- Receiving and reviewing reports from the chief executive and company secretary;
- Acting as the formal employer of VONNE's staff, ensuring that activity and performance is regularly reviewed and evaluated;
- Monitoring and assessing the financial position of VONNE, including budget setting;
- Developing, reviewing and monitoring VONNE's strategic plan and annual work plan to influence and direct VONNE's work;
- Agreeing and reviewing appropriate policies and ensuring VONNE meets its legal responsibilities;
- Communicating relevant information and views gathered outside of VONNE to staff and trustees. There is a finance sub-group which reports to the board on finance, internal policy and HR issues.

Risk management

Trustees reviewed the risk register this year and monitor it regularly with a full review annually. Trustees are confident that risks have been identified, appropriate preventative measures are in place and remedial activities are available. VONNE's financial processes are regularly reviewed both by the board and externally, to ensure they continue to be robust.

Indemnity insurance

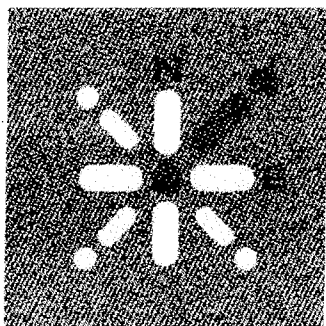
VONNE has professional indemnity insurance cover, in respect of the trustees and officers of the charity.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

VONNE'S mission



To support the development and sustainability of a strong, effective and well governed Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector, and promote engagement, involvement and collaboration within the sector as a valued partner.

VONNE's strategic aims 2015-2021

- To be the expert source of knowledge and intelligence on the VCSE sector in the North East.
- To be a source of information to the VCSE sector on issues that impact upon it.
- To raise the North East sector's profile and be a leading voice on its behalf.
- To support external stakeholders to effectively engage and collaborate with the VCSE sector.
- To support the North East VCSE sector to be effective, ambitious and enterprising.
- VONNE also aims to be an effective and sustainable organisation.

VONNE's values

- Striving for excellence
- Transparency
- Inclusivity and fairness
- Learning and sharing

Public benefit

- VONNE's objectives provide benefit to the public in the North East region of England (area of benefit) by promoting and supporting the effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations.
- Trustees of VONNE confirm they have read and paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The trustees confirm they've complied with their duties under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to public benefit. Having considered the guidance, the trustees have concluded that the work of VONNE directly supports and strengthens the VCSE sector in the North East with information and support, and strengthens the VCSE sector's ability to influence policy and practice in the region.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

ANNUAL REVIEW

VONNE membership

Our 1,290 members, 45 percent of whom are Membership+ supporters (a membership scheme with enhanced benefits for a variable fee), allow us to continue our work to strengthen and support the VCSE sector in the North East. Around 72 percent of our overall Membership+ supporters renewed during the financial year.

While this is a reduction compared to the previous year, it should be acknowledged that the financial implications of the Covid-19 pandemic are beginning to be felt more keenly across the North East VCSE community. The VONNE team has been working from home since mid-March 2020, and member services are being delivered as normal, with stakeholder events now hosted exclusively on digital platforms such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams.

VONNE jobs

Our job and trustee advertising services continue to develop, and we have made some improvements to our website to make it easier and clearer to find information about each of our services in this area, which has led to a number of enhanced service requests, the income from which will be realised in the new financial year as detailed below.

Our jobs pages receive an average of around 20,500 page views each month, and we advertised almost 700 job and trustee vacancies in sector organisations across the region through the year. Both these figures represent decreases on last year that can be attributed to the ongoing disruption of the pandemic, as the difference was most marked in the first few months after the initial lockdown. We are now seeing numbers return to more normal levels.

This year we also pledged to always #ShowTheSalary as part of a national campaign to promote transparency and encourage fairer wages across the VCSE sector.

Developing our member services

This year, in preparation for the opening up of workplaces as lockdown restrictions ease, we launched our Workspace Finder, which gives organisations an opportunity to collaborate with those in the private sector, as well as to diversify and be more enterprising in a changed operating landscape, while helping VONNE become more sustainable.

We are marketing the service, which allows advertisers to promote their event spaces, meeting rooms, hot-desking facilities and offices for use by members of the VCSE community, in such a way that becoming a Membership+ or Associate Membership+ supporter is encouraged. As yet, there has been no income from the Workspace Finder as its launch is in its infancy, with an introductory offer in place, including free credits for members, to encourage people to explore its potential. While easing, lockdown restrictions also remain in place.

Our enhanced recruitment services, however, have generated an income of £2,900 from four contracts throughout the year, with an additional pipeline of £4k from recently secured contracts.

Information and intelligence

We raise the profile of the sector and ensure it is valued as an equal partner. We are an expert source of intelligence on the sector and provide information to the sector on the issues that affect it.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Our ebulletins

Our various ebulletins inform the North East VCSE sector on relevant news and events, providing up to date funding opportunities, job and trustee vacancies, and news on criminal justice and health and wellbeing matters. Last year we sent a total of 133 ebulletins to more than 8,200 opted-in subscribers, which is a slight decrease on 2019/2020 as the Funding Information North East (FINE) bulletin was temporarily open to all through much of 2020/2021 due to the pandemic. However, the figure is in line with pre-Covid subscriber levels, and numbers are consistently increasing month on month.

VCS Emergencies Partnership

VONNE is the regional Liaison Lead for the VCS Emergencies Partnership project, which escalates unmet needs linked to the Covid-19 pandemic identified by the VCSE sector, and shares local intelligence with regional and national structures to inform responses and influence policy decisions.

VCSE Sector Surveys

In May and November 2020 we surveyed the region's VCSE sector to gather intelligence on the impact of Covid-19 on people and communities. Across the two surveys we had more than 600 responses and were able to share the intelligence back to the sector, to funders and commissioners, and to statutory agencies such as local authorities, combined authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs). In the North East LEP area, our findings formed the basis of the impact on the VCSE sector detailed as part of a wider Covid impact report.

EU exit implementation group

Through our membership of the EU Exit Implementation Group, the North East VCSE sector's voice was heard in national conversations around Brexit and its impact, and we are now working to minimise any disruption to the sector due to our exit from the EU.

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is due to launch by April 2022, and the publication of the UKSPF Investment Framework is due in mid to late 2021. Although further consultation on the fund is likely to be minimal, VONNE intends to be involved in shaping and supporting bids into the Community Renewal Fund in 2021/22, which will help shape and test various approaches to inform the UKSPF.

VONNE is well positioned nationally to engage in the roll out of the UKSPF through our role on the European Social Investment Fund (ESIF) Growth Programme Board, North East LEP area ESIF sub-committee, and the UKSPF Employment Related Services Association (ERSA)/National Council for Voluntary Organisations' (NCVO) joint working group.

Partnerships and collaboration

We facilitate networks to strengthen the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector and act as a 'connector', bringing people and organisations together to make things happen.

Networks

We provide learning opportunities and encourage collaboration through our Membership+ supporter scheme and CEO Peer Support Network, which is a benefit of silver and gold Membership+ that usually meets monthly but initially met weekly following the onset of Covid-19, to collaborate on scenario planning and shared concerns emerging from the pandemic. The network, which is open to the CEOs of silver and gold Membership+ supporters, is now meeting monthly again.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Networks *continued*

We facilitate the North East and Cumbria Funders' Network, through which we share information and support funders to collaborate and better support grant applicants. In early 2020 we took a place-based approach to increase practical information exchange and partnerships, and more effectively align resources with needs. We met more regularly as a network, and shared emerging thinking and approaches to Covid response and recovery funding over the course of the year. We also consulted with the network and our stakeholders across the sector to produce a series of reports detailing the key asks of funders, commissioners, the government and other agencies, as well as from the sector itself, to aid the region's ongoing recovery from the Covid-19 crisis.

We are a key partner of the North East Social Leaders Network, the North of Tyne Combined Authority Inclusive Economy Board, and within the North East LEP, on which our CEO serves as a board member, we represent the sector on the North East Skills Advisory Panel, and the Employment Inclusion and Progression Steering Group. We facilitate the VCSE Skills, Inclusion and Employment Focus Group to feed in and back to these structures.

We have facilitated the North East Building Better Opportunities Network, bringing projects together with representatives from both the North East LEP and Tees Valley Combined Authority to ensure learning and legacy can be fed into UKSPF plans and wider employability provision and policy.

As members of the North East Child Poverty Commission, we worked with other members and the North East Chamber of Commerce to demand urgent government action to address the levels of child poverty in the region, and widen access to free school meals.

We support networks of Local Infrastructure Organisations (LIOs) across the region, bringing them together both to facilitate joint working, and to disseminate relevant policy information from VONNE to their grassroots member groups.

Continuing partnership projects include:

- **Safer Culture North East** with LIOs from across the region, which was reconfigured due to Covid-19, and supports organisations to understand their safeguarding responsibilities when delivering digital services. The project highlights the importance of safeguarding to informal community and mutual aid groups and delivers online training sessions for participants across the North East region.
- **Local Access Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool (LARCH)**, which is tackling local inequality by boosting the Tees Valley's social economy through enterprise development support and access to blended social investment. We are finalising programme plans and will be launching LARCH in 2021.
- **Small Charity Week North East** with LIOs and other partner organisations, to support and celebrate our region's smallest charities, which make up around 90 per cent of the sector. This year, the focus will be on inclusion.
- The **VONNE Climate Action Alliance**, which, having been through the Catalyst-funded Definition programme, is in the process of engaging with potential member organisations from across the VSCE sector to support the region's communities to confront the climate crisis. Learning is being shared with members and stakeholders. VONNE has also signed the Climate Coalition's declaration stating the time is now to lead the UK towards a healthier, greener and fairer future.
- The cross-sectoral **North East England Climate Coalition (NEECCo)**, hosted by VONNE, continues to work towards a regional approach to address the climate emergency, ecological collapse and the need for a just transition.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Networks *continued*

- **Developing a VCSE community hub with the MEA Trust at MEA House:** Focus groups have now been held with stakeholders and feedback shared with the MEA Trust to develop a proposal that will be considered during a period of consultation with the VCSE sector.

New partnerships and projects that are in development or have launched so far in 2021 include:

- **The National Lottery Community Fund's Digital Infrastructure programme**, which will allow us to use and improve the quality of our data to strengthen our offer to the VCSE sector and share our learnings to benefit all members.
- With Social Value UK, hosting a series of **Inspiring Impact webinars** to encourage and empower iterative evaluation of organisational activities, to demonstrate value and drive effective investment across the sector.
- Working with **Digital City** Teesside University to develop a digital offer to Tees Valley-based organisations, supporting them to access funds and expertise.
- Representing the VCSE community on the **Northumbria Local Resilience Forum Strategic Coordination Group** and various **local Covid-19 recovery groups**.

Health and wellbeing

VONNE is the lead VCSE partner in the North East and North Cumbria (NENC) VCSE Leadership Programme, an NHS England and NHS Improvement-funded scheme supporting the VCSE community to create alliances to facilitate a coordinated VCSE voice at Integrated Care System (ICS) level, and have greater strategic influence in emerging ICS governance structures resulting from the white paper, *Integration and Innovation: working together to improve health and social care for all*, which set out legislation to move ICSs onto a statutory footing.

To support this, VONNE launched the NENC Health and Wellbeing Network for VCSE organisations working across health and wellbeing, and the NENC VCSE Partnership Forum for senior managers responsible for organisational policy and strategy, to act as a representative group with whom external stakeholders can engage. VONNE recruited a Deputy Programme Manager to support this.

We have supported the ICS mental health programme board to recruit a VCSE mental health lead in partnership with Blue Stone Collaborative, and a focused sub-group of the Partnership Forum has been formed to engage mental health VCSE organisations across the NENC ICS. Resource has been secured to continue this for a further year.

VONNE represented the VCSE community in collaboration with the regional NHS Charities Together lead, ICS leads and regional community foundations to provide £1.4m emergency grant funding for innovative social and healthcare partnerships to support communities impacted by Covid-19. We're a partner in the public health and-ICS led Covid-19 Health Inequalities Impact Assessment Steering Group, exploring the pandemic's direct and indirect impact on vulnerable and at-risk groups. As part of this, we worked with NENC Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) health inequalities researchers and public health leads to produce qualitative research into this; more in-depth work is now underway to explore longer-term impacts on these groups and the VCSE that supports them.

In addition, VONNE represents the National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP) in the North East and Yorkshire as the regional lead for *Thriving Communities*, a programme for voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise groups supporting communities impacted by Covid-19. More than 70 leaders have joined the associated regional *Learning Together* programme, to share learning, gain ideas, access funding and develop partnerships across sectors. NASP is extending the contract for 12 months and we're working with them to shape the future programme.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Health and wellbeing *continued*

Our Health and Wellbeing Associate acts as the NENC Social Prescribing Facilitator, working with NHS England and NHS Improvement to support its regional roll out. As part of this, the area's 70 primary care networks and partners have been supported to recruit a total of 176 social prescribing link workers, supporting patients with referrals to wider social support and activities often provided by the VCSE.

VONNE is co-lead for a North East pilot project supported by the author Ann Cleaves, who has donated funds matched by five local authorities to get recruitment of community reading facilitators underway, to help people access books to improve their health and wellbeing.

Digital and innovation

Supported by the Innovation SuperNetwork and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), our programme of sectoral support has helped the region's VCSE community understand and embrace digital technology and innovation throughout a year marked by Covid-19 and multiple lockdowns.

Immediately following the announcement of a UK-wide lockdown we opened our 'Tech Lunch Tuesday' drop-in sessions with our digital technology specialists to encourage questions, facilitate discussion, and help members of the VCSE community make cross-sector connections. We supported the sector to understand how to innovate online with a two-part webinar and accompanying guide to implementation, and delivered the following further workshops:

- *How to innovate through change and uncertainty*: helping participants understand how to innovate, not simply to cope with the pandemic, but as an opportunity to rethink provision.
- *Design Hops*: three workshops that introduced charities to the possibilities of digital and demystified technology, using a tried and tested method to explore problems and begin to develop solutions.
- *Strategically thinking the unthinkable*: a personal story of a merger and step by step demystification of the process.
- *Moving from non-racist to anti-racist for the VCSE sector*: helping members of the VCSE community understand how to become actively anti-racist as individuals, and embed that work in organisations.
- *Planning your lockdown three exit strategy*: empowering the sector to think through the huge array of issues to consider during the daunting process of bringing staff back from extended periods of furlough and/or remote working.

Throughout the year, the issue of digital exclusion and poverty was a recurring theme in conversations in the sector. In June 2020, VONNE convened a roundtable event to bring people working in this space together and identify issues and challenges. The learning from this work informed planned delivery and we worked in collaboration with Not Equal, Open Lab at Newcastle University to support the design of workshops that aimed to understand the interventions that are successful in tackling digital exclusion, producing a good practice guide for the sector.

We are also champions of the Charity Digital Code, using the code principles ourselves, and empowering organisations to embed it as well.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Criminal justice

Our partnership with Clinks ensures the voluntary sector in the North East is kept up to date with changes to criminal justice policy, in partnership with local organisations and agencies, to build strategic relationships and represent voluntary organisations within local statutory structures.

Clinks' development work in the North East focuses on listening to local need and ensuring voluntary organisations have their voices heard both locally and nationally. As part of this, informal Criminal Justice Hour sessions have been introduced online, to provide those working in the system an arena to share opportunities, challenges and offer peer support to one another throughout the pandemic. We conducted research through this partnership to capture the impact of lockdown on the prison system, and monitoring is ongoing. Finally, our bulletins were sent out more frequently to keep up with changing developments and requirements of lockdown.

The area development officer provides support to voluntary sector organisations working in criminal justice, and gathers frontline intelligence to inform Clinks' national policy work and strategic direction, in preparation for the new probation model being introduced in June 2021.

We continue to support and develop *Making Every Adult Matter* (MEAM) in Durham, Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland, to better meet the needs of, and improve outcomes for adults facing multiple disadvantage. Through better partnership and cross-sector working, MEAM advocates for wider system change and this has led to increased co-commissioning opportunities.

Support and resilience

We provide the sector with funding information and encourage consideration of different funding streams. We also work to increase understanding among funders of the sector's needs.

Last year, we:

- Continued our community support and engagement work with Northern Powergrid, recruiting and facilitating a new *Future Fairness Panel* of representatives from VCSE organisations across the north, to amplify the needs of 'seldom heard' voices with planning and engagement processes.
- Supported the North East Charity Awards to pivot to a virtual platform in light of Covid-19 lockdown restrictions, to celebrate and promote the sector's vital work across the region despite the pandemic.
- Kept up to date with funding information and opportunities through our FINE service. Usually a benefit of Membership+ support, at the outset of the pandemic we made the online searchable FINE directory open access, and FINE ebulletins were sent to all VONNE subscribers for around six months.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The 2020/21 financial year saw a significant growth of overall income (85.8%) and expenditure (33.8%) from the previous financial year, due in part to new project development and funding for our work addressing the climate emergency, engaging the VCSE sector with the ICS, and Safer Culture North East project, as well as other project funds, including more than £70k in charitable grants for our work to support the sector through the pandemic. Our core earned income from membership fees and job advertising dipped significantly in the first quarter but recovered to pre-pandemic levels by the end of the year.

At year end, we achieved a surplus of almost £85k on the general unrestricted fund, a better position than budgeted for due to additional income and reduced core costs. In addition, we spent some designated funds consistent with our strategic objectives and against allocations made towards the end of the previous financial year. We had a planned surplus of restricted funds totalling just under £80k, relating to income for a number of projects spanning the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 financial years. We anticipate these to be spent in 2021-2022.

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the trustees have prepared forecasts for 2021-2023 to take into account the potential impact on VONNE of possible scenarios on funding, alongside measures that can be taken to mitigate these. Based on these assessments and the current reserves position, the trustees have concluded they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

Reserves policy

VONNE believes it is important to maintain a reserves policy to ensure effective resource management, and to enable financial viability and longer-term sustainability. Four key elements have been taken into consideration to assess a realistic level of reserves. These are:

1. The reliability of current income sources and new income opportunities.
2. Expenditure on planned activities.
3. Future needs, contingencies and risks.
4. Consequences of being unable to meet forecast needs.

VONNE has no endowment funding and has no significant capital assets it could earn from, or dispose of, to realise additional income. Significant levels of activity are funded through grants or contracts from the public and charitable sectors, but these resources are generally time-limited and are usually restricted by the funder. Uncertainties are compounded by the anticipation of further public spending cuts. In addition, the board considers there to be higher levels of uncertainty around funding and income streams for infrastructure organisations. As a consequence, a conservative reserves policy is considered the most appropriate.

The VONNE board uses a continual process of careful financial management, and will aim to review, establish and maintain adequate reserves to enable the organisation to function effectively. A cautious approach to investment is adopted, maximising income by using interest-earning, short-term, accessible bank accounts.

The board will review annually the amount of funds designated for specific purposes, such as maternity and sickness salary cover, redundancy liability, and organisational development funds (outlined in full below). In addition, the board agrees to hold six to twelve months running costs, with a target of nine months' general unrestricted reserves, to continue VONNE's activities should anticipated income not be received.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Designated funds

The current total amount of Designated funds carried forward for specific purposes is £188,126. Over and above these amounts, VONNE holds a total of £87,693 in general unrestricted reserves, which would be sufficient to continue VONNE's core activities for just under seven months should anticipated income not be received.

Since core costs change from year to year and have such an influence over the total level of reserves required, all elements of this policy will be reviewed bi-annually in June and December, or more frequently if required by the board.

The trustees wish to allocate the unrestricted closing reserve level of £275,819 in the following manner:

Project development and innovation fund A project development fund to support new initiatives and unforeseen project activities to strengthen the VCSE sector in the North East or the sustainability of VONNE.	£40,000
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Innovation Clusters match fund Agreed match funding for this ERDF-funded project to support innovation in the North East VCSE sector.	£16,665
Repair and renewals fund To meet the ongoing costs of repairing and replacing capital equipment, and in particular IT equipment.	£2,500
Maternity cover and jury service reserve To meet the additional costs of maternity pay and cover, or the costs of longer-term sick leave or jury service.	£45,377
Redundancy fund To cover the costs of redundancy for individuals whose posts may be lost during a restructure or as a result of funding streams coming to an end. Redundancy costs are calculated on the basis of current weekly pay.	£28,584
Organisational development fund To meet the development costs of new income generation/sustainability activities for VONNE, including significant staff development investments. Any activities funded would include a proportion of related staff costs.	£40,000
COVID-19 working arrangements reconfiguration fund To meet the specific costs of any COVID-19 related reconfigurations to the VONNE office or working practices.	£5,000
Office reconfiguration To meet the costs of longer-term reconfigurations to the VONNE office to enable a more flexible working space.	£10,000
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS	£188,126
Unrestricted (free) reserves	£87,693

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Voluntary Organisations' Network North East 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 that 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 apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the charity Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare financial statements on an ongoing 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, to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

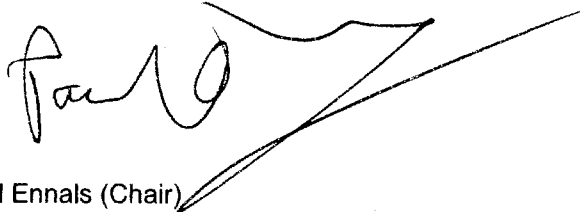
In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Auditors

The auditors Read, Milburn & Co, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the board:



Sir Paul Ennals (Chair)

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voluntary Organisations' Network North East (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

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

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

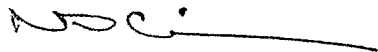
Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. In this regard, our procedures include the following:

- Enquiry of management around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

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

Use of our report

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



Nicholas Liley FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Read, Milburn & Co
71 Howard Street
North Shields
Tyne and Wear
NE30 1AF

Date: 15/10/21

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

		Unrestricted Funds			Total Funds	Total Funds
	Notes	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2021	2020
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOME FROM:						
Voluntary income	4	300	–	–	300	320
Investment income	5	3,156	–	–	3,156	3,149
Charitable activities	6	<u>343,602</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>348,453</u>	<u>692,055</u>	<u>370,793</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>347,058</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>348,453</u>	<u>695,511</u>	<u>374,262</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:						
<i>Charitable activities</i>		<u>(261,122)</u>	<u>(24,066)</u>	<u>(268,556)</u>	<u>(553,744)</u>	<u>(413,794)</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	7	<u>(261,122)</u>	<u>(24,066)</u>	<u>(268,556)</u>	<u>(553,744)</u>	<u>(413,794)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		85,936	(24,066)	79,897	141,767	(39,532)
Transfers between funds	15	<u>(95,123)</u>	<u>73,177</u>	<u>21,946</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>
Net movement in funds	8	(9,187)	49,111	101,843	141,767	(39,532)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		<u>96,880</u>	<u>139,015</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>235,895</u>	<u>275,427</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>87,693</u>	<u>188,126</u>	<u>101,843</u>	<u>377,662</u>	<u>235,895</u>

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 20 to 35 form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

Registered Number 04061592

BALANCE SHEET

31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Intangible assets	11	8,053	9,591
Tangible assets	12	<u>5,295</u>	<u>4,424</u>
		13,348	14,015
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	160,543	196,055
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>536,253</u>	<u>285,269</u>
		696,796	481,324
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(332,482)</u>	<u>(259,444)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		364,314	221,880
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>377,662</u>	<u>235,895</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>377,662</u>	<u>235,895</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund		87,693	96,880
Designated funds		<u>188,126</u>	<u>139,015</u>
		275,819	235,895
Restricted funds		<u>101,843</u>	<u>—</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	15	<u>377,662</u>	<u>235,895</u>

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

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

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 9/9/21 and signed on their behalf by:



Donna Bulmer (Treasurer)

The notes on pages 20 to 35 form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Cash generated from operating activities	17	<u>253,918</u>	<u>18,655</u>
Net cash from operating activities		<u>253,918</u>	<u>18,655</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of intangible assets		(3,000)	(13,750)
Purchase of tangible assets		(3,090)	(4,767)
Interest received		<u>3,156</u>	<u>3,149</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(2,934)</u>	<u>(15,368)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		250,984	3,287
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>285,269</u>	<u>281,982</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		<u>536,253</u>	<u>285,269</u>

The notes on pages 20 to 35 form part of these financial statements

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective from 1 January 2019, the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the levels of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the trustees have considered the impact on their business, alongside the measures they can take to mitigate the impact. Based on the assessments made in order to mitigate the current adverse conditions, and the current resources available, the trustees have concluded that they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Income

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

The income shown in the statement of financial activities represents the value of all services delivered during the year, at selling price exclusive of Value Added Tax. Sales are recognised at the point at which the charity has fulfilled its contractual obligations to the customer.

Grant income

Revenue grants are credited to incoming resources on the earlier date of when they are received or when they are receivable, unless they relate to a specific future period, in which case they are deferred.

Resources expended and Irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis 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.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expenses for which it was incurred.

Support costs

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

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies (*continued*)

Intangible assets

Intangible assets are initially recorded at cost and are subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. Any intangible assets carried at revalued amounts, are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation, as determined by reference to an active market, less any subsequent accumulated amortisation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

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

Website development	–	33% on cost
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Tangible fixed assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity, except to the extent it reverses a revaluation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in profit or loss. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent of any previously recognised revaluation increase accumulated in equity in respect of that asset. Where a revaluation decrease exceeds the accumulated revaluation gains accumulated in equity in respect of that asset, the excess shall be recognised in profit or loss.

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

Debtors

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

Cash at bank and in hand

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

Creditors and provisions

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

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments

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

Statement of cash flow

The charity has prepared a statement of cash flow on the basis that they are defined as a large charity.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

Designated funds include amounts allocated to various funds by 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.

Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Capital commitments

The charity has no contractual commitments at the year end.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectation of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

2. Company Status

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

3 Statement of Financial Activities for the prior year

		Unrestricted Funds			Total Funds 2020
	Notes	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	£
INCOME FROM:					
Voluntary income	4	320	—	—	320
Investment income	5	3,149	—	—	3,149
Charitable activities	6	<u>261,684</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>109,109</u>	<u>370,793</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>265,153</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>109,109</u>	<u>374,262</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities		<u>(261,706)</u>	<u>(27,447)</u>	<u>(124,641)</u>	<u>(413,794)</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	7	<u>(261,706)</u>	<u>(27,447)</u>	<u>(124,641)</u>	<u>(413,794)</u>
NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME		3,447	(27,447)	(15,532)	(39,532)
Transfers between funds	15	<u>(61,555)</u>	<u>61,555</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Net movement in funds	8	(58,108)	34,108	(15,532)	(39,532)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>154,988</u>	<u>104,907</u>	<u>15,532</u>	<u>275,427</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>96,880</u>	<u>139,015</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>235,895</u>

4 Voluntary income

	Unrestricted 2021 £	2020 £
Donations	<u>300</u>	<u>320</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted 2021 £	2020 £
Deposit account interest receivable	<u>3,156</u>	<u>3,149</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

6 Income from resources from charitable activities

	Grant income £	Sales and events £	Total Restricted Funds £	Total Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Policy & Consultancy Projects	92,015	93,436	92,315	93,136	185,451	160,683
Health & Wellbeing Projects	19,000	118,118	54,000	83,118	137,118	27,800
Climate Emergency Projects	113,476	–	113,476	–	113,476	20,000
Covid 19 Response & Recovery Projects	78,662	–	78,662	–	78,662	–
Connect Fund North East – Investing for Social Impact	–	–	–	–	–	8,000
Funding Information North East	10,000	–	10,000	–	10,000	12,000
North East Funders Network	–	10,000	–	10,000	10,000	10,000
VONNE – Core Income	<u>82,000</u>	<u>75,348</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>157,348</u>	<u>157,348</u>	<u>132,310</u>
Total	<u>395,153</u>	<u>296,902</u>	<u>348,453</u>	<u>343,602</u>	<u>692,055</u>	<u>370,793</u>

7 Charitable activities costs

	Direct costs £	Depreciation £	Support Costs £	Events & Meetings £	Governance costs £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Policy & Consultancy Projects	194,234	1,068	8,166	800	271	204,539	170,695
Health & Wellbeing Projects	73,391	929	8,173	–	235	82,728	27,800
Climate Emergency Projects	81,996	688	5,729	131	175	88,719	35,100
Covid 19 Response & Recovery Projects	51,739	447	3,353	–	113	55,652	–
Connect Fund North East – Investing for Social Impact	–	–	–	–	–	–	23,532
FINE	10,400	–	99	–	–	10,499	12,000
North East Funders Network	9,933	8	57	–	2	10,000	10,000
VONNE – Core Expenditure	<u>68,761</u>	<u>3,617</u>	<u>27,304</u>	<u>253</u>	<u>1,672</u>	<u>101,607</u>	<u>134,667</u>
Total	<u>490,454</u>	<u>6,757</u>	<u>52,881</u>	<u>1,184</u>	<u>2,468</u>	<u>553,744</u>	<u>413,794</u>

Direct costs are made up as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Staff costs (per note 10)	285,315	242,335
Recruitment costs	120	–
Research and consultancy	199,700	90,744
Travel and subsistence	4,894	8,945
Training projects	<u>425</u>	<u>6,950</u>
	<u>490,454</u>	<u>348,974</u>

Governance costs are made up as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
AGM expenses	173	876
Auditors' remuneration	<u>2,295</u>	<u>2,250</u>
	<u>2,468</u>	<u>3,126</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

8 Net movement in funds

Net movement in funds are stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021	2020
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	2,295	2,250
Depreciation – owned assets	2,219	829
Website development amortisation	4,538	4,159
Rent	<u>15,195</u>	<u>15,518</u>

9 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

During the year ended 31 March 2021, expenses of £nil (2020: £nil) were reimbursed to no trustee (2020: none) for travel costs incurred within the year.

10 Staff costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	248,935	209,884
Social security costs	18,780	15,997
Pension costs	<u>17,600</u>	<u>16,454</u>
	<u>285,315</u>	<u>242,335</u>

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

	2021	2020
Chief Executive Officer	1	1
Staff	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>
	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2020: £60,000).

The total remuneration and benefits paid to key management amounted to £96,298 (2020: £93,194)

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

11 Intangible fixed assets

	Website Development £
COST	
At 1 April 2020	39,135
Additions	3,000
Disposals	<u>(25,385)</u>
At 31 March 2021	16,750
AMORTISATION	
At 1 April 2020	29,544
Charge for the year	4,538
Amortisation written off in the year	<u>(25,385)</u>
At 31 March 2021	8,697
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2021	<u>8,053</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>9,591</u>

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Fittings and fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
COST			
At 1 April 2020	10,476	22,992	33,468
Additions	—	3,090	3,090
Disposals	<u>—</u>	<u>(15,522)</u>	<u>(15,522)</u>
At 31 March 2021	10,476	10,560	21,036
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2020	10,302	18,742	29,044
Charge for year	102	2,117	2,219
Disposals	<u>—</u>	<u>(15,522)</u>	<u>(15,522)</u>
At 31 March 2021	10,404	5,337	15,741
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2021	<u>72</u>	<u>5,223</u>	<u>5,295</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>174</u>	<u>4,250</u>	<u>4,424</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

13 Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	152,989	182,193
Prepayments	4,490	5,469
Accrued income	3,064	7,993
Other debtors	<u>—</u>	<u>400</u>
	<u>160,543</u>	<u>196,055</u>

14 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,558	36,129
Taxation and social security	22,612	21,017
Accruals	20,207	5,502
Deferred income	284,747	194,080
Other creditors	<u>1,358</u>	<u>2,716</u>
	<u>332,482</u>	<u>259,444</u>

Accrued and Deferred income

Included in accruals and deferred income / prepayments and accrued income are the following provisions for deferred income/(accrued income):

	<i>1 April</i> 2020	Receivable	Released	31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
Membership income	16,788	33,877	(32,058)	18,607
Connect Fund North East - Barrow Cadbury Trust	(1,000)	—	1,000	—
VONNE Climate Action Alliance Catalyst Definition Programme	—	—	(1,350)	(1,350)
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters	(5,125)	10,207	(6,446)	(1,364)
North East Climate Coalition – NENC Integrated Care System	60,000	60,000	(47,126)	72,874
Safeguarding Partnership – funded jointly by Dept. for Digital Culture Media and Sport and the National Lottery Community Fund	8,625	57,470	(66,095)	—
Design Hops – CAST	2,200	—	(2,200)	—
NENC ICS VCSE Leadership Programme	66,467	86,260	(64,594)	88,133
CVD Network	10,000	—	(10,000)	—
Sir James Knott Trust – Ageing Well Community of Practice	30,000	—	(30,000)	—
Local Access Programme	(1,868)	19,442	(17,574)	—
Northern Powergrid – Events	—	18,100	(12,967)	5,133
NASP	—	67,484	(17,484)	50,000
Digital Infrastructure Project – National Lottery Community Fund	—	50,000	—	50,000
Recruitment Support Services	<u>—</u>	<u>2,550</u>	<u>(2,900)</u>	<u>(350)</u>
	<u>186,087</u>	<u>405,390</u>	<u>(309,794)</u>	<u>281,683</u>

The deferrals included in creditors relate to those grants, donations and income specified as relating to a specific period and represent those parts of the grants, donations or income which relate to periods subsequent to the accounting year end and are treated as grants or income in advance, or alternatively where there are conditions which must be fulfilled prior to entitlement or use of the grant or donation by the charity.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

15 Movement in funds

For the year ended 31 March 2021	<i>At 1 April 2020</i> £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	96,830	83,313	(95,123)	85,020
Yes We Can Leadership	50	(50)	—	—
Northern Powergrid – Event Co-ordination	—	1,633	—	1,633
North of England Commissioning	—	—	—	—
Support – VCSE Engagement in Health	—	1,040	—	1,040
	96,880	85,936	(95,123)	87,693
<i>Designated funds:</i>				
Project development & innovation fund	20,000	—	20,000	40,000
Redundancy fund	17,644	—	10,940	28,584
Repair and replacement fund	2,500	(4,698)	4,698	2,500
Maternity, sickness & jury service reserve	43,253	(750)	2,874	45,377
Organisational development fund	22,000	—	18,000	40,000
COVID-19 working arrangements	—	—	—	—
reconfiguration fund	5,000	—	—	5,000
Office reconfiguration fund	10,000	—	—	10,000
ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund	18,618	(18,618)	16,665	16,665
	235,895	61,870	(21,946)	275,819
Restricted funds				
Connect Fund North East – Investing for				
Social Impact	—	(885)	885	—
Funding Information North East	—	(499)	499	—
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in North East				
Clusters	—	(20,562)	20,562	—
Local Access Programme – Access				
Foundation	—	726	—	726
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	—	9,750	—	9,750
VONNE Climate Action Alliance – Lankelly				
Chase	—	24,757	—	24,757
Ann Cleeves Community Reading				
Facilitators	—	34,600	—	34,600
COVID-19 Response Grant National Lottery				
Community Fund	—	21,278	—	21,278
PHE Health Inequalities/ COVID-19	—	9,000	—	9,000
COVID-19 Recovery – County Durham				
Community Foundation	—	1,732	—	1,732
	—	79,897	21,946	101,843
TOTAL FUNDS	235,895	141,767	—	377,662

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

15 Movement in funds (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in funds £
Designated funds			
Repair and replacement fund	–	(4,698)	(4,698)
Maternity, sickness and Jury fund	–	(750)	(750)
ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund	–	<u>(18,618)</u>	<u>(18,618)</u>
	–	(24,066)	(24,066)
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	88,804	(5,491)	83,313
Yes We Can Leadership	–	(50)	(50)
Millfield House Foundation	42,000	(42,000)	–
Sir James Knott Trust – Ageing Well Community of Practice	30,000	(30,000)	–
Clinks	50,124	(50,124)	–
Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement	14,880	(14,880)	–
North East Funders Network - National Lottery Community Fund	10,000	(10,000)	–
Northern Powergrid – Event Co-ordination	12,967	(11,334)	1,633
Development & Co-ordination Support MEA Trust	15,165	(15,165)	–
National Academy for Social Prescribing	17,484	(17,484)	–
NENC Integrated Care System VCS Leadership Programme	<u>65,634</u>	<u>(64,594)</u>	<u>1,040</u>
	347,058	(261,122)	85,936
Restricted funds			
Funding Information North East	10,000	(10,499)	(499)
ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters	6,446	(27,008)	(20,562)
Connect Fund North East – Investing for Social Impact	–	(885)	(885)
Local Access Programme – Access Foundation	17,574	(16,848)	726
Safeguarding Partnership – funded jointly by Dept, for Digital Culture Media and Sport and the National Lottery Community Fund	66,095	(66,095)	–
North East England Climate Coalition – North of England Commissioning Support	37,126	(37,126)	–
North East Climate Coalition – Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	10,000	(10,000)	–
Design HOPS	2,200	(2,200)	–
VONNE Climate Action Alliance Catalyst Discovery Programme Definition	1,350	(1,350)	–
CVD Networks – VCS Engagement	10,000	(250)	9,750
VONNE Climate Action Alliance – Lankelly Chase	60,000	(35,243)	24,757
Ann Cleeves Community Reading Facilitators	35,000	(400)	34,600
COVID-19 Response Grant – County Durham Community Foundation	6,000	(6,000)	–
COVID-19 Response Grant Community Foundation Tyne & Wear & Northumberland	10,000	(10,000)	–
COVID-19 Response Grant National Lottery Community Fund	38,602	(17,324)	21,278
VONNE Climate Action Alliance Catalyst Discovery Programme	5,000	(5,000)	–
PHE Health Inequalities/ COVID-19	9,000	–	9,000
VCS Emergencies Partnership - NAVCA	9,500	(9,500)	–
County Durham Community Foundation – Covid Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland Dept for DCMS (Big Night In)	<u>5,000</u>	<u>(3,268)</u>	<u>1,732</u>
	9,560	(9,560)	–
	348,453	(268,556)	79,897
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>695,511</u>	<u>(553,744)</u>	<u>141,767</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

15 Movement in funds (continued)

<i>For the year ended 31 March 2020</i>	<i>At 1 April 2019 £</i>	<i>Net movement in funds £</i>	<i>Transfers between funds £</i>	<i>At 31 March 2020 £</i>
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	154,988	3,397	(61,555)	96,830
Yes We Can Leadership	<u>—</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>50</u>
	154,988	3,447	(61,555)	96,880
<i>Designated funds:</i>				
Project development & innovation fund	16,443	(21,681)	25,238	20,000
Redundancy fund	10,577	—	7,067	17,644
Repair and replacement fund	5,000	(4,698)	2,198	2,500
Maternity, sickness & jury service reserve	35,897	(1,068)	8,424	43,253
Organisational development fund	36,990	—	(14,990)	22,000
COVID-19 working arrangements reconfiguration fund	—	—	5,000	5,000
Office reconfiguration fund	—	—	10,000	10,000
ERDF Innovation Clusters Match fund	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>18,618</u>	<u>18,618</u>
	259,895	(24,000)	—	235,895
Restricted funds				
Connect Fund North East – Investing for Social Impact	<u>15,532</u>	<u>(15,532)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
	15,532	(15,532)	—	—
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>275,427</u>	<u>(39,532)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>235,895</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

15 Movement in funds (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2020 (continued)

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in funds £
Designated funds			
<i>Project Development & Innovation Fund</i>	–	(21,681)	(21,681)
<i>Maternity, sickness and Jury Fund</i>	–	(1,068)	(1,068)
<i>Repair and replacement</i>	–	(4,698)	(4,698)
	–	(27,447)	(27,447)
Unrestricted funds			
<i>General Fund</i>	92,779	(89,382)	3,397
<i>Millfield House Foundation</i>	42,000	(42,000)	–
<i>Hadrian Trust</i>	1,000	(1,000)	–
<i>Clinks</i>	47,509	(47,509)	–
<i>Northern Powergrid – Community Engagement</i>	14,880	(14,880)	–
<i>Yes We Can Leadership Training</i>	7,000	(6,950)	50
<i>The National Lottery Community Fund</i>	10,000	(10,000)	–
<i>Northern Powergrid – Event Co-ordination</i>	9,933	(9,933)	–
<i>Development & Co-ordination Support MEA</i>			
<i>Trust</i>	12,252	(12,252)	–
<i>North of England Commissioning Support –</i>			
<i>VCSE engagement in health</i>	27,800	(27,800)	–
	265,153	(261,706)	3,447
Restricted funds			
<i>Funding Information North East</i>	12,000	(12,000)	–
<i>ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters</i>	14,081	(14,081)	–
<i>Connect Fund North East – Investing for Social</i>			
<i>Impact</i>	8,000	(23,532)	(15,532)
<i>Local Access Programme – Access</i>			
<i>Foundation</i>	11,868	(11,868)	–
<i>VCSE Sustainability Partnership Project</i>			
<i>(Development Phase) – National Lottery</i>			
<i>Community Fund</i>	11,655	(11,655)	–
<i>Safeguarding Partnership – funded jointly by</i>			
<i>Dept, for Digital Culture Media and Sport and</i>			
<i>the National Lottery Community Fund</i>	31,505	(31,505)	–
<i>North East Climate Coalition – North of</i>			
<i>England Commissioning Support</i>	10,000	(10,000)	–
<i>North East Climate Coalition – Community</i>			
<i>Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland</i>	10,000	(10,000)	–
	109,109	(124,641)	(15,532)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>374,262</u>	<u>(413,794)</u>	<u>(39,532)</u>

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

15 Movement in funds (*continued*)

Designated Funds:

The designated funds were established in 2007/08 for the initial support or extensions to special projects and are reviewed annually by the trustees. They are as follows:

Organisational Development Fund

To meet the development costs of new income generation/sustainability activities for VONNE including significant staff development investments. Any activities funded would include a proportion of related staff costs. In order to meet the expected costs of the 'Business Development Plan' a transfer has been made.

Project Development & Innovation Fund

A project development fund to support new initiatives and unforeseen project activities to strengthen the VCSE sector in the North East or the sustainability of VONNE. The fund was increased in the year in order to improve the VCSE sector and allocate further resources.

Maternity, Sickness and Jury Service Fund

To cover additional staffing costs due to extended periods of absence. The fund has been increased slightly in the year, in order to match the increases in salary costs.

ERDF Innovation Clusters Match Fund

Funding committed to match ERDF funding for the Innovation Clusters project. Due to the project continuing to 2023, a transfer has been made into designated reserves to match the forecasted spends.

Repairs & Renewals Fund

To meet the on-going costs of repairing and replacing capital equipment, and in particular IT equipment. A transfer was made this year in order to maintain the brought forward fund balance.

Redundancy Fund

To cover the costs of redundancy for individuals whose posts may be lost during restructure or as a result of funding streams coming to an end. This was increased in the year due to the length of service with staff continuing to increase.

COVID-19 Working Arrangements Reconfiguration Fund

To meet the specific costs of COVID-19 reconfigurations to the VONNE office.

Office Reconfiguration Fund

To meet the costs of longer-term reconfigurations to the VONNE office to enable a more flexible working space.

Unrestricted Funds:

They are as follows:

Millfield House Foundation

Strategic partner core funding to support the work of VONNE.

Sir James Knott Trust – Professor James Retirement Donation "Community of Interest" (in the care of the frail and elderly community in the NE)

Held in trust by VONNE to support work agreed with the Ageing Well Community of Practice – grant passed onto Pioneering Care Partnership to support the delivery of a social prescriber/ health coach pilot project.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

15 Movement in funds *(continued)*

Clinks

Engagement of the VCSE in criminal justice policy and practice.

County Durham Community Foundation

Unrestricted core grant to support the work of VONNE through Membership+ bursaries.

Development & Coordination Support MEA Trust

To deliver development and coordination support activities with tenants of MEA House and the wider VCSE sector.

Hadrian Trust

Unrestricted core grant to support the work of VONNE through Membership+ bursaries.

Northern Powergrid Community Engagement

Partnership work with Northern Powergrid to support their engagement with the VCSE sector and services for vulnerable customers.

Northern Powergrid – Event Coordination

A contract to coordinate and deliver a Future Fairness Panel of VCSE organisations working with 'seldom heard' customers as part of their Stakeholder Engagement Programme.

North East Funders Network

To deliver North East Funders Network activities.

North of England Commissioning Support – VCSE engagement in health

To deliver engagement with the VCSE sector in health structures and workstreams.

Yes We Can Leadership Training

Leadership & management training for VCSE sector.

Charity Digital North East

Project development costs relating to supporting the VCSE sector with digital technology.

Restricted Funds:

They are as follows:

Connect Fund North East – Investing for Social Impact

To engage VCSE organisations and stakeholders in the North East to develop a strategy for social investment.

ERDF: Catalysing Innovation in NE Clusters

ERDF/ Innovate UK funded project to support the VCSE sector with innovation.

FINE – Funding Information North East

To provide funding information to North East VCSE sector organisations through e-bulletin and an online, searchable directory.

Local Access Programme – Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool

Development funding from Access Foundation for the Local Access enterprise development & blended finance programme in Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool.

North East Climate Coalition

Work to convene a cross-sectoral coalition across the North East to address the climate emergency, ecological breakdown and the just transition to a low carbon future.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

15 Movement in funds *(continued)*

Safeguarding Partnerships

Funded jointly by Department for Digital Culture Media and Sport and The National Lottery Community Fund to disseminate NCVO safeguarding resources locally and deliver regular training sessions and create new or build on existing networks.

Design Hops – Cast

Funding from CAST (Centre for the Advancement of Social Technology) to host and facilitate Design Hop events in the North East.

VONNE Climate Action Alliance

An Alliance of 18 VCSE organisations seeking to support the wider VCSE sector to take climate action, and support nature and a just transition to a low carbon future. Funded by Lankelly Chase and the Catalyst Covid-19 Digital Discovery & Definition Programmes

CVD Networks – VCS Engagement

Funding to support VCSE engagement in Cardio-Vascular Disease prevention and treatment.

Ann Cleaves Community Reading Facilitators

Donation from author Ann Cleaves to support Community Reading Facilitators to help people access books to improve their health and wellbeing in five North East local authorities.

COVID-19 Response and Recovery Grants

Funding received from County Durham Community Foundation, Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland, Dept. for Digital, Media, Culture & Sport (Big Night In) and the National Lottery Community Fund to fund VONNE's work to support the VCSE response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

National Academy for Social Prescribing

Funding to deliver regional coordination role for the North East, Yorkshire & Humber on behalf of the national Academy for Social Prescribing.

Public Health England Health Inequalities/ COVID-19

Funding to support VCSE sector engagement in health inequalities/ COVID-19 research

VCS Emergencies Partnership – NAVCA

Funding for VONNE's North East regional Liaison Lead role with the VCS Emergencies Partnership, to promote the 'unmet needs' support service for the VCSE sector during the COVID-19 pandemic and facilitate intelligence and information sharing at a regional and sub-national level.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31 March 2021 £
Fixed assets	13,348	–	–	13,348
Net current assets/(liabilities)	<u>74,345</u>	<u>188,126</u>	<u>101,843</u>	<u>364,314</u>
	87,693	188,126	101,843	377,662

For the year ended 31 March 2020

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31 March 2020 £
Fixed assets	14,015	–	–	14,015
Net current assets/(liabilities)	<u>82,865</u>	<u>139,015</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>221,880</u>
	96,880	139,015	–	235,895

17 Cash generated from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net movement in funds	141,767	(39,532)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation	6,757	4,988
Interest receivable	(3,156)	(3,149)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Debtors	35,512	(163,056)
Creditors	<u>73,038</u>	<u>219,404</u>
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>253,918</u>	<u>18,655</u>

18 Commitments under operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Within 1 year	–	1,245
Within 2 – 5 years	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>

19 Related Party Disclosures

No transactions with related parties were undertaken such as are required to be disclosed under Financial Reporting Standard 102.