

**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**

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**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 31<sup>st</sup>, 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:**

<b>Project development and innovation fund</b> 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
<b>Repair and renewals fund</b> To meet the ongoing costs of repairing and replacing capital equipment, and in particular, IT equipment.	£2,500
<b>Staff contingencies and liabilities fund</b> 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
<b>Website development</b> 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
<b>TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS</b>	<b>£103,525</b>
<b>Unrestricted (allocated) reserves</b>	<b>£6,509</b>
<b>Unrestricted (free) reserves</b>	<b>£178,548</b>

## 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**

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## **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**

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**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**

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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](http://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 £
<b>INCOME FROM:</b>						
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>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<u>287,410</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>2,090,377</u>	<u>2,377,787</u>	<u>1,864,355</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>						
<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>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	6	<u>(396,563)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(1,301,105)</u>	<u>(1,697,668)</u>	<u>(1,242,875)</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<u>(109,153)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>789,272</u>	<u>680,119</u>	<u>621,480</u>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	14	<u>180,885</u>	<u>(62,308)</u>	<u>(118,577)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	7	<u>71,732</u>	<u>(62,308)</u>	<u>670,695</u>	<u>680,119</u>	<u>621,480</u>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>113,325</u>	<u>165,833</u>	<u>831,908</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>	<u>489,586</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<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 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Intangible assets	10	30,525	23,162
Tangible assets	11	<u>5,201</u>	<u>8,614</u>
		35,726	31,776
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
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
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(175,356)</u>	<u>(335,226)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		1,755,459	1,079,290
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>1,791,185</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>1,791,185</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>			
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>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	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>
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>		<u>(232,785)</u>	<u>282,751</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
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>
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<u>(15,226)</u>	<u>(28,476)</u>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		(248,011)	254,275
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>		<u>922,119</u>	<u>667,844</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>		<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**

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#### **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

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#### 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>2023</i>
		<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
<b>INCOME FROM:</b>					
Investment income	4	63	—	—	63
Charitable activities	5	<u>349,567</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,514,725</u>	<u>1,864,292</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<u>349,630</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,514,725</u>	<u>1,864,355</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Charitable activities		<u>(320,751)</u>	<u>(62,086)</u>	<u>(860,038)</u>	<u>(1,242,875)</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	6	<u>(320,751)</u>	<u>(62,086)</u>	<u>(860,038)</u>	<u>(1,242,875)</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		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
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		<u>91,932</u>	<u>244,683</u>	<u>152,971</u>	<u>489,586</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>113,325</u>	<u>165,833</u>	<u>831,908</u>	<u>1,111,066</u>

### 4 Investment income

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>£</b>	
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>
<b>Total</b>	<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>
<b>Total</b>	<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):

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
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**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
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:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
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:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
£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**

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

**11 Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Fittings and fittings £</b>	<b>Computer Equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>COST</b>			
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	<u>14,325</u>	<u>20,734</u>	<u>35,059</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
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	<u>12,481</u>	<u>17,377</u>	<u>29,858</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
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**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
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**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
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> <b>2023</b>	<b>Receivable</b>	<b>Released</b>	<b>31 March</b> <b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
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**

<b>For the year ended 31 March 2024</b>	<i>At 1 April 2023 £</i>	<b>Net movement in funds £</b>	<b>Transfers between funds £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2024 £</b>
<b>Designated funds</b>				
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
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
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
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
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>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<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 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
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)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
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>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<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 £
<b>Designated funds</b>				
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>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
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>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
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>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<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 £
<b>Designated funds</b>			
Redundancy fund	–	(55,237)	(55,237)
Office Reconfiguration fund	–	(1,849)	(1,849)
Project development & innovation fund	–	(5,000)	(5,000)
	–	(62,086)	(62,086)
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
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	104,671	(78,805)	25,866
	349,630	(320,751)	28,879
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
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	6,000	(14,000)	(8,000)
	1,514,725	(860,038)	654,687
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	1,864,355	(1,242,875)	621,480

## VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS' NETWORK NORTH EAST

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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#### 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**

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**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**

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**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

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#### 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**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Designated Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>31 March 2024 £</b>
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**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Designated Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>31 March 2023 £</b>
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**

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

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
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.