Signpost For Carers

England & Wales · Charity number 1085727

Details

Other names	SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	04176004
Registered	2001-03-22
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Heatons Centre Thornfield Road Heaton Moor Stockport Cheshire SK4 3LD
Phone	01614420442
Email	info@signpostforcarers.org.uk
Website	www.signpostforcarers.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO SERVE THE DISTRICT OF THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT AND ANY OTHER NEARBY OR ADJOINING DISTRICT WHICH THE BOARD MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DETERMINE IN ALLEVIATING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE AMONGST PEOPLE WHO ARE IN NECESSITOUS CIRCUMSTANCES AND WHO ARE CARING OR WHO HAVE CARED FOR A PERSON WHO HAS MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS HAS A PHYSICAL OR SENSORY DISABILITY HAS A LEARNING DISABILITIES OR WHOSE HEALTH IS IMPAIRED BY SICKNESS OR OLD AGE AND OF DEPENDANTS OF CARERS WHO ARE THEMSELVES IN NECESSITOUS CIRCUMSTANCES AND FOR THAT PURPOSE TO PROMOTE THE RELIEF OF SUCH CARERS AS AFORESAID AND TO ADVANCE EDUCATION CONCERNING CARING AMONGST CARERS AND THE PUBLIC

Activities: Provides free, confidential information to carers of all ages, and professionals who work with carers, in the Stockport area.There is a Young Carers section, looking after young carers up to the age of 18.Carers Liaison are there for benefits advice and make home visits to help complete benefit claim forms.Carers Breaks provide grants for carers to have a rest from their caring role.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** THE DISTRICT OF THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT AND ANY OTHER NEARBY OR ADJOINING DISTRICT
- Stockport

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£911,082	£882,111	£540,609	33
2024-03-31	£933,940	£839,199	£511,638	18
2023-03-31	£759,708	£841,574	£416,897	37
2022-03-31	£649,500	£634,206	£498,763	16
2021-03-31	£602,226	£499,311	£483,469	20

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
PAUL CONNELLAN	Chair	2018-09-01
James Cox		2025-09-24
Jane Curzon		2025-09-24
Jilly Julian		2022-11-16
Lauren McCorry		2025-11-26
Lorraine Bardsley		2024-11-27
Myer James Lugassy		2024-01-18
Steven John Gear		2025-11-26

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Signpost For Carers

England & Wales - Charity number 1085727

Accounts

Registered Company number 4176004

Registered Charity Number 1085727

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Hilton Jones Limited t/a Community Accountancy Service
Hollinwood Business Centre
Albert Street
Oldham
OL8 3QL

Signpost Stockport for Carers
Unaudited Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

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Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2025

The Trustees present their annual directors' report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and administrative information

Charity Name: Signpost Stockport for Carers
Charity Number: 1085727
Company Number: 4176004

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law. The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Key management personnel: Trustees and Directors
Paul Connellan (Chair)
David Cox
Anthony White
Carol Rushton
Jennifer Crosbie
Jilly Julian
Ryan Greenhalgh
Myer James Lugassy
Lorraine Bardsley (appointed 27 November 2024)

Neil Cossey (appointed 22nd January 2025)

Senior managers
Bethan Kelly (Chief Executive Officer)

Company Secretary
Gill Bruder

Registered Office
The Heatons Centre
Thornfield Road, Heaton Moor
Stockport, Cheshire, SK4 3LD

Bankers
Royal Bank of Scotland
Drummond House (GK) Branch
Customer Services Centre
1 Redheughs Avenue
Edinburgh
EH12 9JN

Independent Examiners
Hilton Jones Limited
Hollinwood Business Centre
Albert Street
Oldham
OL8 3QL

Structure, governance and management

Signpost Stockport for Carers is a company limited by guarantee that is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 8th March 2001. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission dated 22nd March 2001.

Appointment of Trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association Trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable company attending the Annual General meeting.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees are given a Trustee Training and Guidance Pack which covers:

- The obligations of the Board of Trustees
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the last published accounts
- Future plans and objectives

A question and answers pack has also been prepared drawing information from the various Charity Commission publications. This is distributed to all new Trustees along with the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The board normally meets bi-monthly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the Charity. The members are drawn from a wide variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the Charity. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for working with the Board of Trustees to formulating the strategic direction of the charity and for the day-to-day operations of the charity with the assistance of service managers. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met and reporting these to the Board.

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are to serve the district of the Metropolitan Borough of Stockport in alleviating the conditions of life;

- amongst people, of all ages and ethnicity, who are caring and who have cared for a person who has mental health problems, has a physical or sensory disability, has learning disabilities or whose health is impaired by sickness or old age;
- and of dependants of carers who are themselves in need, and for that purpose to promote the relief of such carers as previously mentioned; and to advance education amongst carers and the public.

The main activities are carer support for people aged six and over. The charity furthers its charitable purposes for the public benefit through the provision of low cost accommodation, meeting and training facilities for organisations across sectors.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the policies for the year.

Chair's Foreword – Paul Connellan

This past year has been one of change and growth for us as a charity. We welcomed a new Chief Executive and several new members of staff, and together we have been able to support more carers than ever before.

Looking ahead, our ambition is to reach even more of Stockport's carers, especially those we have not yet connected with, so that no one feels they are facing the challenges of caring alone.

Our finances remain stable, but as a charity without long-term guaranteed income, we are always working to secure new funding. Much of what we receive is time-limited or tied to specific projects, so fundraising is an ongoing priority. We are deeply grateful to the charities, organisations, and individuals who have supported us this year. We also hope that more local people, including carers we've had the privilege of helping, will consider supporting us, whether through donations or by remembering us in their wills.

We know the challenges are growing. With an ageing population, the number of adult carers continues to rise, and every year we discover more young people quietly providing care. Whatever their age, carers need support — whether that's practical advice, guidance on what they are entitled to, or simply someone to listen when things feel overwhelming. Our commitment is to be there for carers in these moments, but we can only continue with the right resources in place.

We would like to give special thanks to Stockport Council. While many councils focus purely on the statutory duties for supporting carers, Stockport takes a broader and more compassionate approach, considering carers' holistic needs, investing in our service and community support. Their partnership makes a huge difference to what we are able to achieve for carers.

We move forward with hope, determination, and a clear focus: to continue making a positive difference in the lives of carers across Stockport.

Finally, I want to thank our dedicated staff team for their hard work and kindness, and my fellow Trustees for the time and energy they give so generously. Above all, I want to thank the carers themselves. You inspire everything we do, and we are proud to stand beside you.

Financial Review (2024/25)

- **Total income**: £911,082
- **Surplus for the year**: £28,971
- **Restricted reserves**: £75,049

- **Unrestricted reserves**: (£46,078)

The unrestricted deficit at year end reflects the timing of several payments due for the final quarter which were received shortly after year end. The Trustees therefore believe that the unrestricted reserves position does not indicate underlying instability, but rather a temporary reporting effect.

Despite challenging conditions, the charity has achieved a surplus, enabling continued investment in services to support carers.

Reserves Policy and Going Concern

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level equivalent to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. While the current unrestricted reserves are in deficit, this is a timing issue related to delayed income. Once this income is factored in, the reserves position is expected to recover to a more sustainable level.

The Trustees are confident that the charity remains a going concern. The combination of secured statutory contracts, grant income, and ongoing fundraising gives sufficient assurance that services can continue at the required level.

Plans for the Future

In the coming year, we will:

- Build on our work with Stockport Carers' Partnership and the borough's *Think Carer!* Strategy.
- Expand our outreach to connect with hidden carers, ensuring they have access to support and resources.
- Continue developing our young carers' programme in schools and communities.
- Explore new technologies and methods of communication to improve awareness and accessibility of our services.
- Strengthen our fundraising strategy to increase income from grants, corporate partnerships, and community giving.

Risk Management

The Trustees continue to be updated on the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and actions in place to mitigate those risks. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the Charity faces. External risks to funding

have led to the Trustees starting to review the strategic plan which will allow for the diversification of funding and activities. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff and volunteers. All policies are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the Charity.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or any other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a Trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

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

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

Approval

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on **24th September 2025** and signed on their behalf by:

Paul Connellan
Chairperson

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Signpost Stockport for Carers

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Signpost Stockport for Carers for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the

Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

Signed:

James Hilton-Jones FCCA
Hilton Jones Ltd t/a Community Accountancy Service
Hollinwood Business Centre, Albert Street, Oldham. OL8 3QL

24 September 2025

Signpost Stockport for Carers

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds 31 March 2025	Total Funds 31 March 2024
		£	£	£	£
Income					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		34,190	19,038	53,228	41,920
Charitable activities	3	13,113	738,310	751,423	790,964
Other income	4	93,225	6,119	99,344	95,176
Investments		7,087	-	7,087	5,880
Total		147,615	763,467	911,082	933,940
Expenditure					
Expenditure on:					
Grants made		-	31,655	31,655	50,121
Raising funds	6	35,702	-	35,702	49,563
Charitable activities	6	157,991	656,763	814,754	739,515
Total		193,693	688,418	882,111	839,199
Net income/(expenditure) before tax for the reporting period		(46,078)	75,049	28,971	94,741
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	14	390,514	121,124	511,638	416,897
Total funds carried forward	14	344,436	196,173	540,609	511,638

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources, and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 9 to 15 form part of these accounts.

Signpost Stockport for Carers
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Notes	Total funds 31 March 2025	Total Funds 31 March 2024
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	80,887	56,977
		80,887	56,977
Current assets			
Debtors	11	160,421	93,560
Cash at bank and in hand		496,794	465,423
		657,215	558,983
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(197,493)	(85,926)
Net current assets/(liabilities)		459,722	473,057
Total assets less current liabilities		540,609	530,034
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	13	-	(18,396)
Total net assets or liabilities		540,609	511,638
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted income funds	14	196,173	121,124
Unrestricted funds	14	344,436	390,514
Total funds		540,609	511,638

The company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Approved by the trustees on 24 Sep 2025.

Paul Connellan

Tony White

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

• the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014.

• the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

• and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

1.2 Funds Structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There are 4 restricted funds. Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.
Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 14.

1.3 Income Recognition

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

Grants and donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a grant or donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

1.4 Expendiure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note 1.6 below.

1.5 Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

1.6 **Allocation of support and governance costs**

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.
Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on type of expense. The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 6.

1.7 **Charitable Activities**

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in note 5.

1.8 **Taxation**

The organisation is exempt from income tax by reason of its charitable status. Income tax suffered on investment income is reclaimed in full. The Charity is not registered for VAT.

1.9 **Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and valued at historical cost. Depreciation is charged on the following basis:

Computer equipment	20% on cost
Motor vehicles	20% on cost
Fixtures & equipment	20% on cost
Land & buildings	10% on cost

1.10 **Pensions**

The charity administers contributions to a pension scheme that is auto-enrolement compliant. Contributions are charged to expenditure as they fall due. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for its employees contributions.

1.11 **Contingent liabilities**

A contingent liability is identified and disclosed for those transactions resulting from a possible obligation which will only be confirmed by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the trustees control.

1.12 **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.

1.13 **Creditors and provisions**

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

2 **Related party transactions and trustees' expenses and remuneration**

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted 31/03/2025 £	Restricted 31/03/2025 £	Total 31/03/2025 £	Total 31/03/2024 £
Stockport CCG - Young Carers Core	-	40,466	40,466	30,713
Stockport CCG - Adult	-	-	-	14,594
SMBC - Young Carers	-	222,324	222,324	167,000
SMBC Adult Carers - Carers Support Hub	-	323,028	323,028	250,620
SMBC Adult Carers - Stockport Mind	-	-	-	49,380
SMBC Adult Carers - Carers Partnership	-	-	-	11,200
SMBC Adult Carers - Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund	-	-	-	10,000
SMBC Adult Carers - Warm Space Fund	-	-	-	1,000
Henry Smith	-	39,700	39,700	38,000
Electricity North West Partner Grant	-	-	-	16,500
Triangle Trust	-	-	-	11,368
Oglesby	-	10,500	10,500	21,000
BBC - Childern in Need	-	24,142	24,142	14,538
Age UK	-	11,529	11,529	11,529
Stockport Local Fund	-	-	-	19,994
Household Support Fund	-	53,678	53,678	72,675
GMCVO - Enterprise Activity Support	-	10,945	10,945	32,955
Broome Family Trust	-	-	-	5,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-	5,000
NHS GM Integrated Care - Big Brain Health Fund	-	-	-	3,398
Other Grants	-	1,998	1,998	4,500
Other Grants	13,113	-	13,113	-
	13,113	738,310	751,423	790,964

3 Income from charitable activities

Previous reporting period	Unrestricted 31/03/2024 £	Restricted 31/03/2024 £	Total 31/03/2024 £
Stockport CCG - Young Carers Core	-	30,713	30,713
Stockport CCG - Adult	-	14,594	14,594
SMBC - Young Carers	-	167,000	167,000
SMBC Adult Carers - Carers Support Hub	-	250,620	250,620
SMBC Adult Carers - Stockport Mind	-	49,380	49,380
SMBC Adult Carers - Carers Partnership	-	11,200	11,200
SMBC Adult Carers - Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund	-	10,000	10,000
SMBC Adult Carers - Warm Space Fund	-	1,000	1,000
Henry Smith	-	38,000	38,000
Electricity North West Partner Grant	-	16,500	16,500
Triangle Trust	-	11,368	11,368
Oglesby	-	21,000	21,000
BBC - Childern in Need	-	14,538	14,538
Age UK	-	11,529	11,529
Stockport Local Fund	-	19,994	19,994
Household Support Fund	7,000	-	7,000
Household Support Fund	-	65,675	65,675
GMCVO - Enterprise Activity Support	-	32,955	32,955
Broome Family Trust	-	5,000	5,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	5,000	5,000
NHS GM Integrated Care - Big Brain Health Fund	-	3,398	3,398
Other Grants	-	4,500	4,500
	7,000	783,964	790,964

4 Other income

	Unrestricted 31/03/2025 £	Restricted 31/03/2025 £	Total 31/03/2025 £	Total 31/03/2024 £
Rental, room hire & services income	81,509	-	81,509	81,571
Photocopying	-	-	-	556
Staff secondment	-	-	-	10,610
Training	-	-	-	634
Student placement fees	-	-	-	1,400
Other	11,716	6,119	17,835	405
	93,225	6,119	99,344	95,176

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted 31/03/2024 £	Restricted 31/03/2024 £	Total 31/03/2024 £
Rental, room hire & services income	81,571	-	81,571
Photocopying	556	-	556
Staff secondment	10,610	-	10,610
Training	-	634	634
Student placement fees	-	1,400	1,400
Other	150	255	405
	92,887	2,289	95,176

5 Grants made

32 monetary awards totalling £31,665 were made from the Household Support Fund.

6 Expenditure

	Unrestricted 31/03/2025 £	Restricted 31/03/2025 £	Total 31/03/2025 £	Total 31/03/2024 £
Expenditure on raising funds				
Employment Costs	1,252	-	1,252	13,383
Depreciation	4,466	-	4,466	6,755
Business rates	1,597	-	1,597	1,535
Repairs & maintenance	6,184	-	6,184	4,185
Heat, light & water	7,507	-	7,507	8,766
Cleaning	7,161	-	7,161	6,105
Insurance	2,177	-	2,177	2,438
Health & safety	1,573	-	1,573	808
Telephone	3,127	-	3,127	4,033
Refreshments	-	-	-	139
Bad debts	-	-	-	647
Fundraising support	658	-	658	769
	35,702	-	35,702	49,563

6 Expenditure

Previous reporting period	Unrestricted 31/03/2024 £	Restricted 31/03/2024 £	Total 31/03/2024 £
Expenditure on raising funds			
Employment Costs	13,383	-	13,383
Depreciation	6,755	-	6,755
Business rates	1,535	-	1,535
Repairs & maintenance	4,185	-	4,185
Heat, light & water	8,766	-	8,766
Cleaning	6,105	-	6,105
Insurance	2,438	-	2,438
Health & safety	808	-	808
Telephone	4,033	-	4,033
Refreshments	139	-	139
Bad debts	647	-	647
Fundraising support	769	-	769
	49,563	-	49,563

7 Expenditure

	Adult Carer Services	Young Carers	Total	Total
	31/03/2025	31/03/2025	31/03/2025	31/03/2024
	£	£	£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities				
Employment Costs	348,266	250,392	598,658	508,989
Recruitment & dbs checks	-	613	613	176
Staff welfare & support	2,057	375	2,432	747
Training	772	440	1,212	2,303
Travel	1,521	3,798	5,319	2,781
Partner payments - stockport mind	-	58,560	58,560	49,380
Advertising & publicity & events	3,214	2,543	5,757	3,326
Carers activities, outings & residentials	9,577	3,872	13,449	20,518
Translation	144	-	144	95
Carers & support worker other	720	168	888	2,474
Volunteer expenses	68	42	110	1,904
Vehicle expenses	149	232	381	2,022
Counselling fees	3,841	570	4,411	15,717
Room hire	402	106	508	297
Respite	2,605	-	2,605	147
Project evaluation		-	-	2,850
Support Costs	92,863	-	92,863	113,521
Governance	26,844	-	26,844	12,268
	493,043	321,711	814,754	739,515
Restricted funds			656,763	701,231
Unrestricted funds			157,991	38,284
			814,754	739,515

7 Expenditure

	Adult Carer Services	Young Carers	Total
	31/03/2024	31/03/2024	31/03/2024
	£	£	£
Previous reporting period			
Employment Costs	323,163	185,826	508,989
Recruitment & dbs checks	-	176	176
Staff welfare & support	747		747
Training	2,213	90	2,303
Travel	1,850	931	2,781
Partner payments - stockport mind	49,380	-	49,380
Advertising & publicity & events	3,326	-	3,326
Carers activities, outings & residentials	9,474	11,044	20,518
Translation	-	95	95
Carers & support worker other	1,731	743	2,474
Volunteer expenses	1,784	120	1,904
Vehicle expenses	-	2,022	2,022
Counselling fees	12,788	2,929	15,717
Room hire	297	-	297
Respite	147		147
Project evaluation	2,850		2,850
Support Costs	84,348	29,173	113,521
Governance	11,503	765	12,268
	505,601	233,914	739,515
Restricted funds			701,231
Unrestricted funds			38,284
			739,515

8 Allocation of governance & support costs

The breakdown of support costs and how these were allocated between governance and other support costs is shown below

Current Year	Basis of apportionment	General support	Governance	Total 31/03/2025
		£	£	£
Accountancy	Governance	-	18,908	18,908
Legal & Professional Fees	Governance	-	7,804	7,804
Strategic & Management Support	Governance	-	132	132
Computer maintenance & software	Area Used	11,619	-	11,619
Website support costs	Direct	1,913	-	1,913
Minor equipment	Direct	934	-	934
Vehicle Expenses	Direct	1,767	-	1,767
Depreciation	Area Used	8,932	-	8,932
Publications & subscriptions	Direct	2,691	-	2,691
Repairs & maintenance	Area Used	12,368	-	12,368
Heat, light & water	Area Used	15,917	-	15,917
Cleaning	Area Used	14,361	-	14,361
Insurance	Area Used	4,354	-	4,354
Health & safety	Area Used	3,145	-	3,145
Telephone	Area Used	6,254	-	6,254
Printing & stationery	Direct	3,403	-	3,403
Postage	Direct	1,311	-	1,311
Sundries	Direct	715	-	715
Refreshments	Direct	3,750	-	3,750
Loan interest	Governance	- 1,120	-	- 1,120
Bank & lender charges	Governance	549	-	549
		92,863	26,844	119,707

8 Allocation of governance & support costs

Previous Year	Basis of apportionment	General support	Governance	Total 31/03/2024
		£	£	£
Accountancy	Governance	-	3,040	3,040
Legal & Professional Fees	Governance	-	6,566	6,566
Strategic & Management Support	Governance	-	188	188
Staff Salaries	Staff Time	22,270	2,474	24,744
Computer maintenance & software	Area Used	8,083	-	8,083
Website support costs	Direct	2,436	-	2,436
Minor equipment	Direct	761	-	761
Depreciation	Area Used	13,509	-	13,509
Publications & subscriptions	Direct	2,872	-	2,872
Repairs & maintenance	Area Used	8,371	-	8,371
Heat, light & water	Area Used	17,533	-	17,533
Cleaning	Area Used	12,210	-	12,210
Insurance	Area Used	4,876	-	4,876
Health & safety	Area Used	1,616	-	1,616
Telephone	Area Used	8,066	-	8,066
Printing & stationery	Direct	4,050	-	4,050
Postage	Direct	769	-	769
Sundries	Direct	793	-	793
Refreshments	Direct	1,487	-	1,487
Loan interest	Governance	3,339	-	3,339
Bank & lender charges	Governance	480	-	480
		113,521	12,268	125,789

9 Analysis of staff costs

	Total 31/03/2025	Total 31/03/2024
	£	£
Wages & salaries	585,577	510,215
Pension costs - defined contribution	14,333	12,157
	599,910	522,372
Charitable activities	598,658	533,733
Raising funds	1,252	13,383
	599,910	547,116
Average number of employees	33	18
Employment benefits, including employer pension contribiutions to key management personnel:	30,675	29,404
Number of employees with benefits in excess of £60,000	-	-

The charity considers its key management personnel comprises the Chair and senior managers.

10 Tangible assets

	Land & Buildings	Building Improvements	Vehicles	Computer Equipment	Fixtures & Equipment	Total 31/03/2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost						
At 1 April 2024	1	286,267	35,620	59,457	49,387	430,732
Additions	-	24,522	-	7,545	5,240	37,307
At 31/03/2025	1	310,789	35,620	67,002	54,627	468,039
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2024	1	241,525	35,620	50,888	45,721	373,755
Charge	-	7,079	-	4,820	1,498	13,397
At 31/03/2025	1	248,604	35,620	55,708	47,219	387,152
Net book value						
31 March 2025	-	62,185	-	11,294	7,408	80,887
31 March 2024	-	44,742	-	8,569	3,666	56,977

11 Debtors

	Total 31/03/2025	Total 31/03/2024
	£	£
Other debtors	154,149	86,736
Prepayments and accrued income	6,272	6,824
	160,421	93,560

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total 31/03/2025	Total 31/03/2024
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	7,406
Accruals	6,999	23,031
Deferred income	30,295	47,129
Other creditors	160,199	8,360
	197,493	85,926

Included in other creditors is an amount for £137,344 due to Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council for £137,344 which was paid on 14th April 2025.

13 Accruals and deferred income

Deferred income comprises grants relating to a period beyond the year end.

	Total 31/03/2025	Total 31/03/2024
	£	£
Movement in deferred income account.		
At 1 April 2024	47,129	36,324
Added in period	30,295	47,129
Amounts released to income earned from charitable activities	(47,129)	(36,324)
31 March 2025	30,295	47,129

14 Analysis of charitable funds

Current Year	Balance at 01 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds					
Restricted Capital Funds					
SMBC - cellar refurbishment	1,143	-	(551)	-	592
Mayor's Charity - cellar refurbishment	450	-	(217)	-	233
The Morrison's Foundation - cellar	2,790	-	(850)	-	1,940
Adult Social Care & Carers					
Age UK	-	11,529	(11,529)	-	-
Gr Mcr NHS Integrated Care - BBH	-	11,046	(12,079)	1,033	-
Household Support Fund	15,939	53,678	(45,362)	-	24,255
Stockport CCG	3,036	-	-	-	3,036
SMBC - Carer Respite	4,701	-	-	-	4,701
SMBC - Mental Health & Wellbeing	1,250	1,466	(2,604)	-	112
Stockport Local Fund	6,466	-	-	-	6,466
SMBC Adult Carers	8,113	337,214	(288,834)	-	56,493
Big Lottery	-	-	(500)	500	-
Henry Smith	10,490	39,700	(50,190)	-	-
GMCVO - Enterprise Activity Support	32,955	-	-	-	32,955
Other Grants - adults	-	1,998	(3,610)	1,612	-
Young Carers					-
SMBC Soc Services	29,879	222,324	(196,417)	-	55,786
Stockport CCG - Young Carers	-	45,961	(31,492)	-	14,469
Triangle Trust	3,574	234	(3,808)	-	-
BBC Children In Need	(12,655)	27,817	(16,882)	1,720	-
Oglesby Charitable Trust	12,993	10,500	(23,493)	-	-
	121,124	763,467	(688,418)	4,865	201,038
Unrestricted Funds					
General Funds	264,072	147,615	(187,070)	(8,010)	216,607
Capital Funds (spent)	13,358	-	-	-	13,358
Designated - Database Upgrade	3,654	-	-	(3,654)	-
Designated - Building Maintenance	72,823	-	(6,622)	-	66,201
Designated Funds - Contingency	36,607	-	-	-	36,607
	390,514	147,615	(193,692)	(11,664)	332,773
	511,638	911,082	(882,110)	(6,799)	533,811

Signpost Stockport for Carers
Notes to the Accounts
31 March 2025

Previous Year	Balance at 01 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds					
Restricted Capital Funds					
Donation - Minibus	7,124	-	(7,124)	-	-
SMBC - cellar refurbishment	1,694	-	(551)	-	1,143
Mayor's Charity -cellar refurbishment	667	-	(217)	-	450
The Morrison's Foundation - cellar	3,640	-	(850)	-	2,790
Age UK	-	11,529	(15,732)	4,203	-
Gr Mcr NHS Integrated Care - BBH	-	3,398	(3,398)	-	-
Household Support Fund	385	65,675	(50,121)	-	15,939
Stockport CCG	807	14,594	(12,365)	-	3,036
SMBC - Carer Respite	4,792	-	(91)	-	4,701
SMBC - Mental Health & Wellbeing	-	10,000	(8,750)	-	1,250
SMBC - Carers Partnership	-	11,200	(11,200)	-	-
SMBC - Warm Space Fund	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Stockport Local Fund	-	19,994	(13,528)	-	6,466
SMBC Adult Carers	926	300,000	(292,813)	-	8,113
Electricity North West	-	16,500	(17,761)	1,261	-
Big Lottery	21,625	-	(24,171)	2,546	-
Henry Smith	10,490	38,000	(38,000)	-	10,490
GMCVO - Enterprise Activity Support	-	32,955	-	-	32,955
Other Grants - adults	-	14,500	(14,500)	-	-
Young Carers					-
SMBC Soc Services	-	167,000	(137,121)	-	29,879
Stockport CCG - Young Carers	8,087	30,713	(38,800)	-	-
Triangle Trust	3,700	11,368	(11,494)	-	3,574
Student Placement & other	-	2,214	(2,214)	-	-
BBC Children In Need	6,480	14,538	(33,673)	-	(12,655)
Oglesby Charitable Trust	2,193	21,000	(10,200)	-	12,993
	72,610	786,178	(745,674)	8,010	121,124
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	245,102	147,762	(84,028)	(44,764)	264,072
Capital Funds (spent)	17,920	-	(4,562)	-	13,358
Designated - Database Upgrade	6,182	-	(1,118)	(1,410)	3,654
Designated - Building Maintenance	38,476	-	(3,817)	38,164	72,823
Designated Funds - Contingency	36,607	-	-	-	36,607
	344,287	147,762	(93,525)	(8,010)	390,514
	416,897	933,940	(839,199)	-	511,638

Signpost For Carers

England & Wales - Charity number 1085727

Accounts

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

Registered Charity No. 1085727

Registered Limited Company No. 4176004

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

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SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2024

The Trustees present their annual directors' report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and administrative information

Charity Name: Signpost Stockport for Carers
Charity Number: 1085727
Company Number: 4176004

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law. The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Key management personnel: Trustees and Directors

Paul Connellan (Chair)
Paul Howes (Treasurer)
David Cox (Chair)
Anthony White
Carol Rushton
Jennifer Crosbie
Jilly Julian
Ryan Greenhalgh
Myer Lugassy (appointed 18th January 2024)
Barry Parkes (resigned 27th November 2023)

Senior managers

Julia Hewer (Chief Executive Officer)

Company Secretary

Hannah Quirk

Registered Office

The Heatons Centre
Thornfield Road, Heaton Moor
Stockport, Cheshire, SK4 3LD

Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland
Drummond House (GK) Branch
Customer Services Centre
1 Redheughs Avenue
Edinburgh
EH12 9JN

Independent Examiners

Community Accountancy Service Limited
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive
Beswick
Manchester
M11 3TQ

Structure, governance and management

Signpost Stockport for Carers is a company limited by guarantee that is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 8th March 2001. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission dated 22nd March 2001.

Appointment of Trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association Trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable company attending the Annual General meeting.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees are given a Trustee Training and Guidance Pack which covers:

- The obligations of the Board of Trustees
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the last published accounts
- Future plans and objectives

A question and answers pack has also been prepared drawing information from the various Charity Commission publications. This is distributed to all new Trustees along with the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The board normally meets bi-monthly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the Charity. The members are drawn from a wide variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the Charity. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for working with the Board of Trustees to formulating the strategic direction of the charity and for the day-to-day operations of the charity with

the assistance of service managers. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met and reporting these to the Board.

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are to serve the district of the Metropolitan Borough of Stockport in alleviating the conditions of life;

- amongst people, of all ages and ethnicity, who are caring and who have cared for a person who has mental health problems, has a physical or sensory disability, has learning disabilities or whose health is impaired by sickness or old age;
- and of dependants of carers who are themselves in need, and for that purpose to promote the relief of such carers as previously mentioned; and to advance education amongst carers and the public.

The main activities are carer support for people aged six and over. The charity furthers its charitable purposes for the public benefit through the provision of low cost accommodation, meeting and training facilities for organisations across sectors.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the policies for the year.

Activities and Achievements

At Signpost Stockport for Carers, our carers are at the centre of everything that we do.

This year, we have made concerted efforts to sustain and develop our services and support in line with our values of Compassion, Connection, Empowerment, Respect and Excellence.

This year, Signpost has been instrumental in the development of Stockport's Carers Strategy and Carers Partnership Board along with a wider carers network which draws from the lived experiences to inform systems change. **This is a significant achievement for Signpost, the borough of Stockport and all Stockport carers**. We are proud to be co-chairing and facilitating the board, launching the training, and administering and developing the network and its membership and are excited to develop it further over the coming year.

We have continued to work in accordance with our strategic plan, developing and cementing our position in the borough as a **navigator, organiser and voice for carers**. From first contact through to core service delivery and on to follow up and after care, the whole organisation has remained true to its belief that being a carer should not be a barrier to leading a fulfilling life.

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

From April 2023 to March 2024, we registered **more than 500 new adult carers and 106 new young carers.** For some, talking to Signpost is the first conversation that they have had about their caring role. Our team of carer and family support workers have the skills, experience, time and space to listen to the individual's experience and work with them explore what is right for them with regards to ongoing support, empowering them to meet the challenges presented by having caring responsibilities.

There are many commonalities in the experiences of carers, regardless of the age of the carer or the cared for. This year, carers have continued to tell us that they feel –

Stressed Anxious Resentment Guilt

Isolated Frustrated Pressured

This is why the work of our charity is so important, and why it is necessary to provide support and information that is right for the individual.

We are one of very few carer support organisations that offer a specialised counselling service for carers. This year, we have continued to see excellent outcomes for carers from this valuable service. 300 hours of counselling have been delivered to our young carers. 101 adult carers have received 1-2-1 counselling sessions, delivered by qualified and student counsellors. The service continues to report outstanding clinical outcomes. We use the WEMWBS scale to measure outcomes for carers. This is a scale which has been validated for the measurement of mental wellbeing among people aged 13 to 74 in the UK [1-5]. It comprises 14 positively worded statements with five response categories from 'none of the time' to 'all of the time'. After completion of a set of sessions the average **Wemwbs wellbeing score increased from 25 to 37.** 83% of carers indicated that their emotional wellbeing had improved due to Signpost counselling and **75% indicated that the counselling had had a positive impact on their caring role.**

2023-24 saw the introduction of therapeutic workshops and awareness sessions. A total of 51 carers attended these. The sessions are developed as psychoeducational content, led and facilitated by our counsellors and delivered in 1 to 5 sessions. These also had significant and long term outcomes for the carers.

There is an increasing demand for this provision and we continue to explore ways to resource additional developments in this area of our organisation.

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

We have achieved some excellent outcomes for carers in this, the second year of the 5 year contract that we hold as part of the Stockport Support Hub. The value of this contract has grown this year, enabling us to **employ more local people** to deliver carers assessments in a more timely and effective way. In 23-24, **the team have delivered more than 670 statutory assessments and support plans to carers**. This work is complemented by other important activities including contingency planning, dementia carer training, peer led support groups for current and former carers and social opportunities. We know that carers feel more engaged, less isolated and more supported through this work, and that it is improving their emotional and physical health.

Carers continue to be disproportionately affected by the increased cost of living. This year, our Moneywise worker has made 264 home visits, supporting carers to access the benefits and allowances that they are entitled to. We estimate that **this work has brought more than £1,267,000 into Stockport's carer households** over this twelve month period. We have also been able to provide £70,000 of emergency funds to carers through Stockport Council's household support fund trusted partner network. This is a **near instant opportunity to relieve financial pressure (and the accompanying stress) to those carers who are in debt** with energy and/or other utilities, are facing unexpected expenditure due to failure of white goods or who are struggling with essentials such as food, bedding, clothing and continence products.

We have also delivered year 1 of our 3 year contract for Young Carers support. We have received 218 referrals from partners in this time, leading to **318 assessments with parents and young carers**. These assessments lead to the young person accessing other peer and professional support, all focused on reducing that sense of isolation and anxiety. The young carers team have this year developed 100 evening group sessions (from mindfulness to boxing), **30 days out and more than 800 hours of one to one support in schools**. We know that this is making a difference to the young carers and their families from the feedback that we routinely request – and the **smiles and friendships** that we see at the groups.

The school support team continues to support schools to apply for the highly respected Children's Society National Award Scheme. For those schools who have the award the evidence is clear that young carers are better supported to reach their full potential.

Due to the ongoing partnerships with our Stockport Schools we are pleased to announce that we have the **first Primary school in the Northwest to achieve the Gold award.**

In total we now have 6 Gold Standard Awards in Stockport, 16 Bronze holders, **the most in the UK!** This is not an easy award to get and requires a great deal of evidence and hard work, to ensure young carers voices are heard and they have access to respite opportunities within their school settings. We are delighted that this year we have supported 50 schools, delivering **22 whole staff training sessions, 20 assemblies and 10 PHSE workshops** – all of which raise awareness of identification and support of young carers – but we know that

there is still lots of work to be done here. **52 Stockport schools reported having zero young carers** in their returns to the 2024 school census which means that hundreds of Stockport young carers are going unrecognised and unsupported; something that we are determined to change.

This year, we have had **significant success in attracting additional sources of income** required to supplement our provision of services and support, through community and corporate partnerships (including Heaton Moor Ladies Golf Club and musicMagpie), local funding streams such as Stockport's Health and Wellbeing Fund), sub-regional funding (the Together Fund, accessed through Forever Manchester), regional funding (Electricity North West's Partnership Fund) and national support from funders such as Garfield Weston. We have also increased the income generated through carer contributions for counselling support and our community building, which we operate as a Social Enterprise.

We are extremely grateful for the donations received from current and former carers, their families and our other supporters which resource many areas of our organisation. We are also hugely thankful for the input and energies of our board of trustees, our volunteers and our staff team without whom none of this would be possible. This year we have increased our workforce, with **excellent rates of retention and recruitment**, developing new volunteer roles and providing learning and development opportunities so that all colleagues are expert in their roles, just as our carers are in theirs.

Financial Review

The Charity recorded a surplus of £94,741 (2023 a deficit of £81,866) on its financial activities during the year with overall income of £933,940 (2023 £759,708). Expenditure dropped slightly to £839,199 from £841,574. The charity ended the year with restricted reserves of £362,848 (2023 £286,475) and unrestricted reserves of £148,790 (2023 £130,422).

Investment powers and policy

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have kept available funds in the charity's current account with the Royal Bank of Scotland during the year.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 31st March 2024 was £148,790 (Note 19) of which £99,042 (Note 20) is free reserves, after allowing for funds tied up in tangible fixed assets.

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The Trustees consider

that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered for the 2024/25 financial year.

The Trustees consider that the charity is a going concern and the following sources of funding have been secured (or for rental income and fundraising, are reasonably expected) for **2024/25;**

Adult Carers	£
Stockport MBC Adult Carers Contract	314,000
Henry Smith	39,700
GMCVO	5,816
Greater Manchester ICB (Stockport)	14,594
TOTAL	**£374,110**
Young Carers	
Stockport MBC Young Carers Contract	174,460
Greater Manchester ICB (Stockport)	30,713
BBC Children in Need	23,852
TOTAL	**£229,025**
Total Income	**£603,135**

Risk Management

The Trustees continue to be updated on the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and actions in place to mitigate those risks. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the Charity faces. External risks to funding have led to the Trustees starting to review the strategic plan which will allow for the diversification of funding and activities. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff and volunteers. All policies are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the Charity.

Plans for Future Periods

The existence of Signpost Stockport for Carers, with its superb team of staff and volunteers and its decades of experience, is critical for many Stockport residents. We see our responsibilities as a privilege and are preparing to work with our carers and other stakeholders as we face the next twelve months.

We will continue to support the work of the Stockport Carers' Partnership, engaging all stakeholders with the borough's Think Carer! Strategy. As a co-chair of this important local partnership, we will work with the issues that Stockport's carers have brought to the Carers Network, holding partners accountable for making the real changes that will make a difference to the day to day lives of carers of all ages in our borough. We will work especially closely with commissioners at Stockport Council and Greater Manchester's Integrated Care Board to ensure that carers are seen, heard, recognised and valued in all arena. We remain committed to being the voice of carers, and will work with partners to amplify this wherever possible.

Our own revised strategy and the accompanying commitments to action will support this broader work, ensuring that as the local carers support organisation we continue to provide relevant, accessible and expert emotional, practical and social support to all Stockport Carers. We will work alongside our carers to learn how we are making a difference and where improvements can be made. We will use carer data collected by us, and by local, regional and national organisations to inform, refine and develop our offer to carers. This will include working with education providers, GP practices and social work teams to better identify and support young and adult carers in our borough through awareness campaigns, accreditation and training. We will also look at new technologies to enhance our carer support offer and achieve efficiencies across our organisation. We will improve our methods of external communication so that more carers are aware of the support and information available from our organisation.

None of this will be possible without financial sustainability, a key and omnipresent consideration for the Signpost board and senior management team. We welcome the security that comes from the contracts with Stockport Council's Adult Social Care directorate for the delivery of Stockport's carer support hub and from Stockport's Integrated Care Board and SMBC's Children and Young Peoples Directorate for core elements of young carer support. In 2024-25, we will work to supplement this core funding through attracting increased corporate and community donations through the implementation of a comprehensive fundraising strategy, whilst continuing to attract income from grants and trusts that are aligned with our aims and objectives. We will also explore how we can generate increased income through increasing the understanding of the environment in which we operate and what carers and the users of our space are looking for. We will also focus on the marketing of our community building and the specialist services that we deliver.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or any other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a Trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual

relationship with a related party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

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

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

By order of the Board of Trustees Paul Connellan

Paul Connellan Chairperson

Date: 24TH September 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

I report on the accounts of the charity for the Year Ended 31st March 2024, which are set out on pages 11 to 23.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is required by company law to prepare accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006, ; and
- with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

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

EL Anderson

EL Anderson MA FCA CTA
Community Accountancy Service Ltd
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive
Beswick, Manchester, M11 3TQ

Date: 24th September 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024
(incorporating income and expenditure account)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Year Ended 31.3.24 Total Funds £	Year Ended 31.3.23 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and Legacies		448	41,472	41,920	26,942
Charitable Activities	(5)	7,000	783,964	790,964	621,985
Other Trading Activities	(6)	92,887	2,289	95,176	108,698
Investment Income		5,880	-	5,880	2,083
TOTAL		106,215	827,725	933,940	759,708
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Grants Made	(7)	-	50,121	50,121	34,155
Raising Funds	(8)	49,563	-	49,563	71,486
Charitable Activities	(9)	38,284	701,231	739,515	735,933
TOTAL		87,847	751,352	839,199	841,574
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)		18,368	76,373	94,741	(81,866)
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS	(19)	-	-	-	-
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR AFTER TRANSFERS		18,368	76,373	94,741	(81,866)
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total Funds Brought Forward		130,422	286,475	416,897	498,763
Total Funds Carried Forward	(20)	148,790	362,848	511,638	416,897

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on Pages 14 to 23 form part of these accounts.

CO. REG. NO. 4176004

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	(12)		56,977		60,318
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	(14)	93,560		53,683	
Cash at Bank and in Hand		465,423		544,390	
		558,983		598,073	
LIABILITIES:					
Amounts falling due within one year	(16)	(85,926)		(215,692)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			473,057		382,381
LIABILITIES:					
Amounts falling due after more than one year			(18,396)		(25,802)
TOTAL NET ASSETS			511,638		416,897
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted Funds	(20)		148,790		130,422
Restricted Funds	(20)		362,848		286,475
			511,638		416,897

For the year in question the company was entitled to the exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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

Approved on behalf of the Company's Board of Trustees:

Paul Connellan.

Mr Paul Connellan (Chair)
Trustee / Director

Mr Paul Howes
Trustee / Director

Date: 24th September 2024

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2024

RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net movement in funds	94,741	(81,866)
Add back depreciation	20,265	17,231
Deduct investment income	(5,880)	(2,083)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(39,877)	10,762
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(137,172)	179,109
Net cash used in operating activities	(67,923)	123,153
Cash flows from investment activities:		
Interest	5,880	2,083
Purchase of fixed assets	(16,924)	(29,388)
Net cash provided by investing activities	(11,044)	(27,305)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	(78,967)	95,848
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	544,390	448,542
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**465,423**	**544,390**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.
The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.
The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There are 19 restricted funds at the year end.
Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion have created a fund for a specific purpose.
Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 19.

(c) Income recognition

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.
Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.
Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.
All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.
Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on staff time and facilities used in each activity.
The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 10.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

(g) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in Note 9.

(h) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are included in the accounts at net book value. Additions of a single item or a group of similar assets exceeding £500, are capitalised at cost (valuation for donated assets).
Depreciation is provided to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives as follows:-
Building Improvements 10% on cost
Other fixed assets are capitalised at cost and depreciated at 20% per annum on cost.
The charity, being a public benefit entity, does not consider that it holds the buildings as an investment. The building was sold to the charity for £1 with the intention that the building would be used as a hub for charitable and voluntary organisations in the care sector, and that the charity would manage the facilities for the public benefit.
Areas not used directly by the charity are let or hired to other public benefit organisations, specifically those offering care and welfare services, at rates that aim to cover the running costs of the facilities over time.
The fair value of any investment component cannot be measured reliably.
The building and improvements are therefore stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.
Income from rental and room hire is shown in Note 6.

(i) Debtors

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

(j) Creditors and Provisions

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

(i) Taxation

The organisation is exempt from income tax by reason of its charitable status. Income tax suffered on investment income is reclaimed in full. The Charity is not registered for VAT.

(j) Pensions

The charity currently administers contributions to a pension scheme, that is auto-enrolment compliant. Contributions are charged to expenditure as they fall due. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

(k) Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is identified and disclosed for those transactions resulting from a possible obligation which will only be confirmed by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the trustees' control.

2 INCOME

This represents grants, contracts, service level agreements and sundry income receivable for the provision of care and social welfare.

	2024	2023
3 TAX ON SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	-	-

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (cont...)

4 NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Pension Costs	12,157	13,092
Depreciation - owned assets	20,265	17,231
Independent Examination	1,540	1,530

5 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024
		£	£	£
Stockport CCG - Young Carers Core			30,713	30,713
Stockport CCG - Adult			14,594	14,594
SMBC - Young Carers			167,000	167,000
SMBC Adult Carers -	Carers Support Hub		250,620	250,620
	Stockport Mind		49,380	49,380
	Carers Partnership		11,200	11,200
	Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund		10,000	10,000
	Warm Space Fund		1,000	1,000
Henry Smith			38,000	38,000
Electricity North West Partner Grant			16,500	16,500
Triangle Trust			11,368	11,368
Oglesby			21,000	21,000
BBC-Children in Need (£17,889 deferred)			14,538	14,538
Age UK			11,529	11,529
Stockport Local Fund			19,994	19,994
Household Support Fund		7,000	65,675	72,675
GMCVO - Enterprise Activity Support			32,955	32,955
Broome Family Trust			5,000	5,000
Garfield Weston Foundation			5,000	5,000
NHS GM Integrated Care - Big Brain Health Fund			3,398	3,398
Other Grants			4,500	4,500
Total		7,000	783,964	790,964

Previous Year

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023
		£	£	£
Stockport CCG - Young Carers Core			31,161	31,161
Stockport CCG - Adult			14,807	14,807
SMBC - Young Carers			167,000	167,000
SMBC Adult Carers -	Signpost		150,000	150,000
	Stockport Mind		50,000	50,000
Henry Smith			37,200	37,200
Big Lottery			44,102	44,102
Triangle Trust			19,285	19,285
Oglesby			24,600	24,600
BBC-Children in Need			15,200	15,200
SMBC - Win A			11,530	11,530
Household Support Fund		3,500	34,500	38,000
Access to Growth		9,000	-	9,000
Garfield Weston Foundation		6,500	-	6,500
Other Grants		3,600	-	3,600
Total		22,600	599,385	621,985

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (cont...)

6 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Rental, Room hire & Services Income	81,571	-	81,571	75,376
Photocopying	556	-	556	438
Staff Secondment	10,610	-	10,610	29,684
Training	-	634	634	400
Student Placement Fees	-	1,400	1,400	2,800
Other	150	255	405	-
	92,887	2,289	95,176	108,698

Restricted income in 2023 was £3,200.

7 GRANTS MADE

67 monetary awards totalling £41,968 and goods and vouchers totalling £8,153 were made from the Household Support Fund.

8 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024
Community Facilities & Other Services:	£	£	£
Employment Costs	13,383		13,383
Depreciation	6,755		6,755
Business Rates	1,535		1,535
Repairs & Maintenance	4,185		4,185
Heat, Light & Water	8,766		8,766
Cleaning	6,105		6,105
Insurance	2,438		2,438
Health & Safety	808		808
Telephone	4,033		4,033
Refreshments	139		139
Bad Debts	647		647
Fundraising Support	769		769
	49,563	-	49,563

Previous Year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023
Community Facilities & Other Services:	£	£	£
Employment Costs	35,828		35,828
Depreciation	5,743		5,743
Business Rates	1,459		1,459
Repairs & Maintenance	4,009		4,009
Heat, Light & Water	9,719		9,719
Cleaning	6,083		6,083
Insurance	1,814		1,814
Telephone	4,066		4,066
Refreshments	412		412
Bad Debts	1,290		1,290
Fundraising Support	1,063		1,063
	71,486	-	71,486

9 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Adult Carer Services	Young Carers	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Employment Costs	323,163	185,826	508,989
Recruitment & DBS Checks	-	176	176
Staff Welfare & Support	747	-	747
Training	2,213	90	2,303
Travel	1,850	931	2,781
Partner Payments - Stockport Mind	49,380	-	49,380
Advertising & Publicity & Events	3,326	-	3,326
Carers Activities, Outings & Residentials	9,474	11,044	20,518
Translation	-	95	95
Carers & Support Worker Other	1,731	743	2,474
Volunteer Expenses	1,784	120	1,904
Vehicle Expenses	-	2,022	2,022
Counselling Fees	12,788	2,929	15,717
Room Hire	297	-	297
Respite	147	-	147
Project Evaluation	2,850	-	2,850
Support Costs	84,348	29,173	113,521
Governance Costs	11,503	765	12,268
	505,601	233,914	739,515

Restricted Funds	701,231
Unrestricted Funds	38,284
	739,515

Previous Year

	Adult Carer Services	Young Carers	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Employment Costs	277,542	223,508	501,050
Recruitment & DBS Checks	-	210	210
Training	6,107	1,830	7,937
Travel	2,348	3,558	5,906
Partner Payments - Stockport Mind	50,000	-	50,000
Advertising & Publicity & Events	7,217	14	7,231
Carers Activities, Outings & Residentials	2,717	3,929	6,646
Translation	41	41	41
Carers & Support Worker Other	281	200	481
Volunteer Expenses	255	100	255
Vehicle Expenses	-	1,709	1,709
Counselling Fees	23,201	660	23,201
Room Hire	287	-	287
Support Costs	93,889	22,494	116,383
Governance Costs	11,592	3,004	14,596
	475,477	261,257	735,933

Restricted Funds	581,775
Unrestricted Funds	154,158
	735,933

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (cont...)

10 ALLOCATION OF GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

	Basis of Apportionment	General Support £	Governance £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Support Costs					
Employment Costs	Staff Time	22,270	2,474	24,744	20,485
Computer Maintenance & Software	Area Used	8,083		8,083	7,115
Website Support Costs	Direct	2,436		2,436	2,944
Minor Equipment	Direct	761		761	827
Depreciation	Area Used	13,509		13,509	11,487
Publications & Subscriptions	Direct	2,872		2,872	1,531
Repairs & Maintenance	Area Used	8,371		8,371	8,018
Heat, Light & Water	Area Used	17,533		17,533	19,437
Cleaning	Area Used	12,210		12,210	12,166
Insurance	Area Used	4,876		4,876	3,629
Health & Safety	Area Used	1,616		1,616	-
Telephone	Area Used	8,066		8,066	8,132
Printing & Stationery	Direct	4,050		4,050	6,098
Postage	Direct	769		769	2,612
Sundries	Direct	793		793	2,974
Refreshments	Direct	1,487		1,487	6,538
Loan Interest	Governance	3,339		3,339	3,648
Bank & Lender Charges	Governance	480		480	790
Legal & Professional Fees	Governance		6,566	6,566	6,768
Strategic & Management Support	Governance		188	188	4,250
Accountancy	Governance		3,040	3,040	1,530
		113,521	12,268	125,789	130,979

11 STAFF NUMBERS AND COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and Salaries	498,941	508,565
Social Security Costs	36,018	35,706
Pension Costs	12,157	13,092
	547,116	557,363

The charity employed 41 people during the year. The average number of employees, full time equivalent was as follows:

Services	16	16
Management & Administration	2	3
	18	19

The charity considers its key management personnel comprise the Trustees and deputy director. The total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel was £35,307 (2023: £33,428), No employees has benefits in excess of £60,000 (2023:none)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (cont...)

12 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land & Buildings	Building Improvements	Vehicles	Computer Equipment	Fixtures & Equipment	Total
COST/ VALUATION	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2023	1	269,342	35,620	59,456	49,386	413,805
Additions		16,924				16,924
At 31 March 2024	1	286,266	35,620	59,456	49,386	430,729
DEPRECIATION						
At 1 April 2023		235,013	28,496	45,647	44,331	353,487
Charge for Year		6,511	7,124	5,241	1,389	20,265
At 31 March 2024	-	241,524	35,620	50,888	45,720	373,752
NET BOOK VALUE						
At 31 March 2024	1	44,742	-	8,568	3,666	56,977
At 31 March 2023	1	34,329	7,124	13,809	5,055	60,318

Stockport MBC transferred the buidings to the charitable company for the nominal sum of £1.

13 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Contracted but not provided for	-	12343

14 DEBTORS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other Debtors	86,736	47,132
Prepayments	6,824	6,551
	93,560	53,683
Restricted	77,977	31,645
Unrestricted	15,583	22,038
Total	93,560	53,683

15 DEFERRED INCOME

	2024	2023
Deferred income comprises grants and rentals paid in advance.	£	£
Balance as at 1st April	36,324	41,965
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(36,324)	(41,965)
Amount deferred in year	47,129	36,324
	47,129	36,324

16 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other Creditors	8,360	24,247
Loan	7,406	6,616
Deferred Income	47.129	36.324
Other Creditors - SMBC	-	140,946
Accruals	23,031	7,559
	85,926	215,692
Restricted	56,583	136,955
Unrestricted	29,343	78,937
Total	85,926	215,892

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (cont...)

17 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Loan	18,396	25,802

18 LEGAL STATUS OF THE COMPANY

The Company has no share capital and all members have agreed to contribute £1 in the event of the Company winding up.

19 ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds:	Balance at 01-Apr-23	Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Balance at 31-Mar-24
Restricted Capital Funds:	£	£	£	£	£
Donation - Minibus	7,124			(7,124)	-
SMBC - cellar refurbishment	1,694			(551)	1,143
Mayor's Charity -cellar refurbishment	667			(217)	450
The Morrison's Foundation - cellar	3,640			(850)	2,790
Adult Social Care & Carers					
Age UK	-	11,529	4,203	(15,732)	-
Gr Mcr NHS Integrated Care - BBH	-	3,398		(3,398)	-
Household Support Fund	385	65,675		(50,121)	15,939
Stockport CCG	807	14,594		(12,365)	3,036
SMBC - Carer Respite	4,792			(91)	4,701
SMBC - Mental Health & Wellbeing	-	10,000		(8,750)	1,250
SMBC - Carers Partnership	-	11,200		(11,200)	-
SMBC - Warm Space Fund	-	1,000		(1,000)	-
Stockport Local Fund	-	19,994		(13,528)	6,466
SMBC Adult Carers	926	300,000		(292,813)	8,113
Electricity North West	-	16,500	1,261	(17,761)	-
Big Lottery	21,625	-	2,546	(24,171)	-
Henry Smith	10,490	38,000		(38,000)	10,490
GMCVO - Enterprise Activity Support	-	32,955		-	32,955
Other Grants - adults	-	14,500		(14,500)	-
Donations - counselling	-	2,438	2,499	(4,937)	-
Fundraising & Donations - adults	151,531	35,227	(10,509)	(329)	175,920
Young Carers					
SMBC Soc Services	-	167,000		(137,121)	29,879
Stockport CCG - Young Carers	8,087	30,713		(38,800)	-
Donations	57,996	3,882		(412)	61,466
Triangle Trust	3,700	11,368		(11,494)	3,574
Donations- counselling	4,338	-		-	4,338
Student Placement & other	-	2,214		(2,214)	-
BBC Children In Need	6,480	14,538		(33,673)	(12,655)
Oglesby Charitable Trust	2,193	21,000		(10,200)	12,993
Sub-total	*286,475*	*827,725*	-	*(751,352)*	*362,848*
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	31,237	106,215	(36,754)	(78,350)	22,348
Capital Funds (spent)	17,920	-	-	(4,562)	13,358
Designated - Database Upgrade	6,182	-	(1,410)	(1,118)	3,654
Designated - Building Maintenance	38,476	-	38,164	(3,817)	72,823
Designated Funds - Contingency	36,607	-	-	-	36,607
	130,422	*106,215*	-	*(87,847)*	*148,790*
	416,897	933,940	-	(839,199)	511,638

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (cont...)

Designated Funds - This includes £32,823 book value of the lift still to be depreciated.
The balance is set aside for unexpected costs and longer term maintenance to the structure.

19 cont ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS cont...

Previous Year

Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds:	Balance at 01-Apr-22	Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Balance at 31-Mar-23
Restricted Capital Funds:	£	£	£	£	£
Donation - Minibus	14,248			(7,124)	7,124
SMBC - cellar refurbishment	2,245			(551)	1,694
Mayor's Charity -cellar refurbishment	884			(217)	667
The Morrison's Foundation - cellar	4,490			(850)	3,640
Community Investment Fund	193			(193)	-
Adult Social Care & Carers					
Wider independence Network - Lot A	-	11,530		(11,530)	-
Donations - counselling	-	3,965		(3,965)	-
Household Support Fund	-	34,500		(34,115)	385
Stockport CCG	-	14,807		(14,000)	807
SMBC - Carer Respite	5,947			(1,155)	4,792
Carer Assessments	14,831			(14,831)	-
SMBC Adult Carers	-	200,000		(199,074)	926
Big Lottery	15,258	44,102		(37,735)	21,625
Henry Smith	-	37,200		(26,710)	10,490
Fundraising & Donations - adults	134,557	19,556		(2,582)	151,531
Young Carers					
SMBC Soc Services	-	167,400	759	(168,159)	-
Stockport CCG - Young Carers	7,845	31,161		(30,919)	8,087
Donations	55,334	3,421	(759)	-	57,996
Triangle Trust	3,975	19,285		(19,560)	3,700
Donations- counselling	4,768			(430)	4,338
MMU	-	2,800		(2,800)	-
BBC Children In Need	7,498	15,200		(16,218)	6,480
Oglesby Charitable Trust	805	24,600		(23,212)	2,193
Sub-total	*272,878*	*629,527*	-	*(615,930)*	*286,475*
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	121,321	130,181	(678)	(219,587)	31,237
Capital Funds (spent)	20,657	-	678	(3,415)	17,920
Designated - Database Upgrade	7,300	-	-	(1,118)	6,182
Designated - Building Maintenance	40,000	-	-	(1,524)	38,476
Designated Funds - Contingency	36,607	-	-	-	36,607
	225,885	*130,181*	-	*(225,644)*	*130,422*
	498,763	759,708	-	(841,574)	416,897

Restricted capital funds (including cellar refurbishment) and unrestricted capital funds are fully spent. The balance represents the book value of assets still to be depreciated.
A contingency fund is to cover employment costs in the event of funding gaps or cessation of project funding.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (cont...)

20 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Tangible Fixed Assets £	Other Net Assets £	Total 2024 £
RESTRICTED FUNDS:			
Restricted Capital	4,383	-	4,383
Adult Social Care	1,802	257,068	258,870
Young Carers	1,044	98,551	99,595
	7,229	355,619	362,848
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:			
Retained Surplus Carried Forward	49,748	99,042	148,790
	56,977	454,661	511,638

Previous Year

	Tangible Fixed Assets £	Net Current Assets £	Total 2023 £
RESTRICTED FUNDS:			
Restricted Capital	13,125	-	13,125
Adult Social Care	2,871	187,685	190,556
Young Carers	1,932	80,862	82,794
	17,928	268,547	286,475
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:			
Retained Surplus Carried Forward	42,390	88,032	130,422
	60,318	356,579	416,897

21 OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Office Equipment		
Within one Year	3,207	9,622
2-5 years	-	-
	3,207	9,622

22 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no contingent liabilities at 31 March 2024 (2023 £nil).

23 CONTROLLING PARTY

The charitable company is under the joint control of the Board of Trustees named on Page 1.

24 POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

The trustees consider that there are no significant post balance sheet events that impact on the financial statements as presented.

Signpost For Carers

England & Wales - Charity number 1085727

Accounts

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

Registered Charity No. 1085727

Registered Limited Company No. 4176004

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

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SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2023

The Trustees present their annual directors' report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31ST March 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and administrative information

Charity Name: Signpost Stockport for Carers
Charity Number: 1085727
Company Number: 4176004

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law. The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Key management personnel: Trustees and Directors

David Cox (Chair)
Paul Connellan (Treasurer)
Anthony White
Barry Parkes
Stuart Corris (resigned 15th November 2022)
Norma Barber (resigned 15th November 2022)
Carol Rushton
Jennifer Crosbie
Janet Lee (resigned 15th November 2022)
Paul Howes
Jilly Julian (appointed 16th November 2022)
Ryan Greenhalgh (appointed 16th November 2022)

Senior managers

Julia Hewer (Chief Executive Officer)

Registered Office

The Heatons Centre
Thornfield Road, Heaton Moor
Stockport, Cheshire, SK4 3LD

Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland
Drummond House (GK) Branch
Customer Services Centre
1 Redheughs Avenue
Edinburgh
EH12 9JN

Independent Examiners

Community Accountancy Service Limited
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive
Beswick
Manchester
M11 3TQ

Structure, governance and management

Signpost Stockport for Carers is a company limited by guarantee that is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 8th March 2001. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission dated 22nd March 2001.

Appointment of Trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association Trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable company attending the Annual General meeting.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees are given a Trustee Training and Guidance Pack which covers:

- The obligations of the Board of Trustees
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the last published accounts
- Future plans and objectives

A question and answers pack has also been prepared drawing information from the various Charity Commission publications. This is distributed to all new Trustees along with the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The board normally meets bi-monthly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the Charity. The members are drawn from a wide variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the Charity. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for working with the Board of Trustees to formulating the strategic direction of the charity and for the day-to-day operations of the charity with

the assistance of service managers. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for ensuring that the Charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met and reporting these to the Board.

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are to serve the district of the Metropolitan Borough of Stockport in alleviating the conditions of life;

- amongst people, of all ages and ethnicity, who are caring and who have cared for a person who has mental health problems, has a physical or sensory disability, has learning disabilities or whose health is impaired by sickness or old age;
- and of dependants of carers who are themselves in need, and for that purpose to promote the relief of such carers as previously mentioned; and to advance education amongst carers and the public.

The main activities are carer support for adults and young carers (aged 6 to 25). The charity furthers its charitable purposes for the public benefit through the provision of low cost accommodation, meeting and training facilities for organisations within the care and voluntary sectors.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the policies for the year.

At Signpost Stockport for Carers, our carers are at the centre of everything that we do.

This year has seen a series of organisational discussions around our values – what is important to us as a team, and how we want to work with all our internal and external stakeholders. We have chosen five – Compassion, Connection, Empowerment, Respect and Excellence. As we go forward, these values will drive what we do, why and how across all areas of the organisation. As we reflect back on the last year, we can see how we have already incorporated these values into our support and activities, giving us an exciting base from which to start!

Compassion – People are at the heart of what we do. We value the individual, demonstrate empathy and actively listen.

Our work with carers starts from the first conversation that they have with Signpost. Our small team that receives the registrations and referrals from our partners have been recruited to the organisation because of their ability to listen to what the carers are telling us, and read between the lines. More than 1123 new carers registered with the adult service and 120 new young carers started to work with our team throughout 2022-23. Alongside the emotional support and understanding shown by our Signpost colleague, the carer learns

about the other services delivered by the charity and can explore what can help them to meet the challenges presented by having caring responsibilities.

This may include a referral to our in-house counselling service, supported through contract funding from Stockport CCG and the Carer Support Hub and supplemented by donations made by clients of the service. Counselling sessions are delivered to carers over the phone, on zoom or face to face at the Heatons Centre. This year, the counselling has been delivered by a mix of qualified and student counsellors. We are proud to be able to offer these placements and grateful for the skills and time of the students. Carers present with a varied range of issues such as stress and anxiety, low mood and depression, grief and loss, communication and boundary setting. Outcome measures used by the service demonstrate a significant increase in the wellbeing of clients, benefitting them and those who they care for.

Connection – We support those we work with to feel a sense of belonging by developing relationships, providing opportunities and through effective communication.

In April 2022, Signpost became part of the Stockport Support Hub. We are the contract holder for the Carer Support work and play an important role in the Home Support Hub too. This has considerably increased our partnership working with colleagues across the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector, most notably with Stockport & District Mind with whom we subcontract, recognising their specialism in supporting carers of those living with emotional distress and mental illness. These partnerships have led to other areas of joint working, such as delivery of the Home Support Fund and Hospital Discharge pilot work (TAHDAA). They also provide valuable support to the management and operational teams at Signpost, with shared learning and peer mentoring opportunities.

Our Carer Support hub work also creates crucial opportunities for our carers to connect with each other. There have been more than 1300 attendances at Signpost activities and events over these twelve months. Activities on offer include the ever-popular nature walks, dementia drop ins, coffee mornings for former carers and cultural visits to locations across the borough.

Digital and virtual connections are also important to us. At the end of March 2023, we had 336 Stockport carers in our closed Facebook group. It has taken some time and effort to get this group into its current position. Facilitated by peer volunteers and supported by a member of the Signpost team, it is a vibrant and safe virtual space for carers to share news, air concerns and review the latest books and TV programmes! Social media is increasingly important in raising our profile as an organisation and this year we started engaging with external support, which has increased our audience leading to more registrations and donations to the charity.

This year, we have sought to broaden our networks with the private sector and strengthen our relationships with existing partners. We are now members of Stockport's Business for Breakfast network and Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce and have hosted two successful stakeholder networking events. We participated in the Heatons Open Gardens event, local neighbourhood trails and continue to develop our connecting carers card, with more than 240 issued to carers in this period. These pieces of work all contribute to the delivery of the fundraising strategy that we adopted in January 2023. Donations and funding are critical to the continuation of our organisation, as is the generation of income from The Heatons Centre. We are keen that Signpost becomes the Charity of Choice for private and corporate giving, and this can only be achieved if we are present, visible and connected.

Respect – We uphold fairness and inclusivity, valuing difference and shared experiences

The team of staff and volunteers and the Board of Trustees at Signpost, are focussed on ensuring that we offer person centred, strengths based service provision, regardless of the condition of the cared for person or the age of the carer. We recognise that carers have different lived experiences and we are committed to providing services and support that respect and acknowledge these differences. This year, we have continued to diversify our team and sought new activities, partnerships and locations that will better meet the needs of diverse cohorts of carers. We attended Greater Manchester's Asian Rights day, and Stockport Pride – small steps taken to learn about the differences in caring experiences for people, and the discrimination and concerns that they face. Our team have received training and development sessions, hearing from carers and support organisations and we have added new fields to our database to capture valuable data about who is, and who is not, registering with the charity. Over the next year, we will be using this information in conjunction with ongoing dialogue with diverse groups of carers to better serve all those with caring responsibilities in our borough.

The Young Carers Family Support team continue to undertake detailed tailored assessments, designed to identify the needs of all family members and determine appropriate service provision. Following a case work approach, the team work closely with external agencies and schools in order to reduce caring responsibilities and improve overall family support. The upward trend of referrals has continued, requiring a careful use of resources and expertise to ensure that no young carers are left unsupported whilst balancing the workload of the team.

Empowerment – We support people to make their own informed choices, ensuring access to the information and support they need.

We have an excellent team of people who are encouraged to develop new ideas, working with each other and our carers to find (and share and celebrate) creative solutions to often complex challenges. One such example has been the development of an online carer

assessment review form. This has enabled carers to access the assessment process and raise issues in their own time, creating a more efficient and effective process.

Carers Assessments form a large part of our Carer Support Hub Contract. This year has seen some changes to the process, and we continue to develop this work to ensure that this is a positive experience for all stakeholders. We have carried out more than 650 assessments and reviews over the year. Following the assessment, our carer support workers and the carer agree a support plan which recognises what is working well and areas for additional support and development. This is a demanding process for all and we are keen to ensure that carers remain at the heart. We are honoured and humbled by the confidences that are shared by the carers as part of this process, and respectfully work with them to facilitate a positive caring experience wherever possible.

This may include a referral to our Moneywise team, who offer support and information around benefits and income maximisation. This year, more than £1.5 million has been brought into Stockport through the work of this Signpost project. This money can be used by carers and their families to purchase goods and services that will reduce the caring role and make life just a little easier.

We are passionate about empowering carers and former carers to give back to the organisation, if and when they feel able to. This may be a financial donation or legacy, or may be through peer support and volunteering. Our volunteer development work, supported by the Henry Smith Foundation, has enabled us to extend our volunteer opportunities, build the skills and capacity of our volunteers and recognise those who give time and energy to the organisation. One, Annie, received a local award on International Women's Day. Our young adult carers regularly speak powerfully about their experiences at training and stakeholder events, and our creative writing group gave some entertaining readings of their work from our published anthology.

As a small organisation, it is vital that we extend our own capacity by training other stakeholders to be able to recognise and support carers in and across communities. Our funding from The Triangle Trust for a school development worker has created excellent outcomes within its first year, with more young carers receiving support through in-house provision. Our work with employers (Work with Us, National Lottery funded) extends this concept to creating carer friendly policies and establishing carer networks within businesses. This year, we have worked with John Lewis and Stockport Council to progress these elements of being a good employer. This project empowers those juggling paid work and care to know their rights at work and to have the confidence to start difficult conversations with their employers. 550 working carers receive the monthly newsletter, which contains tailored support and signposts for people in their position. This is a unique provision in Greater Manchester, and one that we are very proud of. The funding for this work comes to

an end in 2023, but we are keen that it has a strong legacy and look forward to thinking creatively about the continuation of this provision.

Excellence – We strive to be the best that we can be.

Our young carers service is often commended for its delivery of excellent outcomes for the children and young people. We learned that our bid for the 3-year contract was successful in February 2023 and are looking forward to continuing to develop this work.

We are a learning organisation and, whilst proud of our successes, are ready to learn what we can do better and how. This year, our senior leaders have worked with Pilotlight and The Cranfield Trust around a series of topics. This work has allowed reflection and review and identified areas for further improvement in our organisation. Our staff team are also regularly encouraged to input into review and feedback sessions, with their suggestions leading to practical developments and improvements in service delivery. This year this has included introduction of the facility for online bookings for our activities, new ways of processing registrations and training to VCFSE colleagues about our work. Our new CharityLog database is improving coordination across partners, facilitating referrals and creating better ways of storing and retrieving information that we can use to inform service delivery.

This year, we have worked on a regional and national level, with large scale presentations and training delivered by our young carers team and carers in employment lead. Work with Carers UK (a presentation at the national State of Caring Conference), a key note speech and training for Stockport's school governors association and regular contributions to Greater Manchester Carers network demonstrate how our provision is respected by many different stakeholders.

Whilst there are many positives to reflect on from this year, perhaps the most significant was learning that Signpost was the winner of the 'Best Not for Profit' Organisation at the 2022 Stockport Business Awards. This was a real highlight, coming at the end of a demanding year and would not have been possible without the contributions of the whole staff team. We are committed to ensuring that this level of service and innovation continues, and that Stockport Carers remain assured that they are not alone, but instead are in really good company.

Financial Review

The Charity recorded a deficit of £81,866 on its financial activities during the year with overall income of £759,708 on the previous year of £649,500. This is mainly as a result of the Charity receiving Household Support Funds from Stockport MBC to distribute to carers

who were experiencing financial hardship due to the cost of living pressures they were facing over the winter months. The trusteed agreed to the Charity setting a deficit budget for the year to allow the recruitment of additional staff on fixed term contracts to meet the additional demands of supporting carers in the current challenging financial environment many of them are facing, and administering the borough's carers allowance scheme. The trustees expect the budget to come back to a surplus position over the medium term (three years). At the beginning of the year the charity took out a five year loan of £36,000 with GMCVO to fund a number of capital projects at the Heatons Centre, including the replacement of the lift.

Investment powers and policy

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have kept available funds in the charity's current account with the Royal Bank of Scotland during the year.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 31st March 2023 was £130,422 (Note 18) of which £113,834 (Note 19) is free reserves, after allowing for designated funds and those tied up in tangible fixed assets.

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The Trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered for the 2023/24 financial year.

The Trustees consider that the charity is a going concern and the following sources of funding have been secured (or for rental income and fundraising, are reasonably expected) for **2023/24;**

Adult Carers	£
Heatons Centre Rental and Services income	85,000
Stockport MBC Adult Carers Contrac	220,000
The Henry Smith Charity	37,000
Trust Fundraising	60,000
NHS Stockport	14,000
Community Fundraising	12,000
Home Support Hub	11,500
Corporate Fundraising	2,000
Pennine Care NHS Tru	4,000
Research Funding	3,000
Household Support Fund	80,000
Donations & Legacies	25,000
TOTAL	**£553,500**

Young Carers	
Stockport MBC Young Carers Contract	167,000
Stockport CCG	30,200
BBC Children in Need	7,000
Oglesby Charitable Trust	21,000
Triangle Trust	20,000
Donations	4,000
TOTAL	**£249,200**
Total Income	**£802,700**

Risk Management

The Trustees continue to be updated on the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and actions in place to mitigate those risks. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the Charity faces. External risks to funding have led to the Trustees starting to review the strategic plan which will allow for the diversification of funding and activities. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff and volunteers. All policies are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the Charity.

Plans for Future Periods

There continues to be a real need for comprehensive, tailored and accessible support for the thousands of unpaid carers across the borough. We continue to see impacts on carers from the pandemic and feedback from young carers regularly highlights the need for additional respite and support around their mental health. Caring roles have increased significantly over the last three years, having a huge impact on carers mental wellbeing, 40% of young carers say their mental health is worse now than pre-covid. For the person being 'cared for', not being able to access face to face support/treatment for physical and mental health needs has led to deterioration in health conditions and family life. 60% of our young carers have said school is their biggest challenge, such as keeping up with school work and attending on a regular basis.

The existence of Signpost Stockport for Carers, with its superb team of staff and volunteers and its decades of experience, is critical for many Stockport residents. We see our responsibilities as a privilege and are preparing to work with our carers and other stakeholders as we face these challenges together over the next twelve months.

Signpost Stockport for Carers continues to work in accordance with its strategic plan, developing and cementing its position in the borough as a navigator, organiser and voice for carers. From first contact through to core service delivery and on to follow up and after

care, the whole organisation will stay true to its belief that being a carer should not be a barrier to leading a fulfilling life.

The organisation will continue to work as part of the Stockport Support Hub, entering the second year of the 5 year contract. We will begin to deliver on the contract for Young Carers support. Whilst these contracts provide some level of security, we recognise the need to supplement this provision and will continue to seek additional financial support so that we may provide the services and support needed by Stockport's carers. This includes specialist support for older carers, those caring for people with dementia, those experiencing significant financial difficulty and living with reduced physical and emotional wellbeing due to particularly complex caring situations.

The financial environment continues to present challenges for all; carers, staff, suppliers, building users and statutory funders. There is significant competition for funding from trusts and foundations and for private and corporate donations. Signpost's fundraising strategy and associated action plan is a steer for the board and senior management team in ensuring that we meet these challenges for our organisation. Signpost is rich in assets including the skill sets and passion of our staff and volunteers, our building, our relationships and our reputation. We will continue to investigate and introduce ways and means to increase our sustainability and reduce dependency on external funding, whilst ensuring that carers are supported in the ways that they need. We have clear priorities on which to focus, such as sourcing additional funding to increase our respite offer and wellbeing support for young carers in education, based on our learning through the Triangle Trust work.

In 2023/24 Signpost will work with partners to drive the development of Stockport's Carers Strategy and Carers Partnership Board. This will be supported by a wider carers network which will draw from the lived experiences and views of all carers. Together, we will raise the profile of carers, caring and carer support in Stockport over the next twelve months.

Signpost will continue to value and support its team of staff and volunteers and ensure that they are in the best possible position for offering the practical and emotional support to Stockport's carers.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or any other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a Trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

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

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

By order of the Board of Trustees David J Cox _____ David J Cox Chair

Date: 26TH JULY 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

I report on the accounts of the charity for the Year Ended 31st March 2023, which are set out on pages 13 to 25.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is required by company law to prepare accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006, ; and
- with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

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

E L Anderson

EL Anderson MA FCA CTA
Community Accountancy Service Ltd
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive
Beswick, Manchester, M11 3TQ

Date: 26TH JULY 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023
(incorporating income and expenditure account)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Year Ended 31.3.23 Total Funds £	Year Ended 31.3.22 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and Legacies			26,942	26,942	66,722
Charitable Activities	(5)	22,600	599,385	621,985	513,312
Other Trading Activities	(6)	105,498	3,200	108,698	69,183
Investment Income		2,083	-	2,083	283
TOTAL		130,181	629,527	759,708	649,500
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Grants Made	(7)	-	34,155	34,155	-
Raising Funds	(8)	71,486	-	71,486	9,590
Charitable Activities	(9)	154,158	581,775	735,933	624,616
TOTAL		225,644	615,930	841,574	634,206
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)		(95,463)	13,597	(81,866)	15,294
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS	(19)	-	-	-	-
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR AFTER TRANSFERS		(95,463)	13,597	(81,866)	15,294
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total Funds Brought Forward		225,885	272,878	498,763	483,469
Total Funds Carried Forward	(20)	130,422	286,475	416,897	498,763

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on Pages 16 to 25 form part of these accounts.

CO. REG. NO. 4176004

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
FIXED ASSETS		£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	(12)		60,318		48,161
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	(14)	53,683		64,445	
Cash at Bank and in Hand		544,390		448,542	
		598,073		512,987	
LIABILITIES:					
Amounts falling due within one year	(16)	(215,692)		(62,385)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			382,381		450,602
LIABILITIES:					
Amounts falling due after more than one year			(25,802)		-
TOTAL NET ASSETS			416,897		498,763
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted Funds	(20)		130,422		225,885
Restricted Funds	(20)		286,475		272,878
			416,897		498,763

For the year in question the company was entitled to the exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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

Approved on behalf of the Company's Board of Trustees:

David J. Cox.

Mr. David Cox (Chair)
Trustee / Director

Paul Connellan.

Mr Paul Connellan (Treasurer)
Trustee / Director

Date: 2023

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2023

RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2023	2022
	£	£
Net movement in funds	(81,866)	15,294
Add back depreciation	17,231	15,981
Deduct investment income	(2,083)	(283)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	10,762	(3,832)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	179,109	(19,188)
Net cash used in operating activities	123,153	7,972
Cash flows from investment activities:		
Interest	2,083	283
Purchase of fixed assets	(29,388)	(22,775)
Net cash provided by investing activities	(27,305)	(22,492)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	95,848	(14,520)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	448,542	463,062
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**544,390**	**448,542**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.
The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.
The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There are 17 restricted funds at the year end.
Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion have created a fund for a specific purpose.
Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 19.

(c) Income recognition

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.
Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.
Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.
All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.
Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on staff time and facilities used in each activity.
The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 10.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

(g) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in Note 9.

(h) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are included in the accounts at net book value. Additions of a single item or a group of similar assets exceeding £500, are capitalised at cost (valuation for donated assets).
Depreciation is provided to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives as follows:-
Building Improvements 10% on cost
Other fixed assets are capitalised at cost and depreciated at 20% per annum on cost.
The charity, being a public benefit entity, does not consider that it holds the buildings as an investment. The building was sold to the charity for £1 with the intention that the building would be used as a hub for charitable and voluntary organisations in the care sector, and that the charity would manage the facilities for the public benefit.
Areas not used directly by the charity are let or hired to other public benefit organisations, specifically those offering care and welfare services, at rates that aim to cover the running costs of the facilities over time.
The fair value of any investment component cannot be measured reliably.
The building and improvements are therefore stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.
Income from rental and room hire is shown in Note 6.

(i) Debtors

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

(j) Creditors and Provisions

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

(i) Taxation

The organisation is exempt from income tax by reason of its charitable status. Income tax suffered on investment income is reclaimed in full. The Charity is not registered for VAT.

(j) Pensions

The charity currently administers contributions to a pension scheme, that is auto-enrolment compliant. Contributions are charged to expenditure as they fall due. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

(k) Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is identified and disclosed for those transactions resulting from a possible obligation which will only be confirmed by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the trustees' control.

2 INCOME

This represents grants, contracts, service level agreements and sundry income receivable for the provision of care and social welfare.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (cont...)

3 TAX ON SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	2023	2022
	-	-

4 NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR	2023	2022
This is stated after charging:	£	£
Pension Costs	13,092	10,565
Depreciation - owned assets	17,231	15,981
Independent Examination	1,530	1,455

5 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Stockport CCG - Young Carers Core		31,161	31,161
Stockport CCG - Adult		14,807	14,807
SMBC - Young Carers		167,000	167,000
SMBC Adult Carers - Signpost		150,000	150,000
Stockport Mind		50,000	50,000
Henry Smith		37,200	37,200
Big Lottery		44,102	44,102
Triangle Trust		19,285	19,285
Oglesby		24,600	24,600
BBC-Children in Need		15,200	15,200
SMBC - Win A		11,530	11,530
Household Support Fund	3,500	34,500	38,000
Access to Growth	9,000	-	9,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	6,500	-	6,500
Other Grants	3,600	-	3,600
Total	22,600	599,385	621,985

Previous Year	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022
	£	£	£
Stockport CCG - Young Carers Core		30,200	30,200
Stockport CCG - Adult		14,349	14,349
SMBC - Young Carers		163,000	163,000
SMBC - Carer Assessments		116,666	116,666
GMCVO		4,525	4,525
SMBC Community Champions		32,770	32,770
Henry Smith		23,450	23,450
Big Lottery		40,254	40,254
Triangle Trust		7,917	7,917
Oglesby		10,500	10,500
BBC-Children in Need		14,700	14,700
Pure Innovations - WIN B		10,980	10,980
Commonweal - WIN A		28,888	28,888
Age UK - WIN A		153	153
Wider Ind.Network - counselling		2,700	2,700
NHS England - Covid Legacy	9,300	-	9,300
Neighbourly Fund		1,000	1,000
Good Things Foundation	1,960	-	1,960
Total	11,260	502,052	513,312

6 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Rental, Room hire & Services Income	75,376	-	75,376	54,401
Photocopying	438	-	438	582
Staff Secondment	29,684	-	29,684	10,000
Training	-	400	400	-
Student Placement Fees	-	2,800	2,800	4,200
	105,498	3,200	108,698	69,183

Restricted income in 2022 was £4,200.

7 GRANTS MADE

88 grants totalling £34,115 were made from the Household Support Fund.

8 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023
Community Facilities & Other Services:	£	£	£
Employment Costs	35,828		35,828
Depreciation	5,743		5,743
Business Rates	1,459		1,459
Repairs & Maintenance	4,009		4,009
Heat, Light & Water	9,719		9,719
Cleaning	6,083		6,083
Insurance	1,814		1,814
Telephone	4,066		4,066
Refreshments	412		412
Bad Debts	1,290		1,290
Fundraising Support	1,063		1,063
	71,486	-	71,486

Previous Year	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022
Community Facilities & Other Services:	£	£	£
Employment Costs	1,010		1,010
Depreciation	1,500		1,500
Business Rates	1,032		1,032
Repairs & Maintenance	1,054		1,054
Heat, Light & Water	900		900
Cleaning	600		600
Insurance	1,500		1,500
Telephone	1,387		1,387
Refreshments	358		358
Fundraising Costs	141	108	249
	9,482	108	9,590

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (cont...) 20

9 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Adult Carer Services	Young Carers	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Employment Costs	277,542	223,508	501,050
Recruitment & DBS Checks	-	210	210
Training	6,107	1,830	7,937
Travel	2,348	3,558	5,906
Partner Payments - Stockport Mind	50,000	-	50,000
Advertising & Publicity & Events	7,217	14	7,231
Carers Activities, Outings & Residentials	2,717	3,929	6,646
Translation	41	41	41
Carers & Support Worker Other	281	200	481
Volunteer Expenses	255	100	255
Vehicle Expenses	-	1,709	1,709
Counselling Fees	23,201	660	23,201
Room Hire	287	-	287
Support Costs	93,889	22,494	116,383
Governance Costs	11,592	3,004	14,596
	475,477	261,257	735,933

Restricted Funds	581,775
Unrestricted Funds	154,158
	735,933

Previous Year	Adult Carer Services	Young Carers	Total 2022
	£	£	£
Employment Costs	225,231	196,451	421,682
Recruitment & DBS Checks	1,523	448	1,971
Training	1,566	735	2,301
Travel	1,615	3,364	4,979
Advertising & Publicity & Events	3,687	-	3,687
Carers Activities, Outings & Residentials	758	8,229	8,987
Translation	96	-	96
Carers & Support Worker Other	212	480	692
Volunteer Expenses	105	-	105
Carelink	2,403	-	2,403
Vehicle Expenses	-	1,833	1,833
Counselling Fees	19,745	-	19,745
Room Hire	280	-	280
Support Costs	101,992	41,385	143,377
Governance Costs	9,926	2,552	12,478
	369,139	255,477	624,616

Restricted Funds	624,317
Unrestricted Funds	299
	624,616

10 ALLOCATION OF GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

	Basis of Apportionment	General Support	Governance	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£
Support Costs					
Employment Costs	*Staff Time*	18,437	2,048	20,485	22,293
Computer Maintenance & Software	*Area Used*	7,115		7,115	7,952
Website Support Costs	*Direct*	2,944		2,944	5,475
Minor Equipment	*Direct*	827		827	2,096
Depreciation	*Area Used*	11,487		11,487	14,481
Publications & Subscriptions	*Direct*	1,531		1,531	1,373
Repairs & Maintenance	*Area Used*	8,018		8,018	28,335
Heat, Light & Water	*Area Used*	19,437		19,437	12,219
Cleaning	*Area Used*	12,166		12,166	14,023
Insurance	*Area Used*	3,629		3,629	3,497
Telephone	*Area Used*	8,132		8,132	18,478
Printing & Stationery	*Direct*	6,098		6,098	8,417
Postage	*Direct*	2,612		2,612	1,801
Sundries	*Direct*	2,974		2,974	1,349
Refreshments	*Direct*	6,538		6,538	3,817
Loan Interest	*Governance*	3,648		3,648	-
Bank & Lender Charges	*Governance*	790		790	-
Legal & Professional Fees	*Governance*		6,768	6,768	4,720
Strategic & Management Support	*Governance*		4,250	4,250	4,074
Accountancy	*Governance*		1,530	1,530	1,455
		116,383	14,596	130,979	155,855

11 STAFF NUMBERS AND COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	508,565	407,697
Social Security Costs	35,706	26,723
Pension Costs	13,092	10,565
	557,363	444,985

The charity employed 37 people during the year. The average number of employees, full time equivalent was as follows:

Services	16	15
Management & Administration	3	1
	19	16

The charity considers its key management personnel comprise the Trustees and deputy director. The total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel was £33,248 (2022: £31,461), No employees has benefits in excess of £60,000 (2022:none)

12 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land & Buildings	Building Improvements	Vehicles	Computer Equipment	Fixtures & Equipment	Total
COST/ VALUATION	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2022	1	248,102	35,620	51,308	49,386	384,417
Additions		21,240		8,148		29,388
At 31 March 2023	1	269,342	35,620	59,456	49,386	413,805
DEPRECIATION						
At 1 April 2022		230,794	21,372	40,195	43,895	336,256
Charge for Year		4,219	7,124	5,452	436	17,231
At 31 March 2023	-	235,013	28,496	45,647	44,331	353,487
NET BOOK VALUE						
At 31 March 2023	1	34,329	7,124	13,809	5,055	60,318
At 31 March 2022	1	17,308	14,248	11,113	5,491	48,161

Stockport MBC transferred the buidings to the charitable company for the nominal sum of £1.

13 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Contracted but not provided for	12,343	nil

14 DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other Debtors	47,132	57,313
Prepayments	6,551	7,132
	53,683	64,445
Restricted	31,645	33,645
Unrestricted	22,038	30,800
Total	53,683	64,445

15 DEFERRED INCOME

	2023	2022
Deferred income comprises grants and rentals paid in advance.	£	£
Balance as at 1st April	41,965	72,284
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(41,965)	(72,284)
Amount deferred in year	36,324	41,965
	36,324	41,965

16 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other Creditors	24,247	13,317
Loan	6,616	-
Deferred Income	36,324	41,965
Other Creditors - SMBC	140,946	2,455
Accruals	7,559	4,648
	215,692	62,385
Restricted	136,755	35,222
Unrestricted	78,937	27,163
Total	215,692	62,385

17 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Loan	25,802	-

18 LEGAL STATUS OF THE COMPANY

The Company has no share capital and all members have agreed to contribute £1 in the event of the Company winding up.

19 ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds:	Balance at 01-Apr-22	Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Balance at 31-Mar-23
Restricted Capital Funds:	£	£	£	£	£
Donation - Minibus	14,248			(7,124)	7,124
SMBC - cellar refurbishment	2,245			(551)	1,694
Mayor's Charity -cellar refurbishment	884			(217)	667
The Morrison's Foundation - cellar	4,490			(850)	3,640
Community Investment Fund	193			(193)	-
Adult Social Care & Carers					
Wider independence Network - Lot A	-	11,530		(11,530)	-
Donations - counselling	-	3,965		(3,965)	-
Household Support Fund	-	34,500		(34,115)	385
Stockport CCG	-	14,807		(14,000)	807
SMBC - Carer Respite	5,947			(1,155)	4,792
Carer Assessments	14,831			(14,831)	-
SMBC Adult Carers	-	200,000		(199,074)	926
Big Lottery	15,258	44,102		(37,735)	21,625
Henry Smith	-	37,200		(26,710)	10,490
Fundraising & Donations - adults	134,557	19,556		(2,582)	151,531
Young Carers					
SMBC Soc Services	-	167,400	759	(168,159)	-
Stockport CCG - Young Carers	7,845	31,161		(30,919)	8,087
Donations	55,334	3,421	(759)	-	57,996
Triangle Trust	3,975	19,285		(19,560)	3,700
Donations- counselling	4,768			(430)	4,338
MMU	-	2,800		(2,800)	-
BBC Children In Need	7,498	15,200		(16,218)	6,480
Oglesby Charitable Trust	805	24,600		(23,212)	2,193
Sub-total	*272,878*	*629,527*	-	*(615,930)*	*286,475*
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	121,321	130,181	(678)	(219,587)	31,237
Capital Funds (spent)	20,657	-	678	(3,415)	17,920
Designated - Database Upgrade	7,300	-	-	(1,118)	6,182
Designated - Building Maintenance	40,000	-	-	(1,524)	38,476
Designated Funds - Contingency	36,607	-	-	-	36,607
	225,885	*130,181*	-	*(225,644)*	*130,422*
	498,763	759,708	-	(841,574)	416,897

Designated Funds - Building maintenance planned for 2022/23 includes completion of the lift installation at the cost of £24,000. The balance is set aside for unexpected costs and longer term maintenance.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (cont...)

19 cont ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS cont...

Previous Year

Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds:	Balance at 01-Apr-21	Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Balance at 31-Mar-22
Restricted Capital Funds:	£	£	£	£	£
Donation - Minibus	21,372			(7,124)	14,248
SMBC - cellar refurbishment	2,796			(551)	2,245
Mayor's Charity -cellar refurbishment	1,101			(217)	884
The Morrison's Foundation - cellar	5,592			(1,102)	4,490
Community Investment Fund	387			(194)	193
Adult Social Care & Carers					
Independent Age	5,501			(5,501)	-
Wider independence Network - Lot A	3,218	11,133		(14,351)	-
Wider independence Network - Lot B	7,438	28,888		(36,326)	-
Wider Ind.Network - counselling	-	2,700		(2,700)	-
Marks & Spencer - counselling	1,757			(1,757)	-
Donations - counselling	-	3,471	152	(3,623)	-
Neighbourly Fund	-	1,000		(1,000)	-
Ready to Grow	4,190			(4,190)	-
Stockport CCG	9,776	14,349		(24,125)	-
SMBC - Carer Respite	6,854			(907)	5,947
Carer Assessments	31,903	116,666		(133,738)	14,831
Big Lottery	14,818	40,254		(39,814)	15,258
Henry Smith	16,212	23,450		(39,662)	-
Fundraising & Donations - adults	91,313	58,058	(152)	(14,662)	134,557
SMBC Community Champions	-	32,770		(32,770)	-
GMCVO	-	4,525		(4,525)	-
Young Carers					
SMBC Soc Services	-	163,000		(163,000)	-
Stockport CCG - Young Carers	-	30,200		(22,355)	7,845
Donations	60,479	4,193		(9,338)	55,334
Triangle Trust	-	7,917		(3,942)	3,975
Donations- counselling	6,869			(2,101)	4,768
MMU	-	4,200		(4,200)	-
BBC Children In Need	11,293	14,700		(18,495)	7,498
Oglesby Charitable Trust	22,460	10,500		(32,155)	805
Sub-total	*325,329*	*571,974*	-	*(624,425)*	*272,878*
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	115,012	77,526	(65,830)	(5,387)	121,321
Capital Funds (spent)	6,521	-	18,530	(4,394)	20,657
Designated - Database Upgrade	-	-	7,300	-	7,300
Designated - Building Maintenance	-	-	40,000	-	40,000
Designated Funds - Contingency	36,607	-	-	-	36,607
	158,140	*77,526*	-	*(9,781)*	*225,885*
	483,469	649,500	-	(634,206)	498,763

Restricted capital funds (including cellar refurbishment) and unrestricted capital funds are fully spent. The balance represents the book value of assets still to be depreciated.

A contingency fund is to cover employment costs in the event of funding gaps or cessation of project funding.

20 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Other Net Assets	Total 2023
RESTRICTED FUNDS:	£	£	£
Restricted Capital	13,125	-	13,125
Adult Social Care	2,871	187,685	190,556
Young Carers	1,932	80,862	82,794
	17,928	268,547	286,475
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:	42,390	88,032	130,422
Retained Surplus Carried Forward	60,318	356,579	416,897

Previous Year	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total 2022
RESTRICTED FUNDS:	£	£	£
Restricted Capital	22,060	-	22,060
Adult Social Care	3,284	167,309	170,593
Young Carers	2,160	78,065	80,225
	27,504	245,374	272,878
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:	20,567	205,228	225,795
Retained Surplus Carried Forward	48,071	450,602	498,673

21 OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

Office Equipment	2023 £	2022 £
Within one Year	9,622	7,423
2-5 years	-	9,622
	9,622	17,045

22 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no contingent liabilities at 31 March 2023 (2022 £nil).

23 CONTROLLING PARTY

The charitable company is under the joint control of the Board of Trustees named on Page 1.

24 POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

The trustees consider that there are no significant post balance sheet events that impact on the financial statements as presented.

Signpost For Carers

England & Wales - Charity number 1085727

Accounts

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

Registered Charity No. 1085727

Registered Limited Company No. 4176004

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

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SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2022

The Trustees present their annual directors' report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31ST March 2022 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and administrative information

Charity Name: Signpost Stockport for Carers
Charity Number: 1085727
Company Number: 4176004

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law. The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Key management personnel: Trustees and Directors

David Cox (Chair)
Paul Connellan (Treasurer)
Anthony White
Barry Parkes
Stuart Corris
Norma Barber
Carol Rushton
Laura Whitaker (resigned 19th January 2022)
Jennifer Crosbie
Janet Lee
Paul Howes (appointed 17th November 2021)

Senior managers

Julia Hewer (Director)
Katy Frankland (Service Manager – Young Carers)
Andrew North (Finance Manager and Company Secretary)

Registered Office

The Heatons Centre
Thornfield Road, Heaton Moor
Stockport, Cheshire
SK4 3LD

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

Bankers
Royal Bank of Scotland
Drummond House (GK) Branch
Customer Services Centre
1 Redheughs Avenue
Edinburgh
EH12 9JN

Independent Examiners
Community Accountancy Service Limited
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive
Beswick
Manchester
M11 3TQ

Structure, governance and management
Signpost Stockport for Carers is a company limited by guarantee that is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 8th March 2001. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission dated 22nd March 2001.

Appointment of Trustees
As set out in the Articles of Association Trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable company attending the Annual General meeting.

Trustee induction and training
New Trustees are given a Trustee Training and Guidance Pack which covers:

- The obligations of the Board of Trustees
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the last published accounts
- Future plans and objectives

A question and answers pack has also been prepared drawing information from the various Charity Commission publications. This is distributed to all new Trustees along with the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Organisation
The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The board normally meets bi-monthly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the Charity. The members are drawn from a wide variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the Charity. The Director is responsible for working with the Board of Trustees to formulating the strategic direction of the charity and for the day-to-day operations of the charity with the assistance of service managers. The Director is responsible for ensuring that the Charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met and reporting these to the Board.

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are to serve the district of the Metropolitan Borough of Stockport in alleviating the conditions of life;

- amongst people, of all ages and ethnicity, who are caring and who have cared for a person who has mental health problems, has a physical or sensory disability, has learning disabilities or whose health is impaired by sickness or old age;
- and of dependants of carers who are themselves in need, and for that purpose to promote the relief of such carers as previously mentioned; and to advance education amongst carers and the public.

The main activities are carer support for adults and young carers (aged 6 to 25). The charity furthers its charitable purposes for the public benefit through the provision of low cost accommodation, meeting and training facilities for organisations within the care and voluntary sectors.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the policies for the year.

At Signpost Stockport for Carers, our carers are at the centre of everything that we do. The team of staff and volunteers and our Board of Trustees, are focussed on ensuring that we offer person centred, strengths based service provision, regardless of the condition of the cared for person or the age of the carer.

The last financial year continued to present challenges, as our carers and our team navigated the ongoing impact of Covid-19 alongside the natural end of some long term funding streams. We have seen changes in the demands for our different services, and worked with all our stakeholders to ensure that, as much as possible, we are ready and able to meet these demands. We base our offer on our belief that being a carer should not be a barrier to leading a fulfilling life and continue to provide a range of free or low cost services to carers, all designed to support them with their own health and wellbeing. This year, we have continued to work with carers to find ways to manage their caring role alongside the responsibilities of paid employment, family life and the many other demands on their time and energy- including managing the impact of living and caring in, and post, pandemic. In July 2021, the organisation undertook a review of our staffing structure resulting in the addition of a role within our senior leadership team. The board also appointed a new trustee with specific expertise to support with change and development.

This year the organisation has been mindful of delivering services and provision in line with the ever-changing COVID-19 restrictions, building on the experiences and resilience that came from the year before. We continue to develop and evolve as a carer support organisation; improving processes and looking for opportunities whilst consolidating our offer to Stockport's unpaid carers.

The steady increase in the level of new registrations to the adult carers service that we saw last year, continued in 2021-2022, with an average of 105 new carers registering with us each month. A significant number of these have come through referrals from partners such as Viaduct and The Memory Assessment Service (support carers of those living with dementia). As a result of some productive conversations, and as an excellent example of partnership working, Signpost secured a

secondment position with the latter, enabling one of our team to work directly alongside the memory nurses and community workers. This streamlines access to carer support and information for many who are struggling with significant changes to relationships and daily life. Carers have told us that the expertise and carer-focussed way of working demonstrated by the carer support worker, alongside the ability to make connections to other services (internal and external) makes a considerable impact on how they are feeling, particularly around how supported they are in their new role as a carer. This one-to-one support is complemented by Signpost's offer of training and groups including a new volunteer led coffee morning at the Kenilworth Pub in Cheadle Hulme. The volunteers are trained to be community champions, able to offer information on a range of topics with the ability to refer back to the member of staff as required.

The impact of the pandemic on carers' emotional wellbeing has become more evident over the last twelve months. Carers are coming to the organisation with real and increased social isolation, anxiety and depression. The counselling service, funded through a mix of statutory funding, donations and generated income, has been able to deliver sessions in a hybrid manner; resuming face to face sessions whilst also offering the service over the telephone or via zoom for the carers that prefer this way of working. A new student counsellor joined the team in February 2021, and we are proud that we are able to contribute to their training and development whilst our carers benefit from their time and skills.

The counselling service continues to see a significant increase in the number of carers looking after children with a diagnosis such as autism, ADHD, bi polar disorder, and who are self-harming and attempting suicide (both children under 18 and adult children). There has also been an increase in referrals for younger people in their twenties, and for carers from more diverse communities. To support the counselling and wider staff team to manage this, the Signpost Counselling team has looked to develop the range of group/therapeutic short courses and training sessions offered to staff and carers. Partnership has again proven to be key, with valuable sessions from Healthy Minds and Man About A Dog forming part of this work

The funding streams for Signpost have started to change this year. Several have come to and end, such as Henry Smith Foundation that supported the Moneywise project and Lloyds Bank Foundation that enabled our Changing Times work, focusing on those carers experiencing deep and significant changes in their caring role, such as bereavement or the need for the cared for person to move out of their home. The Signpost Board of Trustees made the decision to continue to support both of these areas of work from reserves until new funding becomes available as the projects have proven to be invaluable to carers in recent years. The Wellbeing and Independence Network has also come to an end, with the review of the Early Help and Prevention offer from Stockport Council. Signpost bid for the contract for the Carers Support element of the Stockport Support Hub offer, and was awarded the contract for the work, due to start in April 2022. This winning bid was due, in part, to the successful pilot work around Carers Assessments that we have been delivering since February 2020. Carers Assessment have formed a significant part of the Adult Carers Team's work this year, with additional financial support provided to the organisation to manage waiting times for carers.

Signpost has used this resource to increase the carers assessment team and improve processes and procedures, and this will be able to continue as part of the new contract.

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

Signpost has built on existing use of digital and social media this year. One off events (such as HR support for carers in employment held during Carers Week 2021), training (Community Champions), regular activities (Recycled Art – delivered by a volunteer thanks to Arts Council funding) and carer peer support sessions have run either as online only or hybrid meet-ups. Working in this way has enabled more carers to participate and given a freedom to others – a change in their cared for person's condition on a particular day does not now mean that they can't meet their friends and give and receive support. This reduces anxiety and isolation and generates many positive outcomes!

Our benefits information service (Moneywise) and carers assessment work are now offered over the phone or via home visits. A new worker was recruited to this project in 2021 and they brought additional expertise which has benefitted carers such as preparation for, and support at, a benefits appeal tribunal. The experience and understanding demonstrated by the Moneywise team is key to building the strong relationships necessary for the sharing of sensitive financial and social situations that happens within an appointment. The bonds of trust that the team have ensures that they can bring in much needed additional income for Stockport households. This year, Moneywise has been one of our busiest projects, and we expect this to continue as carers face ongoing financial challenge.

Signpost Stockport Young Carers Service provides information and support to young carers aged 6 - 25 who look after someone at home who has an illness or disability. This service has grown this year in terms of service development, following a review of gaps not only within our organisation but more widely. It is important that young carers feel part of their communities, and that they are able to access support and information when they need it, from a trusted person in a place in which they are comfortable. With new funding from the Triangle Trust we have been able to extend our school support offer. The role is around supporting schools and colleges to set up their own in house support groups, enabling Young Carers to access additional respite opportunities and valuable peer support.

The school team continue to raise awareness across all schools/colleges and one to one support for those Young Carers who are struggling to manage the school day.

Key to our work is supporting schools/colleges to apply for the Young Carers in Schools National Award, 17 of our schools have obtained the award – 4 high schools in Stockport now have the Gold Award. Currently we are in the top 3 Local Authorities with the highest number of awards.

The Family Support team continue to undertake detailed assessment designed to identify the needs of all family members and determine appropriate service provision. Following a case work approach, the team work closely with external agencies and schools in order to reduce caring responsibilities and improve overall family support. This year has seen more referrals than ever before, requiring a careful use of resources and expertise to ensure that no young carers are left unsupported whilst balancing the workload of the team.

An important element of our young carers service is bringing children and young people together for peer support. Whilst we were able to do this to some degree with online and outdoor meet-ups in 2020-2021, there is no substitute for 'real life' get togethers. For this reason, we were pleased to

return to face to face group sessions and half term activities in July 2021. The groups are now back to full attendance and we continue to offer a wide variety of activities and varied opportunities.

We were also fortunate to offer to 2 residentials last year to Windemere, giving our Young Carers a much needed break and a return to some normality.

The counselling service is also supporting our young carers and their families to adjust to circumstances and process the challenges that they face on a daily basis. This has continued to adapt post COVID. The demand for our counselling service has increased due to the impact COVID has had on the mental health of our young carers. We have been able to meet demand due to additional funding from one of our external funders - Oglesby Charity.

Key themes young carers have reported;
Returning to school/college has been overwhelming, due to the amount of work missed and fears around getting COVID and the impact it could have on the 'cared for'.

The increase of caring responsibilities during the pandemic both on their physical and mental health has been huge.

In addition to our counselling sessions, we have also been delivering after school therapeutic/art sessions in secondary schools. Sessions have focused on improving emotional well being and giving young carers strategies when they are struggling with anxiety/worries, particularly when in school. The groups have also allowed valuable peer support. Examples of activities in workshops include; guided meditations, affirmation bracelet making, Playdoh mindfulness and relaxation aids.

It is not just our young carers that are feeling the impact of the pandemic; The whole Signpost team continues to be affected by the impact of COVID, personally and professionally, with a significant proportion affected by the caring roles that they themselves have outside of work. The organisation has worked hard to offer flexible and appropriate solutions and support to the team, ensuring that they have the resilience and capacity to continue to deliver services to carers. All the paid members of staff and volunteers that have been involved with Signpost over these twelve months have been an absolute credit to the organisation, and the consistent positive feedback that they receive from our carers and partner organisations is further testament to the excellent work that they do.

The operation and management of the Heatons Centre has, this year, generated sufficient income to allow us to maintain and improve the building for our users and tenants, with further surplus directed to delivering on our charitable purposes. This came together in the development of the 'Maple room, a bookable respite space available for carers to spend time alone or with friends. Funding from Stockport Local Fund and support with furnishings from John Lewis Cheadle have created a calming and relaxing room which is something different for Stockport's carers. This year, Signpost has adopted a new booking system for the rooms to streamline the process for external and internal users. There has been an increase in the number and diversity of bookings which we hope will prove to be an ongoing trend. There is an ongoing program of improvements to be made, both cosmetic and substantial to the fabric of the building and we were delighted to be able to fix the large stained glass window which is a unique feature of our space. Despite the difficult financial

times for many, Signpost continued to receive donations from a number of community groups and individuals including a substantial legacy. These contributions are greatly valued, not just for their financial value but also for the opportunities they generate to reach more carers across the Stockport borough.

As an 'on the ground' support organisation, we know that the number of carers is steadily growing. The complexity of need for support of carers is also increasing, at a time where local, regional, national and global uncertainties are all starting to have an impact on carers, staff and the organisation itself. Carers are being impacted by the ongoing restriction in face to face delivery of support and services from statutory organisations, increased costs (which are expected to continue to rise), an ongoing lack of recognition of Carers Allowance and its limitations along with reduced availability and accessibility to the health and social care support that they (and those they care for) need. It is clear from the calls and referrals we received in 21/22 that there is a real need for comprehensive, tailored and accessible support for the thousands of unpaid carers across the borough. The existence of Signpost Stockport for Carers, with its superb team of staff and volunteers and its decades of experience, is critical for many Stockport residents. We see our responsibilities as a privilege and are preparing to work with our carers as we face these challenges together over the next twelve months.

Financial Review

The Charity recorded a surplus of £15,294 on its financial activities during the year with overall income of £649,500 up on the previous year of £602,226.

Investment powers and policy

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have kept available funds in the charity's current account with the Royal Bank of Scotland during the year.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 31st March 2022 was £225,885 (Note 17) of which £205,228 (Note 18) is free reserves, after allowing for designated funds and those tied up in tangible fixed assets.

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The Trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered for the 2022/23 financial year.

The Trustees consider that the charity is a going concern and the following sources of funding have been secured (or for rental income are reasonably expected) for **2022/23;**

Adult Carers	£
Heatons Centre Rental and Services income	60,000
Stockport MBC Adult Carers Contract	200,000
Big Lottery Funding – Work with Us	40,000
AGE UK	11,500

The Henry Smith Charity	37,000
Stockport CCG	14,000
NHS Covid Legacy	9,300
Pennine Care NHS Trust	4,500
GMCVO	9,000
Donations & Legacies	6,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	6,500
TOTAL	**£397,800**

Young Carers	
Stockport MBC Young Carers Contract	167,000
Stockport CCG	30,200
BBC Children in Need	15,000
Oglesby Charitable Trust	21,000
Triangle Trust	20,000
Donations	4,000
TOTAL	**£257,200**

Total Income	**£655,000**

Risk Management

The Trustees continue to be updated on the major risks to which the charity is exposed, particularly around the impact of Covid19 and actions in place to mitigate those risks. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the Charity faces. External risks to funding have led to the Trustees starting to review the strategic plan which will allow for the diversification of funding and activities. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff and volunteers. All policies are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the Charity.

Plans for Future Periods

Signpost Stockport for Carers continues to work in accordance with its strategic plan, developing and cementing its position in the borough as a navigator, organiser and voice for carers. From first contact through to core service delivery and on to follow up and after care, the whole organisation will stay true to its belief that being a carer should not be a barrier to leading a fulfilling life. The organisation will be working as part of the Stockport Support Hub from April 2022, delivering on the Carer Support contract, subcontracting some elements to Stockport and District Mind Carers Service – a new way of working for both organisations. There are plans to attract funding for volunteer development support, alongside seeking the financial security for what can reasonably be considered core services in the form of the Finance and Benefit support (Moneywise) and the general carer support offer. In 2022/23, the organisation will be bidding for the Young Carers contract which is due for renewal. In addition to this, the organisation will work to consolidate existing provision & develop and enhance services in response to carers' requests (such as opportunities for respite) alongside a constant drive for security and sustainability. This will come in

the form of a comprehensive and robust fundraising strategy and a more intense focus on the social enterprise possibilities for Signpost, including continued improvements to The Heatons Centre.

More broadly, Signpost will be looking to drive the development of a Carers Strategy for Stockport, in line with the One Stockport Borough plan. There is an identified need to raise the profile of carers, caring and carer support in Stockport and we look forward to meeting this challenge over the next twelve months.

Signpost will continue to value and support its team of staff and volunteers and ensure that they are in the best possible position for offering the practical and emotional support to Stockport's carers.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or any other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a Trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

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

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

By order of the Board of Trustees
Date: 28-09-2022

David J Cox Chair

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

I report on the accounts of the company for the Year Ended 31st March 2022, which are set out on pages 11 to 23.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is required by company law to prepare accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006, ; and
- with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

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

EL Anderson

EL Anderson MA FCA CTA
Community Accountancy Service Ltd
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive
Beswick, Manchester, M11 3TQ

Date: 28th September 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022
(incorporating income and expenditure account)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Year Ended 31.3.22 Total Funds £	Year Ended 31.3.21 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and Legacies		1,000	65,722	66,722	60,470
Charitable Activities	(5)	11,260	502,052	513,312	504,343
Other Trading Activities	(6)	64,983	4,200	69,183	37,170
Investment Income		283	-	283	243
TOTAL		77,526	571,974	649,500	602,226
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising Funds	(7)	9,482	108	9,590	11,164
Charitable Activities	(8)	299	624,317	624,616	488,147
TOTAL		9,781	624,425	634,206	499,311
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)		67,745	(52,451)	15,294	102,915
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS	(17)	-	-	-	-
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR AFTER TRANSFERS		67,745	(52,451)	15,294	102,915
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total Funds Brought Forward		158,140	325,329	483,469	380,554
Total Funds Carried Forward	(18)	225,885	272,878	498,763	483,469

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

CO. REG. NO. 4176004

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	(11)		48,161		41,367
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	(13)	64,445		60,613	
Cash at Bank and in Hand		448,542		463,062	
		512,987		523,675	
LIABILITIES:					
Amounts falling due within one year	(15)	(62,385)		(81,573)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			450,602		442,102
TOTAL NET ASSETS			498,763		483,469
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted Funds	(17)		225,885		158,140
Restricted Funds	(17)		272,878		325,329
			498,763		483,469

For the year in question the company was entitled to the exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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

Approved on behalf of the Company's Board of Trustees:

David Cox

Mr. David Cox (Chair)
Trustee / Director

Paul Connellan

Mr Paul Connellan (Treasurer)
Trustee / Director

Date: 8-9-2022

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2022	2021
	£	£
Net movement in funds	15,294	102,915
Add back depreciation	15,981	35,154
Add loss / Deduct profit on disposal of asset	-	1,440
Deduct investment income	(283)	(243)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(3,832)	(10,905)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(19,188)	(74,803)
Net cash used in operating activities	7,972	53,558
Cash flows from investment activities:		
Interest	283	243
Purchase of fixed assets	(22,775)	(6,970)
Net cash provided by investing activities	(22,492)	(6,727)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	(14,520)	46,831
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	463,062	416,231
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**448,542**	**463,062**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.
The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.
The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There are 15 restricted funds at the year end.
Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion have created a fund for a specific purpose.
Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 17.

(c) Income recognition

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.
Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.
Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.
All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.
Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on staff time and facilities used in each activity.
The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 9.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

(g) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in Note 8.

(h) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are included in the accounts at net book value. Additions of a single item or a group of similar assets exceeding £500, are capitalised at cost (valuation for donated assets).
Depreciation is provided to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives as follows:-
Building Improvements 10% on cost
Other fixed assets are capitalised at cost and depreciated at 20% per annum on cost.
The charity, being a public benefit entity, does not consider that it holds the buildings as an investment. The building was sold to the charity for £1 with the intention that the building would be used as a hub for charitable and voluntary organisations in the care sector, and that the charity would manage the facilities for the public benefit.
Areas not used directly by the charity are let or hired to other public benefit organisations, specifically those offering care and welfare services, at rates that aim to cover the running costs of the facilities over time.
The fair value of any investment component cannot be measured reliably.
The building and improvements are therefore stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.
Income from rental and room hire is shown in Note 6.

(i) Debtors

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

(j) Creditors and Provisions

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

(i) Taxation

The organisation is exempt from income tax by reason of its charitable status. Income tax suffered on investment income is reclaimed in full. The Charity is not registered for VAT.

(j) Pensions

The charity currently administers contributions to a pension scheme, that is auto-enrolment compliant. Contributions are charged to expenditure as they fall due. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

(k) Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is identified and disclosed for those transactions resulting from a possible obligation which will only be confirmed by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the trustees' control.

2 INCOME

This represents grants, contracts, service level agreements and sundry income receivable for the provision of care and social welfare.

3 TAX ON SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES -

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (cont...)

4 NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:	2022 £	2021 £
Pension Costs	10,565	6,173
Depreciation - owned assets	15,981	35,154
Loss (Profit) on Disposal of Assets	-	1,440
Independent Examination	1,455	1,455
Other Financial Services	-	-

5 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £
Stockport CCG - Young Carers Core		30,200	30,200
Stockport CCG - Adult		14,349	14,349
SMBC - Young Carers		163,000	163,000
SMBC - Carer Assessments		116,666	116,666
GMCVO		4,525	4,525
SMBC Community Champions		32,770	32,770
Henry Smith		23,450	23,450
Big Lottery		40,254	40,254
Triangle Trust		7,917	7,917
Oglesby		10,500	10,500
BBC-Children in Need		14,700	14,700
Pure Innovations - WIN B		10,980	10,980
Commonweal - WIN A		28,888	28,888
Age UK - WIN A		153	153
Wider Ind.Network - counselling		2,700	2,700
NHS England - Covid Legacy	9,300	-	9,300
Neighbourly Fund		1,000	1,000
Good Things Foundation	1,960	-	1,960
Total	11,260	502,052	513,312

Previous Year	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £
Stockport CCG - Young Carers Core		22,650	22,650
Stockport CCG - Adult		24,353	24,353
SMBC - Young Carers		157,919	157,919
SMBC - Carer Assessments		33,000	33,000
SMBC - Local Discretionary Grant	10,000	-	10,000
SMBC - Other	2,340	-	2,340
HMRC - CJRS		2,058	2,058
Charities Aid Foundation	8,000	-	8,000
Henry Smith		40,142	40,142
Lloyds Foundation		32,827	32,827
Big Lottery	13,000	39,825	52,825
Triangle Trust	8,900	20,000	28,900
Oglesby		16,960	16,960
Independent Age		11,100	11,100
BBC-Children in Need		14,700	14,700
Pure Innovations - WIN B		30,264	30,264
Age UK - WIN A		10,980	10,980
Wider Ind.Network - counselling		2,700	2,700
Good Things Foundation	2,625	-	2,625
Total	44,865	459,478	504,343

6 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Rental, Room hire & Services Income	54,401	-	54,401	35,486
Photocopying	582	-	582	284
Staff Secondment	10,000	-	10,000	-
Student Placement Fees	-	4,200	4,200	1,400
	64,983	4,200	69,183	37,170

Restricted income in 2021 was £1,561.

7 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022
Community Facilities & Other Services:	£	£	£
Employment Costs	1,010		1,010
Depreciation	1,500		1,500
Business Rates	1,032		1,032
Repairs & Maintenance	1,054		1,054
Heat, Light & Water	900		900
Cleaning	600		600
Insurance	1,500		1,500
Telephone	1,387		1,387
Refreshments	358		358
Fundraising Costs	141	108	249
	9,482	108	9,590

Previous Year	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021
Community Facilities & Other Services:	£	£	£
Employment Costs	978		978
Depreciation	2,111		2,111
Business Rates	1,664		1,664
Repairs & Maintenance	2,713		2,713
Heat, Light & Water	900		900
Cleaning	600		600
Insurance	1,500		1,500
Telephone	200		200
Refreshments	125		125
Bad Debts	157		157
Fundraising Costs	216		216
	11,164	-	11,164

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (cont...)

8 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Adult Carer Services	Young Carers	Total 2022
	£	£	£
Employment Costs	225,231	196,451	421,682
Recruitment & DBS Checks	1,523	448	1,971
Training	1,566	735	2,301
Travel	1,615	3,364	4,979
Advertising & Publicity & Events	3,687		3,687
Carers Activities, Outings & Residentials	758	8,229	8,987
Translation	96	-	96
Carers & Support Worker Other	212	480	692
Volunteer Expenses	105	-	105
Carelink	2,403	-	2,403
Vehicle Expenses	-	1,833	1,833
Counselling Fees	19,745	-	19,745
Room Hire	280	-	280
Support Costs	101,992	41,385	143,377
Governance Costs	9,926	2,552	12,478
	369,139	255,477	624,616

Restricted Funds	624,317
Unrestricted Funds	299
	624,616

Previous Year	Adult Carer Services	Young Carers	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Employment Costs	131,509	172,046	303,555
Recruitment & DBS Checks	473	420	893
Training	470	90	560
Travel	337	1,047	1,384
Advertising & Publicity & Events	577	882	1,459
Carers Activities, Outings & Residentials	61	2,995	3,056
Translation	-	67	67
Carers & Support Worker Other	63	480	543
Carelink	3,666	-	3,666
Vehicle Expenses	-	1,343	1,343
Counselling Fees	-	14,585	14,585
Room Hire	140	-	140
Support Costs	111,615	38,790	150,405
Governance Costs	3,066	3,425	6,491
	251,977	236,170	488,147

Restricted Funds	463,526
Unrestricted Funds	24,621
	488,147

9 ALLOCATION OF GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

	Basis of Apportionment	General Support	Governance	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£
Support Costs					
Employment Costs	*Staff Time*	20,064	2,229	22,293	15,056
Computer Maintenance & Software	*Area Used*	7,952		7,952	5,234
Website Support Costs	*Direct*	5,475		5,475	7,727
Minor Equipment	*Direct*	2,096		2,096	318
Depreciation	*Area Used*	14,481		14,481	33,043
Loss on disposal of assets	*Area Used*	-		-	1,440
Publications & Subscriptions	*Direct*	1,373		1,373	727
Repairs & Maintenance	*Area Used*	28,335		28,335	27,899
Heat, Light & Water	*Area Used*	12,219		12,219	12,033
Cleaning	*Area Used*	14,023		14,023	14,474
Insurance	*Area Used*	3,497		3,497	2,083
Telephone	*Area Used*	18,478		18,478	20,634
Printing & Stationery	*Direct*	8,417		8,417	6,311
Postage	*Direct*	1,801		1,801	2,339
Sundries	*Direct*	1,349		1,349	996
Refreshments	*Direct*	3,817		3,817	1,597
Card Charges	*Direct*	-		-	10
Legal & Professional Fees	*Governance*		4,720	4,720	3,520
Strategic & Management Support	*Governance*		4,074	4,074	-
Accountancy	*Governance*		1,455	1,455	1,455
		143,377	12,478	155,855	156,896

10 STAFF NUMBERS AND COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	407,697	296,279
Social Security Costs	26,723	17,137
Pension Costs	10,565	6,173
	444,985	319,589

The charity employed 38 people during the year. The average number of employees, full time equivalent was as follows:

Services	15	10
Management & Administration	1	1
	16	11

The charity considers its key management personnel comprise the Trustees and deputy director. The total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel was £31,461 (2021: £23,795), No employees has benefits in excess of £60,000 (2021:none)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (cont...)

11 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land & Buildings	Building Improvements	Vehicles	Computer Equipment	Fixtures & Equipment	Total
COST/ VALUATION	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2021	1	237,339	35,620	45,593	49,851	368,404
Additions		10,763		5,715	6,297	22,775
Disposals					(6,762)	(6,762)
At 31 March 2022	1	248,102	35,620	51,308	49,386	384,417
DEPRECIATION						
At 1 April 2021		228,100	14,248	35,985	48,704	327,037
Charge for Year		2,694	7,124	4,210	1,953	15,981
Disposals					(6,762)	(6,762)
At 31 March 2022	-	230,794	21,372	40,195	43,895	336,256
NET BOOK VALUE						
At 31 March 2022	1	17,308	14,248	11,113	5,491	48,161
At 31 March 2021	1	9,239	21,372	9,608	1,147	41,367

Stockport MBC transferred the buidings to the charitable company for the nominal sum of £1.

12 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Contracted but not provided for	nil	nil

13 DEBTORS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other Debtors	57,313	45,977
Prepayments	7,132	14,636
	64,445	60,613
Restricted	33,645	43,645
Unrestricted	30,800	16,968
Total	64,445	60,613

14 DEFERRED INCOME

	2022	2021
Deferred income comprises grants and rentals paid in advance.	£	£
Balance as at 1st April	72,284	78,714
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(72,284)	(78,714)
Amount deferred in year	41,965	72,284
	41,965	72,284

15 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other Creditors	13,317	3,763
Deferred Income	41,965	72,284
Other Creditors - SMBC	2,455	2,455
Accruals	4,648	3,071
	62,385	81,573
Restricted	35,222	72,427
Unrestricted	27,163	9,146
Total	62,385	81,573

16 LEGAL STATUS OF THE COMPANY

The Company has no share capital and all members have agreed to contribute £1 in the event of the Company winding up.

17 ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds:	**Balance at 01-Apr-21**	**Incoming**	**Transfers**	**Outgoing**	**Balance at 31-Mar-22**
Restricted Capital Funds:	£	£	£	£	£
Donation - Minibus	21,372			(7,124)	14,248
SMBC - cellar refurbishment	2,796			(551)	2,245
Mayor's Charity -cellar refurbishment	1,101			(217)	884
The Morrison's Foundation - cellar	5,592			(1,102)	4,490
Community Investment Fund	387			(194)	193
Adult Social Care & Carers					
Independent Age	5,501			(5,501)	-
Wider independence Network - Lot A	3,218	11,133		(14,351)	-
Wider independence Network - Lot B	7,438	28,888		(36,326)	-
Wider Ind.Network - counselling	-	2,700		(2,700)	-
Marks & Spencer - counselling	1,757			(1,757)	-
Donations - counselling	-	3,471	152	(3,623)	-
Neighbourly Fund	-	1,000		(1,000)	-
Ready to Grow	4,190			(4,190)	-
Stockport CCG	9,776	14,349		(24,125)	-
SMBC - Carer Respite	6,854			(907)	5,947
Carer Assessments	31,903	116,666		(133,738)	14,831
Big Lottery	14,818	40,254		(39,814)	15,258
Henry Smith	16,212	23,450		(39,662)	-
Fundraising & Donations - adults	91,313	58,058	(152)	(14,662)	134,557
SMBC Community Champions	-	32,770		(32,770)	-
GMCVO	-	4,525		(4,525)	-
Young Carers					
SMBC Soc Services	-	163,000		(163,000)	-
Stockport CCG - Young Carers	-	30,200		(22,355)	7,845
Donations	60,479	4,193		(9,338)	55,334
Triangle Trust	-	7,917		(3,942)	3,975
Donations- counselling	6,869			(2,101)	4,768
MMU	-	4,200		(4,200)	-
BBC Children In Need	11,293	14,700		(18,495)	7,498
Oglesby Charitable Trust	22,460	10,500		(32,155)	805
Sub-total	*325,329*	*571,974*	-	*(624,425)*	*272,878*
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	115,012	77,526	(65,830)	(5,387)	121,321
Capital Funds (spent)	6,521	-	18,530	(4,394)	20,657
Designated - Database Upgrade	-	-	7,300	-	7,300
Designated - Building Maintenance	-	-	40,000	-	40,000
Designated Funds - Contingency	36,607	-	-	-	36,607
	158,140	*77,526*	-	*(9,781)*	*225,885*
	483,469	649,500	-	(634,206)	498,763

Designated Funds -a database upgrade is planned for 2022. Building maintenance planned for 2022/23 includes installation of a new lift at the cost of £24,000, an electronic visitor recording system at the cost of £7,000 and roof repairs at the expected cost of £5,000. The balance is set aside for unexpected costs and longer term maintenance.

17 **ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS cont...**

Previous Year

Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds:	Balance at 01-Apr-20	Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Balance at 31-Mar-21
Restricted Capital Funds:	£	£	£	£	£
Donation - Minibus	28,496			(7,124)	21,372
SMBC - cellar refurbishment	3,347			(551)	2,796
Mayor's Charity -cellar refurbishment	1,318			(217)	1,101
The Morrison's Foundation - cellar	6,694			(1,102)	5,592
Community Investment Fund	581			(194)	387
Adult Social Care & Carers					
Independent Age	-	11,100		(5,599)	5,501
Wider independence Network - Lot A	10,463	10,980		(18,225)	3,218
Wider independence Network - Lot B	15,267	30,264		(38,093)	7,438
Wider Ind.Network - counselling	-	2,700		(2,700)	-
Marks & Spencer - counselling	1,757				1,757
Ready to Grow	4,190				4,190
Stockport CCG	188	24,353		(14,765)	9,776
SMBC - Carer Respite	6,883			(29)	6,854
Stockport Together - Carer Connect	6,680			(6,680)	-
Carer Assessments	37,706	33,000		(38,803)	31,903
Big Lottery	-	39,825		(25,007)	14,818
Henry Smith	9,519	40,142		(33,449)	16,212
Lloyds Foundation	(319)	32,827		(32,508)	-
Fundraising & Donations - adults	32,994	58,571		(252)	91,313
HMRC CJRS	-	2,058		(2,058)	-
Young Carers					
SMBC Soc Services	9,289	157,919		(167,208)	-
Stockport CCG - Young Carers	8,091	22,650		(30,741)	-
Big Lottery - Young Carers	5,000			(5,000)	-
Donations	53,447	16,244		(9,212)	60,479
Other	-	1,561		(1,561)	-
Donations- counselling	6,869	1,000		(1,000)	6,869
Awards for All - counselling	4,040			(4,040)	-
BBC Children In Need	5,076	14,700		(8,483)	11,293
Oglesby Charitable Trust	14,425	16,960		(8,925)	22,460
Sub-total	272,001	516,854	-	(463,526)	325,329
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	*42,832*	*85,372*	*(3,422)*	*(9,770)*	*115,012*
Capital Funds	25,214		3,422	(22,115)	6,521
Designated - Young Carers	3,900			(3,900)	-
Designated Funds - Contingency	36,607			-	36,607
	108,553	85,372	-	(35,785)	158,140
	380,554	*602,226*	-	*(499,311)*	*483,469*

17 (cont...)
Restricted capital funds (including cellar refurbishment) and unrestricted capital funds are fully spent. The balance represents the book value of assets still to be depreciated.
A contingency fund is to cover employment costs in the event of funding gaps or cessation of project funding.

18 **ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total 2022
RESTRICTED FUNDS:	£	£	£
Restricted Capital	22,060	-	22,060
Adult Social Care	3,284	167,309	170,593
Young Carers	2,160	78,065	80,225
	27,504	245,374	272,878
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:	20,657	205,228	225,885
Retained Surplus Carried Forward	48,161	450,602	498,763

Previous Year	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total 2021
RESTRICTED FUNDS:	£	£	£
Restricted Capital	31,248	-	31,248
Adult Social Care	2,742	190,238	192,980
Young Carers	1,630	99,471	101,101
	35,620	289,709	325,329
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:	5,747	152,393	158,140
Retained Surplus Carried Forward	41,367	442,102	483,469

19 **OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS**

Office Equipment	2022 £	2021 £
Within one Year	7,423	7,500
2-5 years	9,622	-
	17,045	7,500

20 **CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**
There were no contingent liabilities at 31 March 2022 (2021 £nil).

21 **CONTROLLING PARTY**

The charitable company is under the joint control of the Board of Trustees named on Page 1.

22 **POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

The trustees consider that there are no significant post balance sheet events that impact on the financial statements as presented.

23 **CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

Capital Commitments were £nil at 31st March 2022, (2021 £nil).

Signpost For Carers

England & Wales - Charity number 1085727

Accounts

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

Registered Charity No. 1085727

Registered Limited Company No. 4176004

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

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SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2021

The Trustees present their annual directors' report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31ST March 2021 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and administrative information

Charity Name: Signpost Stockport for Carers
Charity Number: 1085727
Company Number: 4176004

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law. The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Key management personnel: Trustees and Directors

David Cox (Chair)
Paul Connellan (Treasurer)
Anthony White
Barry Parkes
Stuart Corris
Norma Barber
Carol Rushton
Laura Whitaker
Jennifer Crosbie
Janet Lee (appointed 30th October 2020)

Senior managers

Julia Hewer (Director)
Katy Frankland (Service Manager – Young Carers)
Andrew North (Finance Manager and Company Secretary)

Registered Office

The Heatons Centre
Thornfield Road, Heaton Moor
Stockport, Cheshire
SK4 3LD

Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland

Drummond House (GK) Branch
Customer Services Centre
1 Redheughs Avenue
Edinburgh
EH12 9JN

Independent Examiners
Community Accountancy Service Limited
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive
Beswick
Manchester
M11 3TQ

Structure, governance and management
Signpost Stockport for Carers is a company limited by guarantee that is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 8th March 2001. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission dated 22nd March 2001.

Appointment of Trustees
As set out in the Articles of Association Trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable company attending the Annual General meeting.

Trustee induction and training
New Trustees are given a Trustee Training and Guidance Pack which covers:

- The obligations of the Board of Trustees
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the last published accounts
- Future plans and objectives

A question and answers pack has also been prepared drawing information from the various Charity Commission publications. This is distributed to all new Trustees along with the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Organisation
The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The board normally meets bi-monthly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the Charity. The members are drawn from a wide variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the Charity. The Director is responsible for working with the Board of Trustees to formulating the strategic direction of the charity and for the day-to-day operations of the charity with the assistance of service managers. The Director is responsible for ensuring that the Charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met and reporting these to the Board.

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are to serve the district of the Metropolitan Borough of Stockport in alleviating the conditions of life;

- amongst people, of all ages and ethnicity, who are caring and who have cared for a person who has mental health problems, has a physical or sensory disability, has learning disabilities or whose health is impaired by sickness or old age;
- and of dependants of carers who are themselves in need, and for that purpose to promote the relief of such carers as previously mentioned; and to advance education amongst carers and the public.

The main activities are carer support for adults and young carers (aged 6 to 25). The charity furthers its charitable purposes for the public benefit through the provision of low cost accommodation, meeting and training facilities for organisations within the care and voluntary sectors.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the policies for the year.

At Signpost Stockport for Carers (Signpost), our carers are at the centre of everything that Signpost does. The team of staff and volunteers and the Board of Trustees, are focussed on ensuring that Signpost offers person centred service provision, whether working with a young carer of 6 years old who's supporting mum with a cancer diagnosis, or a couple in their 90s caring for an adult child with learning disabilities

During 2020/21, despite the challenging and unprecedented conditions in which we were all living, working and caring, Signpost made real progress in line with its belief that being a carer should not be a barrier to leading a fulfilling life. Signpost offers a range of free or low cost services to carers, all designed to support them with their own health and wellbeing. We continued to work with carers to find ways to manage their caring role alongside their responsibilities of paid employment, family life and the many other demands on their time and energy, including managing the impact of living and caring in a pandemic. During the year, Signpost appointed a new director and a new chairperson and has worked hard to bring about change and development, whilst ensuring security and consistency for Signpost's staff, volunteers and carers in a time where it felt much was unknown and new.

Throughout the year, Signpost delivered services and provision in line with the ever-changing COVID-19 restrictions, continuing to not only operate but also to develop and evolve as a carer support organisation. An example of this is the launch of a new service specifically for those carers who are juggling paid work with a caring role. Work With Us is a three year piece of work, funded by the National Lottery's Reaching Communities fund. This project enables Signpost to support this ever growing cohort of carers. The Work With Us officer is focused on bringing carers together for peer support and providing tailored information and support plans for carers in employment, whilst also looking to build relationships with employers in the Borough. Whilst undoubtedly more difficult to get off the ground under pandemic conditions, the work has nonetheless proven to be essential with more than 779 carers who are self, part or full time employed registering with the organisation from 1/4/20 – 31/3/21.

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

Signpost saw a significant increase in the level of new registrations to the adult carers service, when compared to the same period last year, due to a partnership with Stockport's Primary Care Network. This came about as a result of the need for unpaid carers to register for the COVID-19 vaccination. This had a real and significant impact on the number of unpaid carers known to Signpost and offers a real opportunity for early support and intervention for these carers. It also strengthened the relationship between GP practices and Signpost which will benefit both over the coming months and years. Some funding from Stockport Council and Stockport Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) helped to support this work.

A further impact of the pandemic has been that Signpost has seen a real change in the emotional wellbeing of many of the carers that Signpost is supporting. Carers are now coming to Signpost with real and increased social isolation, anxiety and depression being the main problem areas. The counselling service, funded primarily through donations and generated income, has continued to operate throughout the year on a remote basis, with counsellors working from their home. Sessions have been held over the telephone or via zoom. Initially there was some trepidation in offering and carrying out sessions in this way as traditionally sessions have always been face to face. However, it seems that not only are telephone sessions much more convenient for carers to fit in with their caring duties, but there is evidence to suggest that they are just as effective. It is anticipated that, even when restrictions are lifted, the remote offer will continue.

The counselling service has seen a huge increase in the number of carers looking after children with a diagnosis such as autism, ADHD, bi polar disorder, and who are self-harming and attempting suicide (both children under 18 and adult children). There has also been an increase in referrals for younger people in their twenties and for carers from more diverse communities which again is a trend that Signpost continues to adapt to.

To complement the 1-2-1 counselling service, this year Signpost has delivered 2 short courses based around Living with Loss. These series of workshops for bereaved carers involve three zoom sessions over three months, for carers to connect with each other to learn some of the theory around loss, to discuss feelings and emotions and be given a space to openly talk about their experience. This forms part of our Changing Times work, to focus on those carers experiencing deep and significant changes in their caring role, such as bereavement or the need for the cared for person to move out of their home. Changing Times at Signpost has continued to connect peer volunteers with those carers experiencing the situation here and now, in addition to the support available from the Signpost staff team. In addition to the workshops, weekly zoom calls and a new pen pal scheme have played their part in supporting carers who are living with isolation and grief.

The use of digital and social media has been key in keeping in touch with Stockport's carers this year. A range of activities, challenges, conversation threads, and online book group discussions were facilitated by the Carers Connect Officer. The positive feedback received during, and since, has been overwhelming and has demonstrated how Signpost can engage with carers in new ways. In fact, these changes have opened the doors to support carers who have never accessed the service before. In addition, Signpost's benefits information service and carers assessment work have been delivered solely over the telephone for twelve months. This has also worked well, with relationships built and successful outcomes achieved. Necessity has very much forced invention and has, in fact,

given Signpost the confidence to work increasingly in this way. It will have a lasting effect on how Signpost delivers support in the future.

Signpost's Young Carers service provides information and support to Young Carers aged 6 – 25 years and their families. Ordinarily, Signpost offers a number of services, including evening group activities, one to one support, family support, counselling, short breaks, days out and support in schools/colleges. The project also raises awareness of the needs of Young Carers across education, health and social care to encourage early identification.

The pressure on young carers did significantly increase during the year, with many having had to shield due to caring for a parent or sibling who has a chronic and severe medical condition. In the absence of school/college and accessing our regular face to face groups, many young carers had little or no respite from their already pressurising caring role.
To maintain continuity of service as much as possible, Signpost developed a package of support to keep them connected with Signpost, their peers and to give them access to positive activities. Adaptations to the services offered to young people included;

- providing face to face support where possible;
- facilitating small groups outside such as regular walks, small outside groups, our gardening project, including young adult carers and older carers; and
- regular Zoom groups for all ages, providing a wide variety of activities to keep our young carers busy and also connected to their peer group.

During this period, the Government categorised Young Carers under the vulnerable children group in their official guidance. This allowed Signpost to work alongside schools and colleges to ensure that young carers were given extra support during this difficult time. Many schools allowed Signpost access, so making it possible to be able to see young carers face to face and offer them on-going emotional support.
The demand for Signpost's counselling service has increased due to the impact COVID has had on the mental health of young carers. Sessions, where possible, have been face to face and Signpost has been able to meet the increased demand due to additional funding from an external funder – the Oglesby Charity.

Signpost's family support service has continued to see families and young carers in their homes, when it has been safe to do so, in order to complete assessments and offer a package of support. This has included practical support such as shopping, collecting prescriptions and liaising with external agencies.
Signpost's raising awareness campaign has continued throughout the period, working with school staff and GP's on-line. Participation has been high and feedback has been that some prefer this method of training. There has been a sharp rise in referrals (increase of 40%), mainly from schools. This is due to schools over the period having increased contact with families over the phone and being able to identify their pupils who were shielding at home to due caring responsibilities for parents and siblings.

The whole Signpost team has been affected by the impact of COVID, personally and professionally. The charity has worked hard to offer flexible and appropriate solutions and support to the team, ensuring that they have the resilience and capacity to continue to deliver services to carers. All the paid members of staff and volunteers that have been involved with Signpost over these twelve months have been an absolute credit to the organisation and the consistent positive feedback that they receive from carers and partner organisations is further testament to the excellent work that they do.

COVID -19 had a significant impact on Signpost's ability to generate income thorough fundraising events and room hire of the Heatons Centre, all of which are essential to meet core salary and running costs. Fortunately, Signpost was able to access emergency funding from a number of sources, such as Charities Aid Foundation, The Big Lottery Fund, Stockport Council, Triangle Trust 1949, Lloyds Bank Foundation and the Osglesby Foundation. In addition to covering core costs and activities, this funding allowed Signpost to adapt its service provision so that it could continue to meet the needs of carers in a COVID safe way. The funding also supported the purchase of additional equipment and software, covered the increased communications charges and enabled provision for staff welfare. Despite the difficult financial times for many, Signpost continued to receive donations from a number of community groups and individuals. These contributions are greatly valued, not just for their financial value but also for the opportunities they generate to reach more carers across the Stockport borough.

In March 2021, Signpost became a registered Census support centre. The figures that come from the Census 2021 will be key in evidencing the number of unpaid carers on a local, regional and national level. As an 'on the ground' support organisation, Signpost knew that the number of carers was already increasing. This was before the additional impact of COVID which has created more carers and increased the demands on those who already had caring responsibilities. It is clear from the calls and referrals received that there is a real need for comprehensive, tailored and accessible support for the thousands of unpaid carers across the borough. Signpost, with its superb team of staff and volunteers with decades of experience, is very much looking forward to rising to this challenge over the next twelve months.

Financial Review

The Charity recorded a surplus of £102,915 on its financial activities during the year with overall income of £602,226 up on the previous year of £500,116. This was mainly as a result of the charity receiving significant additional funding from a variety of organisations and charities who generously contributed to Signpost. This more than made up for the funding lost through not being able to hire rooms out at the Heatons Centre for most of the year due to the Covid 19 restrictions. Expenditure increased by £40,000 as Signpost was able to offer additional services to the carers of Stockport during a very difficult year that was dominated by the Covid19 pandemic. Signpost has also been successful in securing adequate funding for the 2021/22 financial year in order to deliver the ambitious programme of services to carers in the borough going forward.

Investment powers and policy

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have kept available funds in the charity's current account with the Royal Bank of Scotland during the year.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 31st March 2021 was £158,140 (Note 17) of which £152,393 (Note 18) is free reserves, after allowing for designated funds and those tied up in tangible fixed assets.

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The Trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered for the 2021/22 financial year.

The Trustees consider that the charity is a going concern and the following sources of funding have been secured to date for **2021/22;**

	£
Heatons Centre Rental and Services income	45,000
Win Lot A – Disability Benefits Worker	10,980
Win Lot B – Wellbeing & Engagement Worker	30,260
The Henry Smith Charity	22,000
SMBC – carers assessments	60,000
SMBC – Community champions	32,000
Stockport CCG	21,000
National Lottery	40,000
BBC CIN – Young Carer Activity Group	15,000
SMBC – Young Carers Contract	163,000
SCCG – Young Carers Contract	30,200
Oglesby	10,000
Other	10,000
TOTAL	**489,440**

Risk Management

The Trustees continue to be updated on the major risks to which the charity is exposed, particularly around the impact of Covid19 and actions in place to mitigate those risks. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the Charity faces. External risks to funding have led to the Trustees starting to review the strategic plan which will allow for the diversification of funding and activities. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff and volunteers. All policies are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the Charity.

Plans for Future Periods

Signpost continues to work in accordance with its strategic plan, developing and cementing its position in the borough as a navigator, organiser and voice for carers. From first contact through to core service delivery and on to follow up and after care, the whole organisation will stay true to its belief that being a carer should not be a barrier to leading a fulfilling life. The organisation is working to secure core funding for the service through the preventative contracts, with the tenders due to be issued by Stockport Council in late 2021 with contracts for successful bidders beginning in April 2022. In addition to this, the organisation will work to consolidate existing provision & develop and enhance services in response to carers' requests (such as opportunities for respite) alongside a constant drive for security and sustainability. Signpost will continue to value and support its team of staff and volunteers and ensure that they are in the best possible position for offering the practical and emotional support to Stockport's carers.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or any other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a Trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

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

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

By order of the Board of Trustees _____ David J Cox Chair

Date: 15th September 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS

I report on the accounts of the company for the Year Ended 31st March 2021, which are set out on pages 10 to 24.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is required by company law to prepare accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006, ; and
- with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

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

EL Anderson .

EL Anderson MA FCA CTA
Community Accountancy Service Ltd
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive
Beswick, Manchester, M11 3TQ

Date:15th September 2021

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021
(incorporating income and expenditure account)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Year Ended 31.3.21 Total Funds £	Year Ended 31.3.20 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and Legacies		4,655	55,815	60,470	24,745
Charitable Activities	(5)	44,865	459,478	504,343	407,275
Other Trading Activities	(6)	35,609	1,561	37,170	67,721
Investment Income		243	-	243	375
TOTAL		85,372	516,854	602,226	500,116
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising Funds	(7)	11,164	-	11,164	69,670
Charitable Activities	(8)	24,621	463,526	488,147	389,690
TOTAL		35,785	463,526	499,311	459,360
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)		49,587	53,328	102,915	40,756
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS	(17)	-	-	-	-
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR AFTER TRANSFERS		49,587	53,328	102,915	40,756
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total Funds Brought Forward		108,553	272,001	380,554	339,798
Total Funds Carried Forward	(18)	158,140	325,329	483,469	380,554

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on Pages 13 to 24 form part of these accounts.

CO. REG. NO. 4176004

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	(11)		41,367		70,991
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	(13)	60,613		49,708	
Cash at Bank and in Hand		463,062		416,231	
		523,675		465,939	
LIABILITIES:					
Amounts falling due within one year	(15)	(81,573)		(156,376)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			442,102		309,563
TOTAL NET ASSETS			483,469		380,554
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted Funds	(17)		158,140		108,553
Restricted Funds	(17)		325,329		272,001
			483,469		380,554

For the year in question the company was entitled to the exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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

Approved on behalf of the Company's Board of Trustees:

Mr. David Cox (Chair)
Trustee / Director

Mr Paul Connellan (Treasurer)
Trustee / Director

Date: 15th September 2021

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2021

RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2021	2020
	£	£
Net movement in funds	102,915	40,756
Add back depreciation	35,154	34,367
Add loss / Deduct profit on disposal of asset	1,440	-
Deduct investment income	(243)	(375)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(10,905)	16,412
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(74,803)	9,863
Net cash used in operating activities	53,558	101,023
Cash flows from investment activities:		
Interest	243	375
Purchase of fixed assets	(6,970)	(41,638)
Net cash provided by investing activities	(6,727)	(41,263)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	46,831	59,760
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	416,231	356,471
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	463,062	416,231

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.
The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.
The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There are 20 restricted funds at the year end.
Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion have created a fund for a specific purpose.
Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 17.

(c) Income recognition

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.
Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.
Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.
All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.
Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on staff time and facilities used in each activity.
The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 9.

(g) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in Note 8.

(h) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are included in the accounts at net book value. Additions of a single item or a group of similar assets exceeding £500, are capitalised at cost (valuation for donated assets). Depreciation is provided to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives as follows:-

Building improvements 10% on cost

Other fixed assets are capitalised at cost and depreciated at 20% per annum on cost.

The charity, being a public benefit entity, does not consider that it holds the buildings as an investment. The building was sold to the charity for £1 with the intention that the building would be used as a hub for charitable and voluntary organisations in the care sector, and that the charity would manage the facilities for the public benefit.

Areas not used directly by the charity are let or hired to other public benefit organisations, specifically those offering care and welfare services, at rates that aim to cover the running costs of the facilities over time.

The fair value of any investment component cannot be measured reliably.

The building and improvements are therefore stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Income from rental and room hire is shown in Note 6.

(i) Debtors

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

(j) Creditors and Provisions

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

(l) Taxation

The organisation is exempt from income tax by reason of its charitable status. Income tax suffered on investment income is reclaimed in full. The Charity is not registered for VAT.

(j) Pensions

The charity currently administers contributions to a pension scheme, that is auto-enrolment compliant. Contributions are charged to expenditure as they fall due. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

(k) Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is identified and disclosed for those transactions resulting from a possible obligation which will only be confirmed by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the trustees' control.

2 **INCOME**

This represents grants, contracts, service level agreements and sundry income receivable for the provision of care and social welfare.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021 (cont...)

3 NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:	2021	2020
	£	£
Pension Costs	6,173	5,640
Depreciation - owned assets	35,154	34,367
Loss (Profit) on Disposal of Assets	1,440	-
Independent Examination	1,455	1,452
Other Financial Services	-	126

4 TAX ON SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

	-	-

5 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Stockport CCG - Young Carers Core		22,650	22,650
Stockport CCG - Adult		24,353	24,353
SMBC - Young Carers		157,919	157,919
SMBC - Carer Assessments		33,000	33,000
SMBC - Local Discretionary Grant	10,000	-	10,000
SMBC - Other	2,340	-	2,340
HMRC - CJRS		2,058	2,058
Charities Aid Foundation	8,000	-	8,000
Henry Smith		40,142	40,142
Lloyds Foundation		32,827	32,827
Big Lottery	13,000	39,825	52,825
Triangle Trust	8,900	20,000	28,900
Oglesby		16,960	16,960
Independent Age		11,100	11,100
BBC-Children in Need		14,700	14,700
Pure Innovations - WIN B		30,264	30,264
Age UK - WIN A		10,980	10,980
Wider Ind.Network - counselling		2,700	2,700
Good Things Foundation	2,625	-	2,625
Total	44,865	459,478	504,343

Previous Year	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020
	£	£	£
Stockport CCG - Young Carers Core		30,200	30,200
Stockport CCG - Adult		4,350	4,350
SMBC - Young Carers		132,563	132,563
SMBC - Carer Assessments		47,000	47,000
SMBC - Adult	50,000	-	50,000
SMBC - Carer Connect		24,787	24,787
Tesco- Bags of Help		999	999
Henry Smith		40,100	40,100
Lloyds Foundation		23,927	23,927
Oglesby		10,000	10,000
BBC-Children in Need		4,908	4,908
Pure Innovations - WIN B		24,761	24,761
Age UK - WIN A		10,980	10,980
Wider Ind.Network - counselling		2,700	2,700
Total	50,000	357,275	407,275

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021 (cont...)

6 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Rental & Services Income	35,325	161	35,486	63,821
Photocopying	284	-	284	-
Lecture Fees	-	-	-	500
Student Placement Fees	-	1,400	1,400	3,400
	35,609	1,561	37,170	67,721

All income is unrestricted in 2020.

7 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricte Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021
Community Facilities & Other Services:	£	£	£
Employment Costs	978		978
Depreciation	2,111		2,111
Business Rates	1,664		1,664
Repairs & Maintenance	2,713		2,713
Heat, Light & Water	900		900
Cleaning	600		600
Insurance	1,500		1,500
Telephone	200		200
Refreshments	125		125
Bad Debts	157		157
Fundraising Costs	216		216
	11,164	-	11,164

Previous Year

	Unrestricte Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020
Community Facilities & Other Services:	£	£	£
Employment Costs	3,680		3,680
Depreciation	-	17,590	17,590
Computer Maintenance	3,976		3,976
Business Rates	1,092		1,092
Repairs & Maintenance	8,528		8,528
Heat, Light & Water	9,025		9,025
Cleaning	11,780		11,780
Insurance	1,781		1,781
Telephone	11,802		11,802
Refreshments	361		361
Bad Debts	(186)		(186)
Fundraising Costs	79	162	241
	51,918	17,752	69,670

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021 (cont...)

8 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Adult Carer Services	Young Carers	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Employment Costs	131,509	172,046	303,555
Recruitment & DBS Checks	473	420	893
Training	470	90	560
Travel	337	1,047	1,384
Advertising & Publicity & Events	577	882	1,459
Carers Activities, Outings & Residentials	61	2,995	3,056
Translation	-	67	67
Carers & Support Worker Other	63	480	543
Carelink	3,666	-	3,666
Vehicle Expenses	-	1,343	1,343
Counselling Fees	-	14,585	14,585
Room Hire	140	-	140
Support Costs	111,615	38,790	150,405
Governance Costs	3,066	3,425	6,491
	251,977	236,170	488,147

Restricted Funds	463,526
Unrestricted Funds	24,621
	488,147

Previous Year

	Adult Carer Services	Young Carers	Total 2020
	£	£	£
Employment Costs	122,901	145,680	268,581
Freelance Workers	-	422	422
Recruitment & DBS Checks	290	-	290
Training	549	136	685
Travel	2,212	3,227	5,439
Translation	-	80	80
Advertising & Publicity & Events	2,320	46	2,366
Carers Activities, Outings & Residentials	385	8,317	8,702
Carer Training	150	-	150
Carers & Support Worker Other	200	160	360
Carelink	6,514	-	6,514
Vehicle Expenses	-	1,416	1,416
Counselling Fees	3,610	5,856	9,466
Therapies	115	-	115
Room Hire	1,333	-	1,333
Support Costs	67,578	10,957	78,535
Governance Costs	2,998	2,238	5,236
	211,155	178,535	389,690

Restricted Funds	361,109
Unrestricted Funds	28,581
	389,690

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021 (cont...)

9 ALLOCATION OF GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

	Basis of Apportionment	General Support	Governance	Total 2021
		£	£	£
Support Costs				
Employment Costs	*Staff Time*	13,550	1,506	15,056
Computer Maintenance & Software	*Area Used*	5,234		5,234
Website Support Costs	*Direct*	7,727		7,727
Minor Equipment	*Direct*	318		318
Depreciation	*Area Used*	33,043		33,043
Loss on Disposal of Assets		1,440		1,440
Publications & Subscriptions	*Direct*	727		727
Repairs & Maintenance	*Area Used*	27,899		27,899
Heat, Light & Water	*Area Used*	12,033		12,033
Cleaning	*Area Used*	14,474		14,474
Insurance	*Area Used*	2,083		2,083
Telephone	*Area Used*	20,634		20,634
Printing & Stationery	*Direct*	6,311		6,311
Postage	*Direct*	2,339		2,339
Sundries	*Direct*	996		996
Refreshments	*Direct*	1,597		1,597
Card Fees	*Governance*		10	10
Legal & Professional Fees	*Governance*		3,520	3,520
Accountancy	*Governance*		1,455	1,455
		150,405	6,491	156,896
		150,405	5,987	156,392
Restricted		-	504	504
Unrestricted		150,405	6,491	156,896

9 ALLOCATION OF GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS cont...

Previous Year	*Basis of Apportionment*	General Support	Governance	Total 2020
		£	£	£
Support Costs				
Employment Costs	*Staff Time*	9,271	1,030	10,301
Freelance Costs	*Staff Time*	7,020	780	7,800
Computer Maintenance & Software	*Area Used*	1,988		1,988
Website Support Costs	*Direct*	6,336		6,336
Minor Equipment	*Direct*	493		493
Depreciation	*Area Used*	16,777		16,777
Publications & Subscriptions	*Direct*	400		400
Business Rates	*Area Used*	546		546
Repairs & Maintenance	*Area Used*	4,264		4,264
Heat, Light & Water	*Area Used*	4,512		4,512
Cleaning	*Area Used*	5,889		5,889
Insurance	*Area Used*	890		890
Telephone	*Area Used*	5,901		5,901
Printing & Stationery	*Direct*	8,705		8,705
Postage	*Direct*	1,466		1,466
Sundries	*Direct*	281		281
Refreshments	*Direct*	3,796		3,796
Card Fees	*Governance*		30	30
Legal & Professional Fees	*Governance*		1,818	1,818
Accountancy	*Governance*		1,578	1,578
		78,535	5,236	83,771
Restricted		51,413	4,948	56,361
Unrestricted		27,122	288	27,410
		78,535	5,236	83,771

10 STAFF NUMBERS AND COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	296,279	261,346
Social Security Costs	17,137	15,576
Pension Costs	6,173	5,640
Redundancy Costs	-	-
	319,589	282,562

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

Services	19	18
Management & Administration	1	1
	20	19

The charity considers its key management personnel comprise the Trustees and deputy director. The total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel was £23,795 (previous year: £18,532), No employees has benefits in excess of £60,000 (2020:none)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021 (cont...)

11 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land & Buildings	Building Improvements	Vehicles	Computer Equipment	Office Equipment	Total
COST/ VALUATION	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2020	1	237,339	35,620	41,023	49,851	363,834
Additions				6,970		6,970
Disposals				(2,400)		(2,400)
At 31 March 2021	1	237,339	35,620	45,593	49,851	368,404
DEPRECIATION						
At 1 April 2020		204,368	7,124	33,632	47,719	292,843
Charge for Year		23,732	7,124	3,313	985	35,154
Disposals				(960)		(960)
At 31 March 2021	-	228,100	14,248	35,985	48,704	327,037
NET BOOK VALUE						
At 31 March 2021	1	9,239	21,372	9,608	1,147	41,367
At 31 March 2020	1	32,971	28,496	7,391	2,132	70,991

Stockport MBC transferred the buidings to the charitable company for the nominal sum of £1.

12 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Contracted but not provided for	nil	nil

13 DEBTORS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other Debtors	45,977	36,302
Accrued income	-	-
Prepayments	14,636	13,406
	60,613	49,708
Restricted	43,645	38,328
Unrestricted	16,968	11,380
Total	60,613	49,708

14 DEFERRED INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deferred income comprises grants and rentals paid in advance.		
Balance as at 1st April	78,714	65,169
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(78,714)	(65,169)
Amount deferred in year	72,284	78,714
	72,284	78,714

15 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other Creditors	3,763	7,245
Deferred Income	72,284	78,714
Other Creditors - SMBC	2,455	66,104
Accruals	3,071	4,313
	81,573	156,376
Restricted	72,427	134,547
Unrestricted	9,146	21,829
Total	81,573	156,376

16 LEGAL STATUS OF THE COMPANY

The Company has no share capital and all members have agreed to contribute £1 in the event of the Company winding up.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021 (cont...)

17 ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds:	Balance at 01-Apr-20	Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Balance at 31-Mar-21
Restricted Capital Funds:	£	£	£	£	£
Donation - Minibus	28,496			(7,124)	21,372
SMBC - cellar refurbishment	3,347			(551)	2,796
Mayor's Charity -cellar refurbishment	1,318			(217)	1,101
The Morrison's Foundation - cellar	6,694			(1,102)	5,592
Community Investment Fund	581			(194)	387
Adult Social Care & Carers					
Independent Age	-	11,100		(5,599)	5,501
Wider Independence Network - Lot A	10,463	10,980		(18,225)	3,218
Wider Independence Network - Lot B	15,267	30,264		(38,093)	7,438
Wider Ind.Network - counselling	-	2,700		(2,700)	-
Marks & Spencer - counselling	1,757				1,757
Ready to Grow	4,190				4,190
Stockport CCG	188	24,353		(14,765)	9,776
SMBC - Carer Respite	6,883			(29)	6,854
Stockport Together - Carer Connect	6,680			(6,680)	-
Carer Assessments	37,706	33,000		(38,803)	31,903
Big Lottery	-	39,825		(25,007)	14,818
Henry Smith	9,519	40,142		(33,449)	16,212
Lloyds Foundation	(319)	32,827		(32,508)	-
Fundraising & Donations - adults	32,994	58,571		(252)	91,313
HMRC CJRS	-	2,058		(2,058)	-
Young Carers					
SMBC Soc Services	9,289	157,919		(167,208)	-
Stockport CCG - Young Carers	8,091	22,650		(30,741)	-
Big Lottery - Young Carers	5,000			(5,000)	-
Donations	53,447	16,244		(9,212)	60,479
Other	-	1,561		(1,561)	-
Donations- counselling	6,869	1,000		(1,000)	6,869
Awards for All - counselling	4,040			(4,040)	-
BBC Children In Need	5,076	14,700		(8,483)	11,293
Ogiesby Charitable Trust	14,425	16,960		(8,925)	22,460
Sub-total	*272,001*	*516,854*	-	*(463,526)*	*325,329*
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	42,832	85,372	(3,422)	(9,770)	115,012
Capital Funds	25,214		3,422	(22,115)	6,521
Designated - Young Carers	3,900			(3,900)	-
Designated Funds - Contingency	36,607			-	36,607
	108,553	*85,372*	-	*(35,785)*	*158,140*
	380,554	602,226	-	(499,311)	483,469

17 ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS cont...

Previous Year

Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds:	Balance at 01-Apr-19	Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Balance at 31-Mar-20
Restricted Capital Funds:	£	£	£	£	£
Social Enterprise Investment Fund	20,942			(20,942)	-
Donation - Minibus	35,620			(7,124)	28,496
SMBC - cellar refurbishment	3,898			(551)	3,347
Mayor's Charity -cellar refurbishment	1,535			(217)	1,318
The Morrison's Foundation - cellar	7,796			(1,102)	6,694
Community Investment Fund			581		581
Adult Social Care & Carers					
Wider independence Network - Lot A	476	10,980		(993)	10,463
Wider independence Network - Lot B	5,086	24,761		(14,580)	15,267
Wider Ind.Network - counselling	-	2,700		(2,700)	-
Marks & Spencer - counselling	2,319			(562)	1,757
Donations - counselling	-	173		(173)	-
Ready to Grow	4,190				4,190
SMBC - Adult Carers	638			(638)	-
Stockport CCG	-	4,350		(4,162)	188
SMBC - Carer Respite	7,105			(222)	6,883
Stockport Together - Carer Connect	35,331	24,787		(53,438)	6,680
Carer Assessments	-	47,000		(9,294)	37,706
Community Investment Fund	775		(581)	(194)	-
Tesco - Bags of Help	859	999		(1,858)	-
Henry Smith	8,220	40,100		(38,801)	9,519
Lloyds Foundation	5,420	23,927		(29,666)	(319)
Fundraising & Donations - adults	28,467	16,360		(11,833)	32,994
Young Carers					
SMBC Soc Services	-	132,563		(123,274)	9,289
Stockport CCG - Young Carers	-	30,200		(22,109)	8,091
Big Lottery - Young Carers	11,605			(6,605)	5,000
Donations	45,235	8,212			53,447
Donations - Mayor's Charity	1,637			(1,637)	-
Donations- counselling	7,842			(973)	6,869
Awards for All - counselling	9,165			(5,125)	4,040
BBC Children In Need	10,362	4,908		(10,194)	5,076
Oglesby Charitable Trust	14,319	10,000		(9,894)	14,425
Sub-total	268,842	382,020	-	(378,861)	272,001
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Funds	*1,963*	*114,196*	*(2,341)*	*(70,986)*	*42,832*
Capital Funds	24,047		2,341	(1,174)	25,214
Designated - Young Carers	-	3,900			3,900
Designated Funds - Building	548			(548)	-
Designated Funds - Contingency	44,398			(7,791)	36,607
	70,956	118,096	-	(80,499)	108,553
	339,798	*500,116*	-	*(459,360)*	*380,554*

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021 (cont...)

17 (cont...)

Restricted capital funds (SEIF and cellar refurbishment) and unrestricted capital funds are fully spent. The balance represents the book value of assets still to be depreciated.

A designated fund has been established for the building to cover any unforeseen maintenance costs. Roof repairs totalling £548 has been charged against this fund in 2020.

A contingency fund is to cover employment costs in the event of funding gaps or cessation of project funding.

18 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total 2021
RESTRICTED FUNDS:	£	£	£
Restricted Capital	31,248	-	31,248
Adult Social Care	2,742	190,238	192,980
Young Carers	1,630	99,471	101,101
	35,620	289,709	325,329
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:	5,747	152,393	158,140
Retained Surplus Carried Forward	41,367	442,102	483,469

Previous Year

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total 2020
RESTRICTED FUNDS:	£	£	£
Restricted Capital	40,436	-	40,436
Adult Social Care	2,956	122,372	125,328
Young Carers	2,443	103,794	106,237
	45,835	226,166	272,001
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:	25,156	83,397	108,553
Retained Surplus Carried Forward	70,991	309,563	380,554

19 OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Office Equipment		
Within one Year	7,500	10,000
2-5 years	-	7,500
	7,500	17,500

20 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no contingent liabilities at 31 March 2021 (2020 £nil).

21 CONTROLLING PARTY

The charitable company is under the joint control of the Board of Trustees named on Page 1.

22 POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

The trustees consider that there are no significant post balance sheet events that impact on the financial statements as presented.

Covid - see annual report

23 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

Capital Commitments were £nil at 31st March 2021, (2020 £nil).