

Company registration number: 04190963

Charity registration number: 1088596

Homemaker Southwest

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Homemaker Southwest

Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 7
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	8
Independent Auditors' Report	9 to 14
Statement of Financial Activities	15
Balance Sheet	16
Notes to the Financial Statements	17 to 33

Homemaker Southwest

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees

Dr R C Cresswell, M.B.E.

Ms J Froom

Mr R W Ball

Ms N J Hall

Ms A L Swayne

Mr P G Forsyth

Senior Management / Leadership Team

Andrea Carlisle, Director

Vanessa Handley, Director of Development

Sarah Fayter, Office Manager

Charity Registration Number 1088596

Company Registration Number 04190963

Registered Office

The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.

Unit 1

Stoke Damerel Business Centre

Church Street

Plymouth

PL3 4DT

Auditors

Four Fifty Partnership

Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditor

34 Boulevard

Weston-super-Mare

North Somerset

BS23 1NF

Homemaker Southwest

Trustees' Report

The Trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The objects of the charity as set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association are:

- i) "To promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the counties of Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire, Hampshire, Dorset, Devon and Cornwall and without distinction of sex or political, religious or other opinions to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants."
- ii) "To relieve persons resident in the designated area who; a) are in conditions of need, hardship and distress, or b) are homeless or threatened with homelessness."

Our mission is to enable people, especially those who are vulnerable, to set up, maintain and sustain their homes, and thus prevent homelessness. We believe that everyone has the right to a safe, secure and affordable home; and that everyone has the right to be treated with respect, whatever their circumstances. We aim to promote social inclusion.

We fulfil our mission in a variety of ways, including;

- the assessment of what someone needs to maintain their home
- provision of advice and support according to individual circumstances, which may include making sure they get all the benefits to which they are entitled
- help with budgeting, paying bills, sorting out rent arrears, and dealing with debts
- accompanying clients to court hearings regarding rent arrears
- assistance with moving into a property.

We continue to see a strong demand for our services due to the increased needs resulting from continuing high utility prices and higher costs of living.

Continued hard work and diligence by our Management Team ensured that our annual income has largely been maintained. This ensured another year of stability for our experienced staff team. It is remarkable that despite the pressures and uncertainties caused by the general economic instability, Homemaker has continued to provide an excellent service to our clients and commissioners. The adaptability and dedication of our staff is highly commendable.

Homemaker Southwest

Trustees' Report

Public benefit

The Charity's principal activities and main beneficiaries are set out in this report, highlighting the activities undertaken to further our charitable purposes for public benefit. The Charity does not charge its clients for accessing its services, which are funded either by grants and/or Service Level Agreements with commissioners. This allows services to be free at the point of delivery, helping us to access clients in hard-to-reach groups who might not engage if they could not afford to pay.

Homemaker Southwest operates for the public benefit, and particularly in the following areas:

- preventing and relieving poverty
- relieving those in need, by reason of ill-health, disability, financial disadvantage or other disadvantage
- preventing homelessness and promoting independence for disadvantaged people.

During the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, the Homemaker staff team:

- opened 2,024 new case files
- secured £6,860,412 in financial gains for clients, helping them to keep their homes and maintain their lives
- prevented 20 cases of homelessness.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Use of volunteers

The Charity makes use of the services of volunteers and the Trustees appreciate and value their contribution.

There is currently one volunteer who supports the team and assists with benefits and appeals.

Homemaker Southwest

Trustees' Report

Financial review

The Trustees have reviewed the financial position of the Charity and are agreed that it is currently viable and trades lawfully. It has a number of policies which help to ensure that the financial position is kept under continuous review; these include quarterly reports from the management team to the Board concerning cash flow and income/expenditure statements. These documents are reviewed by the Treasurer who makes spot checks for accuracy.

A new 2 year + one contract to deliver a Money Advice service to Teignbridge DC started in April 2024. We also secured a temporary contract to deliver a similar service to Exeter CC from April-August 2024.

As part of its financial horizon scanning, the Board looks at the security of income going forward and the proportion of contracts which are secure for the current and future years. We are confident that sufficient income is secure for 2025/26, and that we can cover current expenditure.

In January 2025, Citizens Advice advised that the Money and Pensions Service (MaPS) have confirmed continuation of funding to deliver a debt service in Plymouth and Torbay until March 2026. MaPS are currently discussing commissioning a new service from April 2028 and have said that they fully expect existing contracts to continue until the new service is operational. Demand for the service remains high.

The contracts we have with local authorities continue, with two being re-awarded beyond March 2026. Torbay Partnership's (FAIR 2) bid to the National Lottery was successful and 2 years of funding runs from April 2025 to March 2027.

We have a total of 12 staff; some are home-based and some are office-based. We continue to offer both a telephone service and a client face-to-face service where this is appropriate and necessary. This has increased some costs due to home working allowances, which have been more than offset by a reduction in travelling expenses. We have one office, which is in Plymouth; this is also our Registered Office address, from which the MaPS team work.

Policy on reserves

In accordance with the Charity Commission's guidance on reserves, the Board has considered and agreed to a reserves strategy of creating a contingent reserve equivalent to a minimum of three months' running expenses plus potential redundancy costs. This would enable the Charity to continue its activities for a limited period in the event of a significant drop in funding. The reserve (Note 18) currently stands at £168,500, the level required to fully meet the reserves strategy objective.

Homemaker Southwest

Trustees' Report

Principal funding sources

Homemaker has a range of funding sources; most of them from statutory bodies such as local authorities and the Money Advice Service, or from Registered Social Landlords.

The largest expenditure is on salaries for staff who help us to deliver our charitable aims in the homes and communities of our clients in the South West. The Board agreed a 7% pay increase with effect from 1st April 2025.

Investment policy and objectives

Our main accounts are with the Co-operative Bank (current and online savings accounts) as they have lower costs and a better interface for charities. Reserves have also been lodged in a Nationwide Building Society Savings Account, a Charity Bank 100 Day Notice Account and a 200 Day Notice Account with United Trust Bank. It is our aim that no one account contains more than £85K.

Going concern

The trustees have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis as, in their opinion, the Charity is able to meet its obligations as they fall due. This opinion is based on forecasting for the 12 months from signing these financial statements.

The Charity continues to see a strong demand for its services due to the increased needs resulting from the high cost of living. The Trustees are confident that they will be able to obtain future funding from a wide range of sources to be able to continue this valuable work.

As such, the Trustees are of the opinion that it is wholly appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee (number 04190963) and was incorporated on 30 March 2001. It was registered with the Charity Commission (Registration Number 1088596) on 26 September 2001. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which describes the objects and powers of the charitable company, and it is governed under its Articles of Association.

Homemaker Southwest

Trustees' Report

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

New trustees are appointed by the Board, after consideration of applications from volunteers. Trustee numbers can vary from a minimum of five to a maximum of twelve. During 2024/25, one Board member resigned and another was recruited. Membership of the Board remains stable with a total of six members. Recruitment of additional Board members is still seen as a priority.

After 18 years as Chair of the Board of Trustees, Richard Cresswell has given notice of his intention to step down as Chair before the end of March 2026. He will remain a Trustee. The Board has begun a process of reviewing its Governance arrangements.

Induction and training of Trustees

New Trustees are inducted by the Chair and Executive Directors. Training for Trustees is arranged as deemed necessary. The Trustees meet regularly, usually 5 meetings per year; more frequent meetings are held when circumstances demand. They are responsible for setting policies, managing financial affairs, and determining the Charity's strategic direction.

Organisational structure

The Director, the Director of Development and the Office Manager form the Leadership Team which runs the Organisation on a day to day basis. All the case workers report to the Director of Development. The Director of Development, the Office Manager and the MAS Administrator report to the Director.

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Dr R C Cresswell, M.B.E.
	Ms S Morrison (resigned 18 September 2024)
	Ms J Froom
	Mr R W Ball
	Ms N J Hall
	Ms A L Swayne
	Mr P G Forsyth (appointed 18 December 2024)

Homemaker Southwest

Trustees' Report

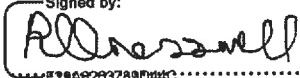
Senior Management /
Leadership Team:

Andrea Carlisle, Director
Vanessa Handley, Director of Development
Sarah Fayter, Office Manager

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each member has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a member in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The Trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

The annual report was approved by the Trustees of the charity on^{27 November 2025} and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:

.....
Dr R C Cresswell, M.B.E.
Trustee

Homemaker Southwest

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Homemaker Southwest for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102) "Statement of Recommended Practice" issued in October 2019.

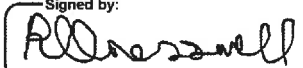
Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

Approved by the Trustees of the charity on 27 November 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:

 F29A8263789D44G.....

Dr R C Cresswell, M.B.E.
 Trustee

Homemaker Southwest

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Homemaker Southwest

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Homemaker Southwest (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Homemaker Southwest

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Homemaker Southwest

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

Homemaker Southwest

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Homemaker Southwest

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 8), the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Homemaker Southwest

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Homemaker Southwest

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and checking for any instances of safeguarding reports;
- reviewing registrations and regulatory returns in relation to debt advice work;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Homemaker Southwest

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Homemaker Southwest

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the Charity through discussions with Trustees and other management, and from our knowledge and experience of the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the Charity, including the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, Charities SORP (2019 FRS102), employment law and health and safety regulations;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the Charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Use of our report

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

Homemaker Southwest

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Homemaker Southwest



Joy Boswell FCCA FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Four Fifty Partnership, Statutory Auditor
34 Boulevard
Weston-super-Mare
North Somerset
BS23 1NF

Date: 12 December 2025

Homemaker Southwest

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Charitable activities	3	164,094	151,463	315,557	379,245
Investment income	4	7,715	(222)	7,493	5,174
Other income		(700)	19,520	18,820	19,350
Total Income		171,109	170,761	341,870	403,769
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	(190,836)	(170,794)	(361,630)	(371,424)
Total Expenditure		(190,836)	(170,794)	(361,630)	(371,424)
Net (expenditure)/income		(19,727)	(33)	(19,760)	32,345
Transfers between funds		2,507	(2,507)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(17,220)	(2,540)	(19,760)	32,345
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		294,242	2,540	296,782	264,437
Total funds carried forward	18	277,022	-	277,022	296,782

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 18.

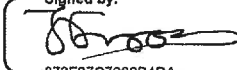
The notes on pages 17 to 33 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Homemaker Southwest
(Registration number: 04190963)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Debtors	12	19,108	17,282
Cash at bank and in hand	13	<u>290,151</u>	<u>311,256</u>
		309,259	328,538
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(32,237)</u>	<u>(31,756)</u>
Net assets		<u>277,022</u>	<u>296,782</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted		-	2,540
Unrestricted funds		<u>277,022</u>	<u>294,242</u>
Total funds	18	<u>277,022</u>	<u>296,782</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 15 to 33 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 27 November 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:

873F87G7062B4DA.....
Ms J Froom
Trustee

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the Trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Unit 1

Stoke Damerel Business Centre

Church Street

Plymouth

PL3 4DT

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Homemaker Southwest meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

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

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Going concern

The trustees have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis as, in their opinion, the Charity is able to meet its obligations as they fall due. This opinion is based on forecasting for the 12 months from signing these financial statements.

The Charity continues to see a strong demand for its services due to the increased needs resulting from the high cost of living. The Trustees are confident that they will be able to obtain future funding from a wide range of sources to be able to continue this valuable work.

As such, the Trustees are of the opinion that it is wholly appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity is exempt from preparing a cash flow statement in accordance with Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

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

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Registered Providers

Income from Registered Providers relates to services provided. This income is recognisable for the period within which the hours have been worked.

Devon Local Authorities

Income from Devon Local Authorities relates to services provided. This consists of contracted income and is received at agreed upon amounts per quarter, which is recognisable for the periods to which the quarterly amounts relate.

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Income from other sources

Income from other sources includes both contracted income for services provided and casework services provided.

The contracted income is received quarterly at agreed upon amounts, which is recognisable for the periods to which the quarterly amounts relate.

The casework income is recognisable upon the completion of each case.

Investment income

Investment income includes bank interest received which is recognised once the charity receives entitlement to it.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Grant expenditure

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objectives. Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specific service or output.

Grants payable without performance conditions are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Provision for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Plant and machinery etc	33% on cost and 15% reducing balance

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from funding providers for services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Fund structure

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity. The unrestricted funds operated by the charity is as follows:

Contingency reserve

The contingency reserve is a designated reserve that has been created in line with the charity's policy to generate sufficient reserves to cover three months running costs combined with staff redundancy costs.

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Restricted funds

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose. The different restricted funds operated by the charity are as follows:

Specific Client Support

These are grants received from charitable foundations and other sources to help individual clients with particular expenses in times of severe hardship. The only expenditure recognised for this fund is the payment of grants to the agreed individuals.

Citizens Advice Face 2 Face

This is a long term project to deliver debt advice services on behalf of The Citizens Advice Bureau in the Plymouth area. Expenditure is recognised for this fund on an apportioned basis. Staff costs are apportioned based on the employees that work for this service. Overheads relating to the Plymouth premises are fully allocated to this fund. Other overheads and support costs are apportioned at a rate of 50% unless a more appropriate split is identified.

Sanctuary

These funds are for the purpose of resettlement and tenancy support for Sanctuary tenants. The only expenditure recognised for this fund is directly attributable staff costs, based on the employees that work for this service.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

Pension costs are incurred by way of employer's defined contributions to employees' personal pension schemes. The contribution rates are 3%, 6% or 8% of gross salary and costs are wholly charged to the SOFA in the year in which they are incurred. Details of the costs and any outstanding amounts are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Volunteers

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these financial statements.

Further detail of the contribution made by volunteers can be found in the trustee's annual report.

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Registered Providers	9,329	5,000	14,329	19,405
Devon Local Authorities	124,357	-	124,357	121,120
Other sources	30,408	-	30,408	84,998
Face 2 Face	-	146,463	146,463	153,722
	<u>164,094</u>	<u>151,463</u>	<u>315,557</u>	<u>379,245</u>

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	7,715	(222)	7,493
Total for 2025	7,715	(222)	7,493
Total for 2024	4,951	223	5,174

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Staff costs		171,195	104,554	275,749
Allocated support costs		14,412	61,011	75,423
Other support costs	6	5,229	5,229	10,458
Total for 2025		190,836	170,794	361,630
Total for 2024		182,859	188,565	371,424

Included within the expenditure analysed above, there are governance costs of £10,458 (2024 - £12,126) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 6 for further details.

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

6 Analysis of governance and support costs

Other support costs

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Audit fees				
Audit of the financial statements	660	660	1,320	2,836
Other fees paid to auditors	990	990	1,980	2,000
Legal fees	<u>3,579</u>	<u>3,579</u>	<u>7,158</u>	<u>7,290</u>
	<u>5,229</u>	<u>5,229</u>	<u>10,458</u>	<u>12,126</u>

7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year include:

	2025 £	2024 £
Audit fees	<u>1,320</u>	<u>2,836</u>

8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No Trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses from the charity during the year.

9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	250,496	251,920
Social security costs	14,261	14,466
Pension costs	10,992	11,134
	<u>275,749</u>	<u>277,520</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Employees	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £55,910 (2024 - £54,281).

10 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2024	2,298	2,298
Disposals	(2,298)	(2,298)
At 31 March 2025	-	-
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2024	2,298	2,298
Eliminated on disposals	(2,298)	(2,298)
At 31 March 2025	-	-
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025	-	-
At 31 March 2024	-	-

12 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	5,168	6,943
Prepayments	8,641	8,089
Accrued income	2,975	-
Other debtors	2,324	2,250
	<u>19,108</u>	<u>17,282</u>

13 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash on hand	33	22
Cash at bank	<u>290,118</u>	<u>311,234</u>
	<u>290,151</u>	<u>311,256</u>

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,593	1,556
Other taxation and social security	5,251	5,409
Other creditors	7,534	15,171
Accruals and deferred income	17,859	9,620
	<u>32,237</u>	<u>31,756</u>
	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 April 2024	(5,290)	(6,368)
Resources deferred in the period	(8,233)	1,078
Deferred income at year end	<u>(13,523)</u>	<u>(5,290)</u>

The charity has deferred income due to income received in advance for services not yet provided - £8,523 (2024: £5,290). There was also a grant received towards the end of the year which relates to the following accounting period, which has therefore been included within deferred income - £5,000 (2024: £nil).

15 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

Operating lease commitments

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

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Land and buildings		
Within one year	10,500	9,000
Between one and five years	<u>8,750</u>	<u>7,694</u>
	<u>19,250</u>	<u>16,694</u>
Other		
Within one year	1,320	768
Between one and five years	<u>1,320</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,640</u>	<u>768</u>

16 Commitments**Pension commitments**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension charge for the period represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £10,991 (2024: £11,134). As at the balance sheet date pension contributions payable of £58 (2024: £1,127) are included within other creditors.

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

17 Contingent liabilities

Homemaker Southwest participates in the Pensions Trust's Growth Plan (the Plan) which is a multi-employer pension plan. The plan is funded and is not contracted out of the State scheme.

If an actuarial valuation reveals a shortfall of assets compared to liabilities, the Trustees must prepare a recovery plan setting out steps to make up the shortfall.

Following a change in legislation in September 2005 there is a potential debt on the employer that could be levied by the Trustees of the plan and The Pensions Act 2011 has more recently altered the definition of Series 3 of the Growth Plan so the liability arises to employers from membership of any Series except Series 4. The debt becomes due in the event of the employer ceasing to participate in the Plan or the Plan winding up.

The Growth Plan is a "last man standing" multi-employer scheme. This means that if a withdrawing employer is unable to pay its debt on withdrawal, the liability is shared amongst the remaining employers. The participating employers are therefore, jointly and severally liable for the deficit in the Growth Plan.

Homemaker Southwest has been notified by the Pensions Trust of the estimated employer debt withdrawal from the Plan based on the financial position of the Plan as at 30 September 2024 (most recent valuation available). As at that date the estimated employer debt for Homemaker Southwest was £9,538 (2024: £8,717).

To avoid the potential debt crystallising Homemaker Southwest continue to contribute to the Series 4 scheme provided by the Pensions Trust.

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

18 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>					
Unrestricted income fund	132,242	171,109	(190,836)	(3,993)	108,522
Contingency reserve	162,000	-	-	6,500	168,500
	<u>294,242</u>	<u>171,109</u>	<u>(190,836)</u>	<u>2,507</u>	<u>277,022</u>
Restricted funds					
Probation rent spend	33	(223)	190	-	-
Specific client support	2,507	19,520	(19,520)	(2,507)	-
Citizens Advice Face 2 Face	-	146,464	(146,464)	-	-
Sanctuary	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
	<u>2,540</u>	<u>170,761</u>	<u>(170,794)</u>	<u>(2,507)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>2,540</u>	<u>170,761</u>	<u>(170,794)</u>	<u>(2,507)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	<u>296,782</u>	<u>341,870</u>	<u>(361,630)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>277,022</u>

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>					
Unrestricted income fund	97,359	244,748	(182,859)	(27,006)	132,242
Contingency reserve	140,500	-	-	21,500	162,000
	<u>237,859</u>	<u>244,748</u>	<u>(182,859)</u>	<u>(5,506)</u>	<u>294,242</u>
Restricted					
Probation rent spend	-	223	(190)	-	33
Specific client support	2,507	-	-	-	2,507
Citizens Advice Face 2 Face	24,071	153,798	(180,668)	2,799	-
Sanctuary	-	5,000	(7,707)	2,707	-
	<u>26,578</u>	<u>159,021</u>	<u>(188,565)</u>	<u>5,506</u>	<u>2,540</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>26,578</u>	<u>159,021</u>	<u>(188,565)</u>	<u>5,506</u>	<u>2,540</u>
Total funds	<u>264,437</u>	<u>403,769</u>	<u>(371,424)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>296,782</u>

19 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>311,256</u>	<u>(21,105)</u>	<u>290,151</u>
Net debt	<u>311,256</u>	<u>(21,105)</u>	<u>290,151</u>
	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>281,011</u>	<u>30,245</u>	<u>311,256</u>
Net debt	<u>281,011</u>	<u>30,245</u>	<u>311,256</u>

Homemaker Southwest

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Contingency reserve £	Restricted £	Total funds at 31 March 2025 £
Current assets	123,454	168,500	17,305	309,259
Current liabilities	<u>(14,932)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(17,305)</u>	<u>(32,237)</u>
Total net assets	<u>108,522</u>	<u>168,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>277,022</u>

	Unrestricted funds £	Contingency reserve £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Current assets	148,559	162,000	17,979	328,538
Current liabilities	<u>(16,317)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(15,439)</u>	<u>(31,756)</u>
Total net assets	<u>132,242</u>	<u>162,000</u>	<u>2,540</u>	<u>296,782</u>

21 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.