VOLITION - LEEDS

England & Wales · Charity number 1092126

Details

Other names	LEEDS VOLUNTARY SECTOR MENTAL HEALTH FORUM, PSI VOLITION, VOLITION
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	04046674
Registered	2002-05-21
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	E1 Joseph's Well Hanover Walk Westgate Leeds West Yorkshire LS3 1AB
Phone	01132421321
Email	hello@forumcentral.org.uk
Website	www.forumcentral.org.uk

Activities

Objects: For the public benefit to promote the preservation of mental and physical health, the relief of persons suffering from mental health illness or from physical and sensory impairments and the relief of those with learning disabilities, in Leeds and the surrounding area ("the area of benefit") and to raise public awareness of such needs.

Activities: Volition is an alliance of voluntary sector organisations that either provide mental and/or physical health services for, or work with, people in Leeds who have mental health issues and/or physical and/or sensory impairments, and/or long-term health conditions

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Classification

- **How:** Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability
- **Who:** People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LEEDS AND THE SURROUNDING AREA
- Leeds City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£909,393	£849,997	£931,120	16
2024-03-31	£807,642	£1,081,600	£871,724	22
2023-03-31	£1,306,567	£1,204,290	£1,145,682	22
2022-03-31	£1,070,371	£804,122	£1,043,405	16
2021-03-31	£1,386,051	£967,167	£777,156	9

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Ruth Amanda Kettle	Chair	2015-01-08
Adrian Curtis		2021-02-01
Graham Nicholas Hyde		2025-09-25
James Hill		2020-02-04
Mark Sidney Law		2023-08-17
Parmjit Kaur Bhupal		2021-12-09
Rob Wilson		2023-08-17
Sharon Ann Marie Brown		2025-11-27
Stephen Michael Hoey		2023-08-17

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VOLITION - LEEDS

England & Wales - Charity number 1092126

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04046674 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1092126

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

FOR

VOLITION-LEEDS

Thomas Coombs Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
3365 The Pentagon
Century Way
Thorpe Park
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 8ZB

SATURDAY

AEGU6NNV
A08 06/12/2025 #174
COMPANIES HOUSE

VOLITION-LEEDS

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

TRUSTEES	Z A Bawn (Resigned 26.05.25) C A Hill (Resigned 28.11.24) J A Hill R A Kettle P Bhupal A N Curtis A Hanif (Resigned 24.07.25) N Franklin (Resigned 27.03.25) K J M Proud (Resigned 26.05.25 S M Hoey R Wilson N A Lines (Resigned 23.05.24) M S Law
REGISTERED OFFICE	Suite E1 Josephs Well Hanover Walk Leeds West Yorkshire LS3 1AB
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER	04046674 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1092126
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Thomas Coombs Limited Chartered Accountants 3365 The Pentagon Century Way Thorpe Park Leeds West Yorkshire LS15 8ZB
BANKERS	Unity Trust Bank 9 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES for public benefit

Volition receives funding from Leeds City Council and the West Yorkshire ICB and other statutory bodies and occasionally from other charities or trusts from time to time. It generates other revenue through delivering programmes on behalf of statutory bodies.

The charity's objects, as defined in our Memorandum of Association, are for the public benefit, to promote the preservation of good physical and mental health, the relief of persons experiencing poor mental health and/or mental health illness, the relief of persons with physical and sensory impairments and the relief of those with learning disabilities in Leeds and the surrounding area and to raise public awareness of such needs. In order to do this we work in partnership with Statutory and Voluntary Organisations. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives and in planning activities.

In setting our strategy and planning our activities, Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the relief of those in need, by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage and have developed strategic aims alongside short-term goals and objectives.

We are committed to strengthening our expertise and processes for supporting our smaller members and those working with the most marginalised communities alongside the wider sector through engagement and representation and also grant making as part of our delivery strategy. This enables us to ensure that a wider number of our member organisations are able to access funds and deliver at ground level.

We have been offering these and similar services for 40 years and are recognised as a key source of support and information for and on the health and care third sector in Leeds.

Principal Activities

Volition Leeds (Volition) is an alliance of third sector (voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise) member organisations which provide health and wellbeing community support in Leeds. At the end of the year Volition had 302 members and Forum Central (our partnership with Leeds Older People's Forum) had a combined membership of 329 organisations.

Volition exists to:

- Promote and support the contribution of the voluntary sector in strategic planning and development across the Leeds and West Yorkshire health and care system.
- Encourage collaboration and partnership between agencies and across sectors.
- Promote and contribute the voluntary sector's person and community centred perspective in aspects of service and practice development.
- Support and develop our third sector member organisations to enable them to better meet the mental, physical health and wellbeing, learning disability and physical and sensory impairment needs of people across all our diverse Leeds' communities.

We have continued to develop our three year Strategic Plan agreed in 2023. We believe in local solutions, informed by trusted relationships with people and communities and have used our Theory of Change to help guide and clarify our work in 2025/26.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

This year we demonstrate our achievements against the Theory of Change based on our focus on ensuring a better quality of life for people in Leeds through promotion of the unique strengths, approaches, benefits and vision of the third sector. We do this through our two goals of achieving a thriving, diverse and sustainable third sector and local infrastructure that has legacy beyond the life of any single program. Our enablers are: our relational approach informed by local strategy; the expertise, knowledge and commitment of our team - both board and staff; our strong reputation and our operational strength and sustainability.

Six Priority areas of focus

1. Showcase and advocate for our sector focusing on health inequalities and taking action to affect positive system change

- Building our **Workforce and Human Resources** network with accessible, free resources and sharing of knowledge and good practice, benefiting small and micro as well as larger organisations
- **Events, meetings and engagement**
- Developing sector **leadership** and access for our members to key decision makers - connecting more of the system to itself.
- Mechanisms that support the third sector by ensuring **funding** along with support, advocacy, representation and capacity building that reaches frontline organisations including International Day of Disabled People and supporting Leeds Older People's Forum (L Household Support Fund grant making. Raising the health and care third sector profile across Leeds and West Yorkshire and developing mechanisms to support our members and communities still rebuilding from the pandemic, managing the current financial and operating challenges, and planning for health system changes and upheavals.
- **Advocacy:** Advocating for the Health and Care Third Sector in all meetings from Health & Wellbeing Board to one-to-one meetings.
- **State of the Sector:** we are working with partners Nifty Sustainability and MyCake on our third iteration of the Leeds State of the Sector Report which will enable us to further quantify and benchmark our sector's strengths and challenges. Our updated research shows 1,878 registered organisations working towards the wider determinants of health in Leeds, which is 90% of all registered organisations, with 164 organisations directly delivering health and care contracts. This has increased as a proportion from 82% in 2022. The second report published in 2023 was highly used, both by Third Sector Leeds in our Third Sector Strategy and by statutory partners including the Health and Care Academy annual report and the early draft of the Leeds Joint Strategic Assessment. Sharing it in Partnership and Scrutiny Boards raised understanding, profile and valuing of the third sector and we continue to see progress in embedding this more data driven approach to understanding the value of investment and cumulative impact on the sector of reducing funding and cuts.
- Marmot - alongside LOPF, Volition has ensured that the third sector has been involved and highly visible, with the value of third sector infrastructure being recognised in helping the Leeds System to join up, scale up, be bold (FAIRER, HEALTHIER LEEDS: REDUCING HEALTH INEQUALITIES, report by the Institute of Health).

2. Connect and influence to amplify the voices of People and Communities in Leeds as raised through our members

- Using a range of indicators, milestones and benchmarks for both our members and funders to see the long term effect of the charity's activities on both individual members and at a wider level of the communities we serve and the health and care system in which we operate.
- We have sought to increase the range of our partners and the number and diversity of our members.
- Our work to address health Inequalities has included engagement with partners to strengthen connections and bridge the gap between senior decision makers and people who experience the greatest health inequalities and the organisations that provide support including the Health and Wellbeing Board Allyship Programme which has been concluded with a report reviewed by the board in June 2025.
- Volition, working with LOPF, as Forum Central, keeps members informed about strategic developments happening in the health and care system which have an impact on the Leeds third sector and enable our members to feed into those developments and strategies wherever possible.

- We do this through network and one-to-one meetings; themed events and bespoke materials including thought leadership, most recently our Third Sector position statement on Neighbourhood Health. We also share regular e-bulletins tailored in response to feedback. We gather intelligence from the Health and Care Third Sector through representatives, meetings and events which enables us to help achieve better health and wellbeing outcomes for people through our Team Leeds values and principles shared with other H&C system partners

- Information delivered through our Forum Central website, email and social media has enabled our members to better respond to system restructuring and to the cost pressure challenges they all face. We have continued to sustain some elements of the one information source principle of the former LOOP partnership.

- Our ongoing work to address health inequalities has included facilitating the Communities of Interest Network; forging stronger links between this and our other specialist networks (Mental Health, Learning Disabilities, Physical and Sensory Impairments and Local Care Partnerships); and continued engagement with the People's Voices Group. This has enabled us to better amplify the voices of our members and the communities - both geographic and of interest - that they work with and create opportunities to influence decision makers, including: through the Allyship Programme that we developed with the Health and Wellbeing Board; representation on the Population Health and Care Delivery Board; and involvement in the Tackling Health Inequalities Group (relaunched in 2025 as the Leeds Healthcare Inequalities Oversight Group). Our understanding of the needs of people in communities through our members is key to advocating for community voice to be at the centre of decision making and supporting shift of power to communities.

- We have developed a risk monitoring mechanism to ensure issues raised are recorded, escalated and acted upon.

- In 2025, we continued the work in partnership with organisations working with Roma communities and Public Health to support community capacity building and more collaborative working.

3. Develop and strengthen third sector representation across key forums and strategic boards

We have strengthened strategic engagement across Leeds and with our West Yorkshire peers including the Leeds and West Yorkshire (WY) digital Boards where we continue to highlight the digital requirements of the sector and interoperability, which remains a barrier for all Health and Care system partners. Karl Witty has been appointed as WY VCSE rep on the newly established Neighbourhood Health Board and we have been an active founding member of the Health and Care Hub with Dept for Health &Social Care.

Actively contribute to and influence policy and strategy

As Forum Central, we support representation across 100 different boards and strategic groups, bringing a Third Sector Health and Care perspective as well as keeping others in the sector engaged and well informed through Third Sector Leeds. The value and impact of this work is exemplified by the following feedback: "It has been a privilege to lead St Gemma's for the last 14 years and a pleasure to work with you, the Forum Central team and other Third Sector colleagues. What amazing work the Third Sector does in Leeds and what a difference that work makes to local people's lives."

We are an active partner in the Leeds Health and Care Hub - a Leeds/Cabinet Office partnership launched in 2022 and representing a new and dynamic way for Central Government, Local Government, the NHS and the Voluntary and Community Sector to work together to influence national policy and apply test, learn and grow methodology.

Through our WY Power of Communities we influence and support work at WY level and we have also supported local work through Third Sector Leeds, for example meeting local MPs in March 2024 to raise issues around VCSE sustainability, Household Support Fund, housing, concerns around private profit from public funding and the Third Sector role in improving quality of later life.

Around 60,000 people are employed across Leeds in health and care services, of which 6,465 are in the third sector. We have been working since 2021 to ensure there is third sector representation on the Leeds Health and Care Academy work which is overseen by the Leeds One Workforce Strategic Board. This has included ensuring that training and support is available to meet the needs of the third sector workforce. To address this, we have collaborated with the Leeds Health and Care Academy to establish and coordinate a Third Sector HR Network. Established in 2022 following our workforce survey that raised concerns about challenges being faced by the sector, the network covers workforce, culture, inclusion and organisational development matters. The Network is supported via the Leeds Health and Care Academy with Emma Holford (Project Manager) 1 day a week embedded in our team alongside Tina Turnbull who was employed support the work and develop the engagement and network from September 2023 to October 2024. This, and our increased grantmaking experience, lay the ground for a significant short term WYCA funded Work and Health programme which we will deliver with Leeds City Council in 2025/26.

4. Transform and innovate through new and existing partnerships in order to shape the future of health and care

The continuation of Volition's partnership with LOPF through the Leeds City Council Forums Contract has seen us deliver ongoing specialist support to our members, underpinned by two way engagement through the Health and Care Leaders Network and Representatives meetings.

Our partnerships with Voluntary Action Leeds, Healthwatch, Leeds Community Foundation and statutory partners continues to be core to our work and has brought significant benefits of increased influence for people and communities and additional resources to our members and the wider third sector. In 2024 we commissioned a Leeds Third Sector Infrastructure Review jointly with LOPF and Voluntary Action Leeds. This included three workshops with key stakeholders over Summer 2024

Through our West Yorkshire (WY) Power of Communities work we have continued to Identify and respond to the needs of members.

We continued to inform and involve the sector in wider health system change including as an equal partner in the Leeds and WY Integrated Care System whilst navigating significant additional challenges to tackling the health needs of the city by the operating restructure in 2024/25 and the 2025 NHS changes and Ten Year Plan for Health now being worked through.

Feedback from our member organisations

We conducted our member satisfaction survey again this year to help us understand more about what our members think we do well or could do better. Example feedback from one testimonial we received highlighted the impact of our high levels of communications and connections and the value of our sharing of information and providing a mechanism and lever for change.

Member organisations have provided feedback that we keep them "well connected to the local care community and well informed". Our network meetings are valued as well run and very useful - a member praised them for the "positivity and such a good vibe". Members have told us they value the support offered and for "hearing, really listening and hearing".

We also seek evaluation feedback on the impact of the Projects we run. We received the following feedback on one of our Power of Community partners: "This infrastructure development programme has managed to deliver in-depth support to community leaders from culturally diverse backgrounds who have immense potential to contribute to the voluntary sector in Leeds. While doing so, we have also managed to build the long term resilience of the third sector. Every community leader has evidenced growth and a high level of commitment to become self-reliant and sustainable community groups."

5. Develop and support our team

In 2024/25 we completed an options appraisal for downsizing and having explored a range of options we agreed and swiftly completed a move, still co-locating with LOPF, to a smaller, flexible office in Josephs Well. This well located building on the edge of the city centre is shared with many different third sector, NHS and private sector teams and organisations.

Our team has shifted to a more flexible and matrixed way of working, where responsibilities are distributed to leverage collective strengths, yet leadership remains clearly defined to guide outcomes in a fast-changing system and to ensure we can be responsive to the needs of our members and wider partners. Our specialist development workers continue to fulfil their core remit with professionalism, enthusiasm, compassion and skill via monthly network meetings, regular bulletins and one to one meetings, supporting existing members and engaging and supporting the full range of organisations across the sector whilst shifting the balance of time from system partner meetings to direct support and networking in response to member feedback and core aims. The distributed approach to supporting LCPs and joint network meetings since 2023 has ensured that these have been well attended and realised our ambition to work practically in a more intersectional way with focus on highlighting health inequalities. Our team and Board of Trustees undertook Equality and Diversity training trustees in 2024/25.

6. Ensure financial sustainability

Quarterly monitoring forms are submitted to our joint health and local authority funders who continue to give positive feedback about our performance. Feedback from our members and evaluation of the support we provide to both our members and partners is also positive with an overall increased demand on all areas of our work.

We have experienced significant challenges setting balanced budgets for 2024/25 and 2025/26 due to uncertainty regarding funding which has been resolved (see Financial Review). However, this did mean we could explore and reduce costs very successfully in a number of areas and are as a result fit for future challenges with a more sustainable cost base and a very proactive and forward thinking team who are more able to be flexible and responsive.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024/25

Partnership with Health

In late 2024 the Leeds ICB Annual Position Statement was published outlining the commitment to working in partnership with the Health and Care System. It sets out the current context, opportunities, and future priorities in relation to the third sector as a Member of the Leeds Health and Care Partnership and is grounded in priorities seen within the Leeds Third Sector Strategy and honed through a collaborative workshop involving the ICB and third sector colleagues in July 2024.

The launch of the statement came as the new Government and the Darzi report set out the challenge to identify how we best care for the health of people in our communities. The third sector has potential to be the cornerstone of the Government's ask of a neighbourhood health and care system, which is recognised in the three ambitions of the ten year plan: to move care from the hospital to community; from treatment to prevention; and to support people in the move from analogue to digital; all underpinned by a commitment to Neighbourhood Health. This will only be possible if we harness the third sector reach into communities alongside other partners. West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership is the first 'Keep it Local' ICS in the country. A clear position statement outlines how the ICB in Leeds will work with partners to prioritise supporting, partnering with and commissioning local third sector partners.

West Yorkshire is leading the way as one of 7 out of the 42 Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) who have partnerships with the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector, and our West Yorkshire Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with us respresenting the VCSE sector is a significant commitment to embed the sector and deliver better health and well-being outcomes.

We are proud of our Leeds Health and Care Partnership Team Leeds approach to and are committed to ensuring that we continually improve how we work together to improve the lives of local people, particularly those living with the highest health inequalities.

MindWell

MindWell is the 'go-to' online resource for adult mental health and wellbeing support in Leeds, provided by Volition in partnership with Thrive by Design up until March 2025. MindWell offers a comprehensive directory of over 520 local and national services, information on common mental health issues, and a collection of accessible self-help resources. Widely used by healthcare professionals and the voluntary sector, MindWell ensures easy access to free, reliable mental health support.

Key developments during the year included:

- Launch of a new volunteer programme, with the first cohort inducted before Christmas and supporting research and information-gathering.
- Refresh of key content, including new resources for older adults.
- Strengthened collaboration with Public Health and Being You Leeds, particularly around anti-stigma and prevention work.
- Progress toward PIF-Tick accreditation, focusing on quality standards and streamlining directory updates.
- Monitoring of reach and impact through web analytics and newsletter engagement.

During the year, significant time was spent working with commissioners on the handover of responsibilities from Thrive by Design to Leeds City Council. Much of the work previously delivered by Thrive transferred to Volition, alongside £20k in additional funding. The contract was also extended to 2027, providing longer-term stability. While this ensured continuity, some development activity like the Advisory Board has been paused pending further direction from commissioners on the wider future model. The team have shown remarkable resilience in responding to this change.

Community Mental Health Transformation

Transforming Mental Health Grant funded delivery partners - Gold Dust report: we have pulled together a powerful evaluation report that highlights the significant achievements of frontline organisations, supported by Volition, to meet the needs of people with severe and complex mental health needs.

There is a shift in development capacity of the core team as Mental Health Transformation became business as usual, with ongoing staff changes/reductions. The focus for the core team is across the three pilot LCPs with focused workstreams (Disorder, Complex Rehab & Psychosis, Eating Disorders, Neurodiversity & Transitions) and preparing to mobilise the next wave of sites across the city.

We have worked at the request of the ICB and partners to help develop a new Alliance model which can, with our input, ensure the safe transfer of mental health community support contracts alongside keeping wider opportunities for other partners with expertise in this space to join the Alliance as it builds and grows. In summer 2025 two contracts were awarded under the new Provider Selection Regime.

Community Vaccine Champions

The Community Vaccine Champions work with Voluntary Action Leeds and partners from Leeds City Council's Public Health team is building on the significant success of the original Champions work delivered during the Covid-19 pandemic. The asset-based model utilises the reach, skills and knowledge of communities to support the communication of public health messaging into underserved communities, through a volunteering programme and community grant scheme.

The latest iteration of the Community Champions work is designed to promote informed conversations about vaccinations across the lifecourse. Starting in April 2025, withfunding from NHS England, Volition has already successfully delivered the first phase of the grants scheme, providing small grants to 10 organisations to deliver work aiming to enhance community engagement with childhood vaccinations.

Leeds Beckett University will again be evaluating the programme, building upon learning shared within the original Community Champions evaluation report.

Trauma Informed

This Project aimed to develop city-wide capacity and initiatives that focus on developing, strengthening and implementing third sector Trauma Informed care and support for Children and Young People in Leeds. Volition received funding from Leeds ICB for a two-year Development Worker post to support this Project. Volition developed and sustained a Trauma Informed Communities network, held regular orientation sessions and produced bi-monthly learning briefings. Volition partnered with Leeds Community Foundation and Leeds ICB on two grant programmes, playing an active role for grant recipients. Both the funds take a test and learn approach, with the ambition to embed learning into the Compassionate Leeds strategy. The Development Worker post ended in July 2024 but Volition continued to support the grant-holders as they completed their projects and we held an end-of-grant celebration event in March 2025.

Financial review

Review of financial activity

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011. The company has adopted FRS102 and complies with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (issued in December 2019).

The net income for the year was £59,396 (2024: net expenditure of £273,958), made up of net income of £32,692 on unrestricted funds and net income of £26,704 on restricted funds.

Overall Charity income was £909,393 (2024: 807,642). We received several large one-off grants in 2024/25 which have been offset to an extent by a reduction of £67k in our ICB grant funding for our Forum Central activities. In 2023/24, we received annual grant funding from the ICB Leeds of £302k. This funding was reduced by £33.6k per quarter from 1st October 2024, a significant reduction in ICB investment in Forum Central engagement, representation and leadership activity and a reflection of the challenging financial situation for the sector.

Overall expenditure on Charitable activities was £849,997 (2024: £1,081,600). Expenditure on Core Charitable activities has reduced by £180k. Most of this reduction is salary costs. Several posts ended in late 2023/24 or early 2024/25 because fixed term funding for these posts came to an end. We have also streamlined staffing and other costs and processes for Forum Central activities throughout 2024/25 to respond to the proposed and actual reduction in funding from the ICB and to place us on a more sustainable footing for 2025/26. For example, we relocated offices in late 2024/25 reducing our Premises costs by 33%. Grant-making using pass-through funding has reduced by £51k.

The company's total funds amounted to £931,120 at 31st March 2025 (2024: £871,724), an increase of £59,396. This is largely attributable to the increase in Cash at bank, which increased by £86,351 to £951,838 at 31st March 2025 (2024: £865,487), offset by a smaller decrease of £28,259 in our Debtors to £17,235 at 31 March 2025 (2024: £45,494).

The investment policy for cash balances is to hold whatever is not required for short term cashflow in term or notice deposit savings accounts. We opened a Deposit Platform Account during the year in order to maximise returns and improve our FSCS protection. The amount of cash carried is mainly a result of the fact that several restricted funds span more than one year. Some of the major funds carried forward include:

- West Yorkshire Unpaid Carers Programme funding of £105k for an 18 month post to support the project management of the Programme received in March 2025.

- Vaccine Champions funding of £59,486 received in March 2025 for delivery in 2025/26.

- Mental Health Transformation funding for grants programmes and projects and Mental Health First Aid project - £140k.

- WY Power of Communities funding of £124k for delivery of projects spanning more than one financial year.

- Leeds City Council Covid 19 Outbreak Plan funding - £30k has been carried forward to be spent on the Communities of Interest Network Development Worker post, in accordance with the funding agreement and wishes of the funder.

- MindWell - £30k has been carried forward in 25/26 to support operational and cashflow needs for MindWell.

- A full schedule of the restricted funds that have been carried forward are set out in the Notes to these Accounts.

Our debtors at the end of the prior financial year included West Yorkshire ICB funding of £30k, which was awarded in March 2024 and paid in April 2024, for VCSE Mental Health and Neurodiversity work.

A balance of £282,971 (2024: £250,279) is held in unrestricted funds. Details regarding our reserves policy are found in the section below.

Reserves policy

The charity takes a risk based approach in setting the level of reserves. A minimum level (lower band) and maximum level (upper band) of reserves is set and reserves are maintained between the lower and upper band limits. This ensures that the charity holds enough reserves for an orderly winding up if faced with unexpected closure, whilst also ensuring the charity does not maintain unnecessary high surplus reserves.

The lower band level is set with reference to funds needed in order to conduct an orderly winding up of the charity in the face of unexpected closure. The number of months expenditure which is held for these purposes is 3 months of operating costs plus redundancy and other known committed expenditure and equated to £224,000 at the time of annual review in March 2025.

The upper level includes an allowance for any additional items - specifically £45,000 contingency for unexpected cash flow considerations, £10,000 in relation to specific additional expenditure and £25,000 to support the infrastructure and operation of the charity for the 12 month period to 31st March 2026. The upper band level has therefore been set at £304,000.

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at 31st March 2025 were £282,396 and therefore are within our minimum and maximum banding levels. Our current forecast to 31 March 2026 anticipates year end reserves will fall below the upper level of reserves defined in our policy.

Plans for the Future

Volition's strategic plan is reviewed and updated annually - see page 2 for an Overview of our Strategic Objectives.

In terms of the Forums Contract with Leeds City Council, we have been informed in September 2025 of the intention to develop a joint infrastructure contract to cover both this and Voluntary Action Leeds infrastructure work and we will, alongside LOPF, remain committed to being an effective voice for the health and care third sector in Leeds.

Our new MindWell partnership with Leeds City Council is being developed and we continue to seek adequate funding and system vision and leadership.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Legal and administrative details

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 3 August 2000 with registered company number 04046674 and registered as a charity on 21 May 2002, registration number 1092126. Since January 2025 our principal and registered office is Suite E1, Joseph's Well, Hanover Walk, LS3 1AB.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association as amended by special resolutions on 22 January 2018 and 22 August 2019. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The Trustees of the charity are also the Directors for the purposes of company law. Each member organisation can nominate a representative to stand for election but individuals become trustees in their own right. Members are all invited to nominate representatives to stand for available places at each Annual General Meeting (AGM) at which trustees are elected. Each year one third of the trustees - the longest standing - are required to stand down and may stand for re-election. There is a maximum limit of 18 trustees and minimum number of 5 trustees on the Board. In addition, trustees can be co-opted for their particular knowledge or expertise, or if there is a vacancy between AGMs.

We have continued our partnership working with our local infrastructure partner Voluntary Action Leeds through shared trustees Adrian Curtis and Neil Franklin. Neil resigned during the year and we are currently seeking a trustee to replace Neil in this role.

Organisational structure

The Trustees moved from monthly to bimonthly meetings 2025. The Chair is elected at the first meeting following the AGM. Meetings cover finance, governance and setting of the strategy for Volitions alternating between business and policy meetings. The Finance Sub-committee, established in 2022, gives assurance that the board is fully sighted on the organisation's increasingly complex finances. It met at least quarterly basis in 2024/5 (increasing to monthly to support the management team and oversee the Strategic Review at this challenging time of reduced funding).

The Volition Director, Pip Goff, is accountable to the Chair of the Trustees, and manages the staff team.

Trustee Induction and Training

The Board keeps the skill requirements of the Trustee Body under review. Once appointed, newly elected trustees undergo an induction programme and any training requirements identified are addressed. The charity keeps up to date with key developments and training is provided to trustees as required.

Team development and recruitment

Volition's Staff Structure Diagram is on the Forum Central website; https://forumcentral.org.uk/about-us/our-team/

Staff development remained a priority, with team wide training opportunities offered. We have also supported team members to pursue external qualifications that enhance both individual growth and organisational capacity.

We welcomed our new Development Team Admin Coordinator in 2024/25, a vital role which supports the Development Team with admin for running the various health and care networks and key developing projects within Volition.

Key management remuneration

The charity's Finance Sub-committee convenes annually as the Remuneration Committee in order to review salary bandings and scale points of all employees. The charity's pay scales are aligned with the pay scales of the National Joint Council for Local Government Services meaning salary increases are kept in line with those negotiated by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services. Volition also ensures benchmarking comparisons using an external benchmarking company with local government experience, to review new or changed job roles against job descriptions and compare with similar roles across the third sector to ensure pay is fair and reflective of the duties carried out by employees.

Risk Factors

The Trustees recognise the need to undertake a risk assessment. Volition is an infrastructure organisation rather than a direct service provider. The risks associated with our work include strategic and reputational risks as well as health and safety issues related to office-based work and also the risk, common across the third sector, of loss of funding.

Our strategic and reputational risks are mitigated through our bimonthly board meetings when organisational risks are identified. These are captured in a formal risk document which is reviewed regularly. The Trustees ensure appropriate liaison with stakeholders, partners, commissioners and potential funders in order to secure sufficient funds to continue the work of the organisation.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 27th November 2025 and signed on the board's behalf by:

.....

Mark Law - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF VOLITION-LEEDS

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Volition-Leeds ('the Company')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st 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 Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
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.

C. Darwin

Christopher Darwin FCA
Thomas Coombs Limited
Chartered Accountants
3365 The Pentagon
Century Way
Thorpe Park
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 8ZB

Date: 27th November 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	**2025 Total funds £**	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Charitable activities	3				
Core charitable activities		**372,001**	**425,181**	**797,182**	712,030
Grant making		-	**62,893**	**62,893**	46,132
Other trading activities	2	**48,102**	**1,216**	**49,318**	49,980
Total		**420,103**	**489,290**	**909,393**	807,642
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Core charitable activities		**381,911**	**321,506**	**703,417**	883,869
Grant making		**5,500**	**141,080**	**146,580**	197,731
Total		**387,411**	**462,586**	**849,997**	1,081,600
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		**32,692**	**26,704**	**59,396**	(273,958)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		**250,279**	**621,445**	**871,724**	1,145,682
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**282,971**	**648,149**	**931,120**	871,724

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	**2025 Total funds £**	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	**575**	-	**575**	863
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	**17,235**	-	**17,235**	45,494
Cash at bank		**303,689**	**648,149**	**951,838**	865,487
		320,924	**648,149**	**969,073**	910,981
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	**(38,528)**	-	**(38,528)**	(40,120)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**282,396**	**648,149**	**930,545**	870,861
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**282,971**	**648,149**	**931,120**	871,724
NET ASSETS		**282,971**	**648,149**	**931,120**	871,724
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				**282,971**	250,279
Restricted funds				**648,149**	621,445
TOTAL FUNDS				**931,120**	871,724

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on .....and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
A N Curtis - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

VOLITION-LEEDS

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	86,351	64,895
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		86,351	64,895
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		86,351	64,895
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		865,487	800,592
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		951,838	865,487

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	**59,396**	(273,958)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**288**	2,890
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	5,474
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**28,259**	325,000
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	**(1,592)**	5,489
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	**86,351**	64,895

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/24	Cash flow	At 31/3/25
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank	**865,487**	**86,351**	**951,838**
	865,487	**86,351**	**951,838**
Total	**865,487**	**86,351**	**951,838**

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

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

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

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

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets
Tangible fixed assets other than freehold land are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended. Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its useful life, as follows:

Computer equipment	20%	Straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	33%	Straight line

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

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pensions
The charity operates a defined pension contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are recognised in the year they are payable.

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Debtors and creditors receivable/ payable within one year
Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Leases
Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the SOFA on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other trading activities	33,933	48,264
Bank Interest	15,385	1,216
	49,318	49,480

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

			2025	2024
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Grants	116,379	481,798	598,177	500,410
Contracts	255,622	6,276	261,898	257,752
	372,001	488,074	860,075	758,162

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Mindwell	102,262	104,328
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	17,000	35,200
Learning Disability Awards	5,000	-
Carers Post	105,000	-
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	34,593	1,562
Leeds For All	300	1,500
Vaccine Champions	59,486	-
Household Support Fund	5,500	5,500
Warm spaces fund	-	8,250
COIN	1,400	-
Leeds Sexual Health Project	10,800	-
State of the sector 2024 and MyCake	6,000	-
VCSE Mental Health Champions Project	10,000	-
ICB Engagement & Representation	234,836	302,000
ICS Research Engagement Network (REN) Programme	6,000	20,000
Roma HNA grants	-	12,070
WY Fellowship Bursary	-	10,000
	598,177	500,410

continued...

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 5)	Grant funding of activities (see note 6)	Support costs (see note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Core charitable activities	**700,338**	-	**3,079**	**703,417**
Grant making	**18,829**	**127,751**	-	**146,580**
	719,167	**127,751**	**3,079**	**849,997**

5. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	**509,218**	649,724
Rent, rates and utilities	**32,839**	32,764
Insurance	**3,677**	3,548
Telephone	**1,640**	2,772
Equipment and materials	**6,532**	5,077
Room hire	**9,090**	3,646
Travel	**759**	1,570
Office and admin costs	**14,781**	15,984
Training	**6,865**	3,871
Refreshments	**1,852**	1,420
Other expenses	**10,411**	2,383
Freelance workers and consultants	**54,346**	109,655
IT Costs	**10,994**	8,071
Partner payments	**32,756**	32,756
Direct project delivery costs	**23,119**	24,593
Depreciation	**288**	2,890
Loss on sale of assets	-	5,556
	719,167	906,280

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2025	2023
	£	£
Core charitable activities	-	1,000
Grant making	**127,751**	171,073
	127,751	172,073

continued...

6. **GRANTS PAYABLE - continued**

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Harnessing the Power of Communities Grant programme	**68,900**	64,000
5 Ways to Wellbeing	-	1,275
Voluntary Action Leeds	**8,000**	-
CMHT	-	27,000
Roma HNA grants	**10,854**	-
Mental Health First Aid	**18,997**	45,548
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**7,500**	-
ICS Research Engagement Network (REN) Programme	**13,500**	15,000
Warm Spaces: Additional Health Support Needs	-	8,250
West Yorkshire ICB Adversity Trauma and Resilience Fellowship	-	10,000
Black Health Initiative	-	1,000
	127,751	172,073

West Yorkshire Power of Communities and Harnessing the Power of Communities	The grants made to these organisations were to meet the Leeds System Health Care Priorities
5 Ways to Wellbeing	The grants made to these organisations were to develop tools to engage people and communities at risk of poor mental health.
Voluntary Action Leeds	This grant was made to support the continuation of the Community Champions Programme using underspend from the LCC Covid19 Outbreak Plan funding from LCC.
CHMT– Third sector Role development	These grants were paid out to fund involvement and Peer support Worker roles hosted by third party organisations for Mental Health Transformation.
Roma HNA Grants	Community grants for improving the health of the Roma community within Leeds using funding received from LCC.
MHFA	These grants were paid out to organisations to increase access to Mental Health First Aid and related training across West Yorkshire.
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	This grant was made to GIPSIL using underspend from the CYP Ethnic Inequalities ICB funding to support the SpeakUpLeeds BlackBoyJoy project.
ICS Research Engagement Network (REN) Programme	The grant was paid to an organisation acting on behalf of Leeds Community Anchor Network to support the REN Programme, which aimed to increase diversity in research participation.
Warm Spaces: Additional Health Support Needs	Grants for organisations providing Warm Spaces to make these more useable for people with Additional Health Support Needs by using HEPA filters to remove viruses and allergens.
West Yorkshire ICB Adversity Trauma and Resilience Fellowship	Bursary payment for West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board Adversity Trauma and Resilience Fellowship.
Black Health Initiative (BHI)	Grant paid to BHI to support the delivery of the Black Men in Conference Event in June 2023

continued...

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Core charitable activities	3,079

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025 Core charitable activities	2024 Total activities
	£	£
Auditor's remuneration	-	747
Independent Remuneration	3,079	2,500

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	-	747
Depreciation - owned assets	288	2,890
Deficit on disposal of fixed assets	-	5,474
Rent	29,491	29,430

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were £25 of trustees' expenses relating to travel reimbursement paid for the year ended 31st march 2025 (2024: £29).

10. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	445,748	569,868
Social security costs	37,189	47,461
Other pension costs	26,281	32,395
	509,218	649,724

The charity considers its key management personnel (in addition to the Board of Trustees) to be the director and operations manager. The total remuneration (including employer pension contributions) of the key management personnel was £68,149 (2024: £97,450). The operations manager was on maternity leave in 2024.

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

	2025	2024
Staff	16	22

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

continued...

The average full time equivalent for the average number of employees is 12 (2024:16).

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Charitable activities			
Core charitable activities – grants	242,600	211,678	454,278
Core charitable activities – contract income	255,622	2,130	257,752
Grant making	-	46,132	46,132
Other trading activities	49,480	-	49,480
Total	547,702	259,940	807,642
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Core charitable activities	507,934	375,935	883,869
Grant making	5,500	192,231	197,731
Total	513,434	568,166	1,081,600
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	34,268	(308,226)	(273,858)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	216,011	929,671	1,145,682
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	250,279	621,445	871,724

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st April 2024	**3,109**	**1,439**	**4,538**
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31st March 2025	**3,109**	**1,439**	**4,548**
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st April 2024	**3,109**	**576**	**3,685**
Charge for year	-	**288**	**288**
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-
At 31st March 2025	**3,109**	**864**	**3,972**
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st March 2025	-	**575**	**575**
At 31st March 2024	-	863	863

continued...

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Debtors in the ordinary course of activities	8,013	30,368
Prepayments and accrued income	9,222	14,856
	17,235	45,494

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Creditors in the ordinary course of activities	13,021	14,389
VAT	12,700	11,456
Accruals and deferred income	12,807	14,275
	38,528	40,120

15. LEASING AGREEMENTS

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Within one year	19,682	27,222

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**250,279**	**32,692**	**282,971**
Restricted funds			
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	**264,221**	**(140,005)**	**124,216**
Mindwell & Mindwell 2	**29,797**	**(641)**	**29,156**
LCC Partnership Board	**703**	**-**	**703**
Tenfold Fund	**23,492**	**616**	**24,108**
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	**56,528**	**(26,314)**	**30,214**
Mental Health Collaborative	**24,613**	**28**	**24,641**
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**7,749**	**(7,749)**	**-**
Leeds For All (IDPD)	**284**	**(284)**	**-**
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	**97,735**	**3,517**	**101,252**
Community Mental Health Transformation staffing	**8,757**	**516**	**9,273**
Mental Health First Aid	**38,238**	**(19,072)**	**19,166**
Emerge	**2,222**	**-**	**2,222**
Trauma	**27,009**	**(7,737)**	**19,272**
FC Business Case	**-**	**47,262**	**47,262**
DEMO project	**382**	**(382)**	**-**
Winter Pressures	**25,715**	**-**	**25,715**
ROMA grants	**14,000**	**(12,993)**	**1,007**
Sexual Health	**-**	**9,180**	**9,180**
SWEMWBS	**-**	**6,276**	**6,276**
Vaccine Champions	**-**	**59,486**	**59,486**
Carers	**-**	**105,000**	**105,000**
MH Hub Champions	**-**	**10,000**	**10,000**
	621,445	**26,704**	**648,149**
TOTAL FUNDS	**871,724**	**59,396**	**931,120**

continued...

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**420,103**	**(387,411)**	**32,692**
Restricted funds			
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	**29,000**	**(169,005)**	**(140,005)**
Mindwell & Mindwell 2	**102,862**	**(103,503)**	**(641)**
Tenfold Fund	**5,616**	**(5,000)**	**616**
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	**-**	**(26,314)**	**(26,314)**
Mental Health Collaborative	**15,312**	**(15,284)**	**28**
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**-**	**(7,749)**	**(7,749)**
Leeds For All (IDPD)	**300**	**(584)**	**(284)**
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	**34,593**	**(31,076)**	**3,517**
Community Mental Health Transformation staffing	**61,383**	**(60,867)**	**516**
Mental Health First Aid	**-**	**(19,072)**	**(19,072)**
Trauma	**-**	**(7,737)**	**(7,737)**
FC Business case	**47,262**	**-**	**47,262**
DEMO project	**-**	**(382)**	**(382)**
Communities of Interest Network	**1,400**	**(1,400)**	**-**
ROMA grants	**-**	**(12,993)**	**(12,993)**
Sexual Health	**10,800**	**(1,620)**	**9,180**
SWEMWBS	**6,276**	**-**	**6,276**
Vaccine Champions	**59,486**	**-**	**59,486**
Carers	**105,000**	**-**	**105,000**
MH Hub Champions	**10,000**	**-**	**10,000**
	489,290	**(462,586)**	**26,704**
TOTAL FUNDS	**909,393**	**(849,997)**	**59,396**

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**216,011**	**34,268**	**250,279**
Restricted funds			
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	**354,195**	**(89,974)**	**264,221**
Mindwell & Mindwell 2	**43,166**	**(13,369)**	**29,797**
LCC Partnership Board	**703**	**-**	**703**
Tenfold Fund	**23,492**	**-**	**23,492**
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	**83,020**	**(26,492)**	**56,528**
Mental Health Collaborative	**24,459**	**154**	**24,613**
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**14,937**	**(7,188)**	**7,749**
Leeds For All (IDPD)	**170**	**114**	**284**
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	**100,953**	**(3,218)**	**97,735**
Community Mental Health Transformation staffing	**7,830**	**927**	**8,757**
Mental Health First Aid	**87,699**	**(49,461)**	**38,238**
5 Ways To Wellbeing	**1,275**	**(1,275)**	**-**
Community Champions	**24,531**	**(24,531)**	**-**
Emerge	**2,222**	**-**	**2,222**
Trauma	**71,249**	**(44,240)**	**27,009**
Videos	**5,149**	**(5,149)**	**-**
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	**27,000**	**(27,000)**	**-**
FC Business case 22/23	**23,371**	**(23,371)**	**-**
DEMO project	**478**	**(96)**	**382**
Communities of Interest Network	**7,307**	**(7,307)**	**-**
Winter Pressures	**25,715**	**-**	**25,715**
Warm spaces fund	**750**	**(750)**	**-**
Roma Grants	**-**	**14,000**	**14,000**
	929,671	**(308,226)**	**621,445**
TOTAL FUNDS	**1,145,682**	**273,958**	**871,724**

continued...

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**547,702**	**(513,434)**	**34,268**
Restricted funds			
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	**38,700**	**(128,674)**	**(89,974)**
Mindwell & Mindwell 2	**104,328**	**(117,697)**	**(13,369)**
Tenfold Fund	-	-	-
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	-	**(26,492)**	**(26,492)**
Mental Health Collaborative	**20,500**	**(20,346)**	**154**
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	-	**(7,188)**	**(7,188)**
Leeds For All (IDPD)	**1,500**	**(1,386)**	**114**
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	**16,562**	**(19,780)**	**(3,218)**
Community Mental Health Transformation staffing	**45,900**	**(44,973)**	**927**
Mental Health First Aid	-	**(49,461)**	**(49,461)**
5 Ways To Wellbeing	-	**(1,275)**	**(1,275)**
Community Champions	-	**(24,531)**	**(24,531)**
Emerge	-	-	-
Trauma	-	**(44,240)**	**(44,240)**
Videos	-	**(5,149)**	**(5,149)**
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	-	**(27,000)**	**(27,000)**
FC Business case 22/23	-	**(23,371)**	**(23,371)**
DEMO project	-	**(96)**	**(96)**
Communities of Interest Network	-	**(7,307)**	**(7,307)**
Winter Pressures	-	-	**0**
Warm spaces fund	**8,250**	**(9,000)**	**(750)**
ROMA Grants	**14,200**	**(200)**	**14,000**
WY Fellowship Bursary	**10,000**	**(10,000)**	-
	259,940	**(568,166)**	**308,226**
TOTAL FUNDS	**807,642**	**(1,081,600)**	**(273,958)**

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

WY POC	One-off funding from ICB (West Yorkshire) to support Power of Communities projects including a grant-making programme and infrastructure support.
HPoC	Funding from Leeds CCG towards the costs of the Harnessing the Power of Communities Project.
Mindwell	Funding from ICB (Leeds) for the MindWell project
Mindwell 2	Winter Pressures funding from LCC and CCG for the Mindwell project.
Tenfold	Funds transferred from Tenfold ring-fenced towards improving the health and wellbeing of people with a learning difficulty/autism.
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	Funding given to fund a two year post to address mental health inequalities (Black & Minority ethnic communities) across Leeds.
NHS Transformation Project	Funding was to enable work to be carried out to understand and identify the potential capability and infrastructure to strengthen collaborative working within the health and care third sector organisations in Leeds.
MH Transformation Grants	Funding from the ICB (Leeds) to support the community mental health transformation grants scheme in collaboration with Leeds Community Foundation.
Mental Health Group Work	Funding to support VCSE organisations in their contribution to work focused around mental health and wellbeing for WY and Harrogate integrated Care system
5 Ways to Wellbeing	Funding from Public Health, LCC for the 5 Ways to Wellbeing Small Community Grants scheme with a focus on the developing tools to engage people and communities at risk of poor mental health.
Community Champions	Funding from Leeds City Council to support the Community Champions project and to provide further capacity to support engagement with local communities to help connect people with key Covid-19 and wider health messages and the support available in the city.
Emerge	Project funded by Leeds and York Partnership Foundation NHS Trust to scope out availability of third sector community level support in Leeds for young people aged 18-25 with complex mental health needs, create partnerships and identify gaps in service provision.
Emerge	Project funded by Leeds and York Partnership Foundation NHS Trust to scope out availability of third sector community level support in Leeds for young people aged 18-25 with complex mental health needs, create partnerships and identify gaps in service provision.
Videos	Funding from Health Education England for the co-production of videos of people's experience of dealing with issues around mental health.
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	As part of the Community Mental Health Transformation programme, funding for Peer Support and Involvement Worker roles hosted by third sector organisations, and for Volition to manage the third sector host organisation selection process.
ICB Engagement & Representation (Forum Central Business Case)	Funding from the ICB (Leeds) to enable Volition on behalf of Forum Central to continue to support third sector organisations so that the third sector can maximise the added value with the Integrated Care System (ICS).
COIN	Grant funding from Healthwatch to support an Integrated Care System mapping project.
DEMO	Collaborative project led by University of Leeds to understand barriers and enablers of engagement for people with musculoskeletal (MSK) conditions from 'under-served' communities.
Winter at Risk	'Winter at Risk - Reach and Equity' funding from LCC for outreach support for communities experiencing health inequalities..
Warm Spaces	Funding from Voluntary action Leeds for grants to warm spaces providers to enable them to support people with additional health needs.
Household Support Fund	Funding from Leeds City Council via Leeds Older People's Forum to support the grant making process.

continued...

16. *MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued*

MH Transformation Grants	Funding from the ICB (Leeds) to support the community mental health transformation grants scheme in collaboration with Leeds Community Foundation.
Learning Disability Awards	A grant from Mencap Leeds for an awards ceremony for organisations and people working/volunteering in the learning disability field in Leeds, held in June 2024.
Carers Post	A grant from WY ICB to fund an 18 month post whose role is to provide project management to the Accelerating Reform Fund (ARF) Project Board as part of the WY Department of Health and Social Care ARF Carers Project.
Vaccine Champions	Grant funding from Leeds City Council to support the Vaccine Community Champions project for 2025, working alongside Voluntary Action Leeds. The funding includes £30,000 for grant-making as part of the Project.
Leeds Sexual Health Project	Grant funding from Leeds Community Healthcare to support the Leeds Sexual Health project.
State of the Sector 2024 and MyCake	Grant funding from VAL to contribute towards the costs of the State of the Sector 2024 reporting and the MyCake benchmarking database subscription for 2025.
SWEMWBS	Funding from Leeds City Council to work with partners to support the development of a co-produced training resource for the Short Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale measurement tool, for the use of third sector and community organisations in Leeds.
MH Hub Champions Project (VCSE Mental Health Champions)	Funding from Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust to fund a WY VCSE Mental Health Champion for Leeds, to work with the WY Staff Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub in 2025/26 to increase its awareness, improve its accessibility and usage.

17. **RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

During 2025 Volition paid out grants totalling £8,000 to Voluntary Action Leeds, a Charity which Adrian Curtis and Neil Franklin are trustees of. These grants were distributed by Volition on behalf of West Yorkshire ICS, an unconnected organisation.

Volition were involved in the distribution of Warm Spaces pass through funding totalling £nil (2024: £8,250) on behalf of Voluntary Action Leeds.

Trustees are required to declare all relevant interests with which they are connected and in accordance with the policy withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises. Some trustees use their experience in areas affecting Volition-Leeds, but no trustee has any significant personal financial interest in transactions with the Charity during the year.

18. **CAPITAL**

Volition-Leeds is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The members have agreed to contribute £1 each to the Charity's assets in the event of it winding up, if it assets should prove insufficient to cover its liabilities.

19. **TAXATION**

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities by virtue of section 505 of the income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

VOLITION - LEEDS

England & Wales - Charity number 1092126

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04046674 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1092126

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

FOR

VOLITION-LEEDS

Thomas Coombs Limited
Chartered Accountants
3365 The Pentagon
Century Way
Thorpe Park
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 8ZB

VOLITION-LEEDS

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

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VOLITION-LEEDS

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

TRUSTEES	Z A Bawn C A Hill J A Hill R A Kettle O Sutton (resigned 16/11/23) P Bhupal A N Curtis A Hanif J L Thornton (resigned 21/12/23) N Franklin K J M Proud S M Hoey (appointed 17/8/23) R Wilson (appointed 17/8/23) N A Lines (appointed 17/8/23) (resigned 23/5/24) R Goodyear (appointed 17/8/23) (resigned 21/9/23) M S Law (appointed 17/8/23)
REGISTERED OFFICE	Suite C24 Josephs Well Hanover Walk Leeds West Yorkshire LS3 1AB
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER	04046674 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1092126
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Thomas Coombs Limited Chartered Accountants 3365 The Pentagon Century Way Thorpe Park Leeds West Yorkshire LS15 8ZB
BANKERS	Unity Trust Bank 9 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB

VOLITION-LEEDS
CHAIR'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

I am delighted, on behalf of the Volition-Leeds Board, to present our Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. I joined the Board as a Trustee in August 2023 and took over as Chair from Ruth Kettle at the AGM in November 2023.

We have seen changes at Board level and in August 2023 we welcomed new trustees – Steve Hoey, Rob Wilson, Nicky Lines, Rob Goodyear - and their contributions have strengthened our diverse and knowledgeable board. We said a heartfelt thank you to Olli Sutton, Jenny Thornton, Rob Goodyear and Nicky Lines who stood down during the year or since the end of the financial year and who had each in different ways contributed very significantly. I extend deep gratitude to all our Board members who give so generously of their time, and to our dedicated team who put so much drive, energy, and passion into our work on behalf of the whole sector and wider health and care system.

Volition-Leeds delivers a wide range of work both directly as Volition, notably MindWell, and also as Forum Central working with our fantastic partner Leeds Older People's Forum (LOPF). In 2023/24 we celebrate some significant highlights and achievements despite, and in response to the ongoing cost and demand increases on our sector in the wake of covid, which have impacted throughout this financial year and will continue. Volition strives to learn from and strengthen collaborations with all of our member organisations, partners and other stakeholders, always seeking to improve. Volition membership now stands at over 298 organisations (when combined with LOPF gave Forum Central a 321 strong Forum Central membership at the end of the 2023/24 year).

MindWell continues to be an invaluable source of trusted local mental health and wellbeing information, and self-help, peer support as well as formal services where people in Leeds can find help for their mental health as well as practical support.

We have successfully administered several significant grants programmes during the year. These include the West Yorkshire Power of Communities funding, received in March 2023, around a fifth of which has been used to pay out £64,000 during the year as part of a small grants programme for neighbourhood work and support for culturally diverse organisations, as well as other organisations working with other communities of interest experiencing the greatest health inequalities, in partnership with Voluntary Action Leeds. We have also supported the distribution of Household Support Fund grants in partnership with LOPF with funding from Leeds City Council.

The third sector has played a crucial role in the now established Integrated Care System and partnership structures through Local Care Partnerships at neighbourhood, Leeds Place and West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board levels. Through our Forum Central work we seek to contribute to mature third sector infrastructure and have been proactive in shaping the approach and direction of the partnership through our contribution to the Population Health Boards, sub groups and various working groups, always bring to the table feedback from our members and sharing and sense checking progress back with them, notably through the fortnightly Reference Group and Health and Care Leaders Meetings. We are truly achieving our mission of being the collective voice of the health and care third sector. The Reference Group set up in January 2022 has been a vital source of up to date information, representation and assurance for our growing role on population health boards and the Integrated Care Boards and surrounding structures. They are valued by attendees as evidenced through quality contributions and feedback.

We have increased our focus on addressing health inequalities, the wider determinants of health and wellbeing, as well as continuing to prioritise our work with smaller organisations. Our ongoing engagement with Leeds' People's Voices Partnership and the evaluation and further development of the Communities of Interest Network in response to the pandemic supports this along with our Inclusion Working Group.

Support for communities through increasing living and organisational operating cost pressures continues to be a major challenge with the services proving the many ways in which third sector organisations are vital. In turn, Forum Central is supporting our members to ensure the third sector survives the current financial pressures by evidence of both impact and challenges facing the third sector workforce, producing recommendations to support third sector organisations and working with system partners to influence at the highest level.

I am so proud of our achievements this year. We have a strong platform from which to seek to secure a more sustainable future for our hugely challenged members and the diverse communities that we work with across the city.

Mark Law
Chair of Trustees

28TH November 2024

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Principal Activity

The charity's objects are for the public benefit, to promote the preservation of good physical and mental health, the relief of persons experiencing poor mental health and/or mental health illness, the relief of persons with physical and sensory impairments and the relief of those with learning disabilities in Leeds and the surrounding area and to raise public awareness of such needs.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives and in planning activities.

The charity's main activities

Volition – Leeds (Volition) is an alliance of third sector (i.e. voluntary, community, faith or social enterprise) member organisations which provide mental health, physical health and wellbeing support in Leeds. On 30 June 2024, Volition had 298 members and Forum Central (our partnership with Leeds Older People's Forum) had a combined membership of 321 .

Volition exists to:

- Promote and support the contribution of the voluntary sector in strategic planning and development across the Leeds and West Yorkshire health and care system.
- Encourage collaboration and partnership between agencies and across sectors.
- Promote and contribute the voluntary sector's person and community centred perspective in aspects of service and practice development.
- Inform and resource third sector organisations to enable them to better meet the mental, physical health and wellbeing, learning disability and physical and sensory impairment needs of people across all our diverse Leeds' communities.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the relief of those in need, by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

Strategic aims and objectives

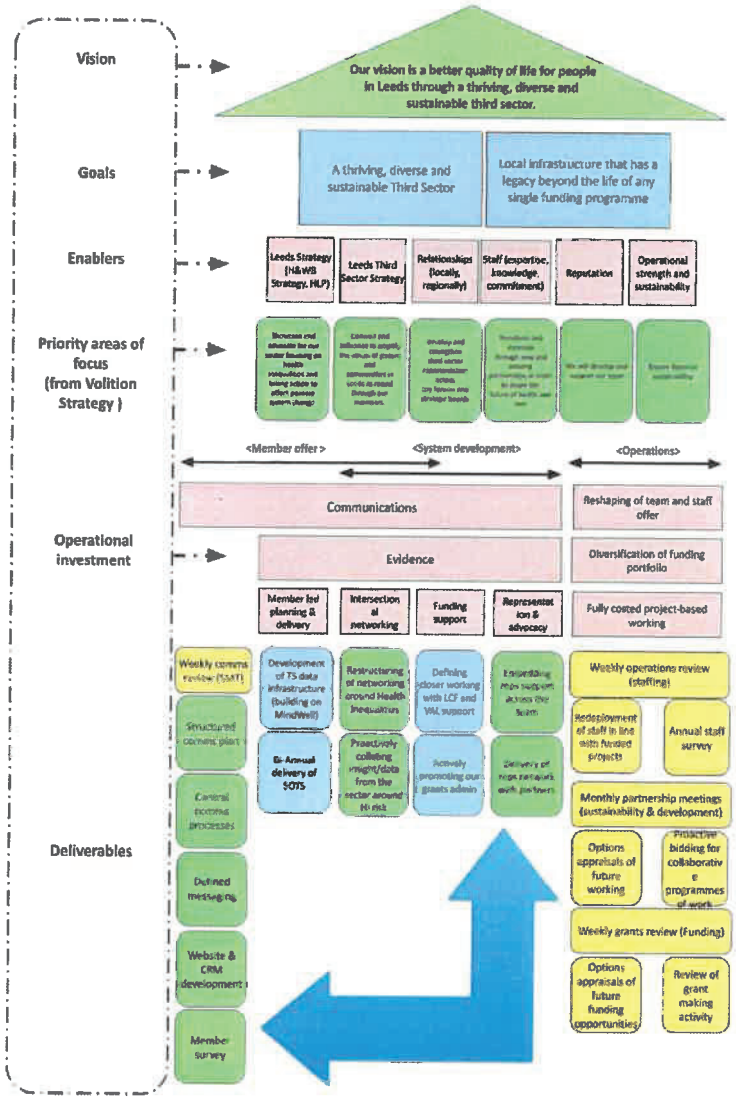
We have developed strategic aims alongside short-term goals and objectives. We continue to strengthen our expertise and processes for supporting our smaller members and those working with the most marginalised communities alongside the wider sector through engagement and representation and also grant making as part of our delivery strategy. This enables us to ensure that a wider number of our member organisations are able to access funds and deliver at ground level.

We have continued to develop our Strategic Plan, updating our previous three-year Strategy, and will, jointly with Voluntary Action Leeds, be holding infrastructure review workshops with key stakeholders over Summer 2024.

Impact and Outcomes

We believe that local solutions, informed by trusted relationships with people and communities, have proved invaluable, which fits with the achievement of Volition's charitable aims and objectives.

We have developed a Theory of Change to help guide and clarify our work going forward in 2024/25:



ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

In this year we have been able to demonstrate our achievements against the charity's aims and objectives both to our members and funders using a range of indicators, milestones and benchmarks and are seeing the long term effect of the charity's activities on both individual members and at a wider level of the communities we serve and the health and care system in which we operate. We have sought to increase the range of our partners and the number and diversity of our members. We have strengthened strategic engagement across Leeds and with our West Yorkshire peers.

Evidence of our impact can be seen in the following outcome examples.

Strong and vibrant third sector - Key highlights

- **State of the Sector:** Creating and publishing the second iteration of our State of the Sector Report has enabled us to quantify and benchmark the sector and its strengths and challenges.

- **Workforce:** Setting up the Workforce strand with accessible, free resources and sharing of knowledge and good practice.

- **Advocacy:** Advocating for the Health and Care Third Sector in all meetings from Health &Well-Being Board to one-to-one meetings.

- **West Yorkshire (WY) Power of Communities:** Identifying and responding to the needs of members through our planning and allocation of the WY Power of Communities funding.

- **Health Inequalities:** Our work to address health inequalities has included engagement with partners to strengthen connections and bridge the gap between senior decision makers and people who experience the greatest health inequalities and the organisations that provide support.

- **Third Sector Inclusion working group:** Ongoing support of the Third Sector Inclusion working group, originally established in response to the Black Lives Matter movement, with a focus on exploring how we can take meaningful action to collectively amplify the voices of our members from black, Asian and minority ethnic communities.

- **Digital requirements of the sector and interoperability:** We have worked with Voluntary Action Leeds to highlight the specific digital issues for the sector, set out in the "Community and Third Sector Needs from Digital Transformation" report.

- **Leeds is a Marmot City:** Forum Central is delighted to share the Fairer, Healthier Leeds: Reducing Health Inequalities report which has now been published by the Institute of Health Equity (IHE). This is a significant milestone for Leeds which Forum Central has been involved with and strongly advocated for over the past few years. We strongly share the mantra of Marmot which is to – join up, scale up and be even bolder in our actions.

Informed and knowledgeable third sector
We keep our members informed about strategic developments happening in the health and care system which have an impact on the Leeds third sector and enable our members to feed into those developments and strategies wherever possible. We do this through network and one-to-one meetings; themed events and bespoke materials including e-bulletins to members tailored in response to feedback; and targeted updates as required for other key developments. We gather intelligence from the Health and Care Third Sector through representatives, meetings and events which has enabled us to help achieve better health outcomes for people through the values and principles of the Integrated Care System. Information delivered through our Forum Central website, email and social media has enabled our members to better respond to system restructure and to the cost pressure challenges they all face. We have continued to sustain some element of the one information source principle of the former LOOP partnership across existing and new partner organisations.

Actively contribute to and influence policy and strategy
We support representation on around 100 different boards and strategic groups bringing a sector perspective as well as keeping others in the sector engaged and well informed. The key evidence of the impact of our contribution in this area is feedback from system partners including the Leeds Office of the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board or ICB Leeds which cites the vibrant and engaged third sector among the system's key assets.

We are also an active partner in the Leeds Health and Care Hub work with the Cabinet Office. Launched in July 2022, the Leeds Health and Social Care Hub represents a new and dynamic way for Central Government, Local Government, the NHS and the Voluntary and Community Sector to work together to improve health outcomes.

Through the WY Power of Communities we influence and support work at WY level and we have also supported local work through Third Sector Leeds, for example meeting local PMs in March 2024 to raise issues around VCSE sustainability, Household Support Fund, housing, concerns around private profit from public funding and the Third sector's role in improving quality of later life.

Third sector visibility
Developing third sector visibility through the State of the Sector Report and using Harnessing Power of Communities for the low level continuation and advocacy of LOOP/reduced duplication/a single source of information along with our attending and organising of events such as International Day of Disabled People, the Mental Health Marketplace and the Learning Disabilities Employment Group's Reverse Jobs Fair. These public events have been key to supporting the health and care third sector profile across Leeds and West Yorkshire and developing mechanisms to support our members and communities through recovery from the Covid pandemic, the current financial crisis, and all the system changes and challenges.

Creating and publishing the second iteration of our State of the Sector Report to highlight challenges faced by the sector, which in 2023 we did in partnership with Voluntary Action Leeds for the first time, has enabled us to quantify and benchmark the sector and its strengths and challenges. It has been highly used, both by Third Sector Leeds in our Third Sector Strategy and by statutory partners including the Health and Care Academy annual report and the early draft of the Leeds 2024 Joint Strategic Assessment. Presenting it to Partnership Executive and Commissioning Executive meetings of the Health and Wellbeing Board has raised understanding, profile and valuing of the third sector and we are starting to see progress in embedding this benchmarking and the understanding of what has been lost in partners commitment to future investment and understanding of the cumulative impact on the sector of investment decisions. In turn this has helped to secure additional funding to the sector e.g. further Mental Health Transformation grants, distribution of Household Support Fund through Forum Central and West Yorkshire Power of Communities funding. The State of the Sector report was also presented alongside the University of Durham's Yorkshire and Humber information bringing understanding of the synergies and differences across West Yorkshire.

Partnerships
The continuation of Volition's partnership with Leeds Older People's Forum through the Forum Central contract has seen us deliver ongoing specialist support to our members, sustaining the Health and Care Leaders Network and Representatives meetings. Our developing partnership with Voluntary Action Leeds, Healthwatch, Leeds Community Foundation and statutory partners continues to be core to our work and has brought significant benefits of increased influence for people and communities and additional resources to our members and the wider third sector.

Advocacy and representation
We continued to inform and involve the sector in wider health system change including the development of an Integrated Care System at West Yorkshire level and an Integrated Care Partnership for Leeds now nearing its second year, whilst having to manage significant additional challenges to tackling the health needs of the city by an enforced operating restructure in the most challenging of NHS financial climates. This has led to a significant reduction in investment in Forum Central representation and leadership activity and has resulted in challenges for how we provide ongoing support and information to our broad network of representatives and has seen us have to end backfill payments except in exceptional cases.

Feedback from our member organisations
We conducted our first member satisfaction survey this year to help us understand more about what our members think we do well or could do better. The survey ran between mid-February 2024 to the end of March 2024 and received 28 responses.

"The support we get from Forum Central has helped us connect with other groups and feel valued as a third sector organisation."

"Running a small charity is very time consuming. It is difficult to keep up to date with developments in the sector and constantly raise awareness of our organisation. Being a member of Forum Central really helps to reduce the isolation and build links between smaller third sector organisations. I appreciate that it is hard to put a monetary value on this type of network but I do think it maintains the functionality of the smaller charities."

"Forum Central keeps listening to its members and evolving. You have helped us build stronger links and get stronger ourselves, thank you."

"Forum Central is a great source of information and support for local third-sector organisations."

"Being part of the Forum Central family has been really helpful. Even though we're a third sector sports provider, and sometimes the meetings/topics don't relate to us, there's always something we can take from the meetings/bulletins. You really do need to network when running a third sector organisation. A lot of bread needs throwing in a lot of ponds. It's very difficult to do it alone. Bang that drum loud, Forum Central will help :-)"

"I love the tone and feel of Forum Central - really engaging and inclusive!"

"Without the support of Forum central we wouldn't have been able to grow our organisation the way we have. Their belief in what

we do, practical support and advice have been integral to our development. They have connected us to a community of third sector and statutory providers which has not only helped us to reach further in terms of clients supported but importantly has allowed us to feel part of a community. As a small organisation, this has been so important to our ability to feel connected, supported and part of something bigger. All of which helps us feel stronger and more energised in the work we do."

KEY PROJECTS IN 2023/24

Digital
We have worked with Voluntary Action Leeds to highlight the specific digital issues for the sector, set out in the "Community and Third Sector Needs from Digital Transformation" report shared and re-shared with the city digital team as well as key system leaders and through the Third Sector Partnership, as well as being shared at WY level, though progress has been slow and sporadic. We continue to work with our member organisations, the Leeds City Digital team, 100% Digital and Leeds Community Foundation to support members to prevent people and organisations from being left behind as some services are increasingly delivered digitally or rely on information sharing between organisations that is not possible with the current picture of disconnected and unequally distributed resources.

Following cross sector consultation and ongoing discussion with our members, Forum Central and Voluntary Action Leeds have continued to define and develop four key priorities for the sector in regards to digital transformation. These are:

- Provision and translation of core activities (digital/hybrid service provision)
- Digital integration (data infrastructure & business intelligence)
- Data sharing (organisational & service data; person/patient data)
- Digital inclusion/capability (third sector, communities & patients/citizens)

Linked to the priorities referenced above, we are seeking to progress four lines of action.

- **Priority 1:** Continue to support third sector organisations to translate current and future activities to digital/hybrid platforms, in line with the needs of communities served, through investment in inclusive infrastructure, roles and training.
- **Priority 2:** Improve access to, and quality of information about, third sector provision for system partners and citizens through investment in shared digital information infrastructure.
- **Priority 3:** Enable relevant third sector organisations to access and share information about citizens of Leeds, in support of joined up, person-centred delivery, through investment in shared information governance roles.
- **Priority 4:** Continue to extend the role that the third sector plays in providing personalised support to the people in Leeds who are most vulnerable to digital exclusion, through work with 100% Digital Leeds.

Encompassed within each of the above is a need for an ongoing cross system conversation around development of our individual and shared digital assets in pursuit of overarching city plans.

Workforce
An estimated 60,000 people are employed across Leeds in health and care services, of which over 6,000 are in the Third Sector. The Leeds Health and Care Academy is overseen by the Leeds One Workforce Strategic Board. As Forum Central, we have been working since 2021 to ensure there is third sector representation on the Board and across multiple work streams of the Academy. This has included ensuring that training and support is available to meet the needs of the third sector workforce. To address this, Forum Central and Leeds Health and Care Academy have collaborated to establish and coordinate a Third Sector HR Network. The Network was established in 2022 following a Forum Central workforce survey that raised concerns about challenges being faced by the sector.

We recognised a need to be talking to those who are responsible for workforce, recruitment, retention and development in their organisations. The network exists to share information about workforce developments, support and opportunities available. It is an important space to hear themes and share good practice from across the health and care sector workforce. The network meets quarterly and sends a monthly e-bulletin, and website links with a great range of resources (Workforce Padlet).

The HR Network covers workforce, culture, inclusion and organisational development matters. This is to aid service performance of Forum Central's members and in turn enhance the service experiences of Leeds residents from the third sector across health, care and well-being now and into the future. The network has been supported via the Leeds Health and Care Academy, which is great progress for the partnership. Emma Holford (Project Manager) and Michelle Joyce (Project Officer) have been working 1.5 days a week. We have been able to match fund this workforce activity using Power of Communities funding to enable Tina Turnbull to support the work and develop the engagement and network from Sept 2023 to October 2024.

Continued engagement in the citywide workforce programme through the One Workforce Strategic Board and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy in Leeds has seen an increased recognition of the value of the VCSE workforce within Health and Social Care. The ambition of the Leeds' One Workforce Strategic Board is to 'be the best place to learn and work whatever your age'. It is also about working together, creating opportunities for skills and jobs, and engaging and recruiting those within disadvantaged communities, and the potential implications of this for third sector organisations as well as individual workers, volunteers and Board members is significant. The challenges of reducing contract and grant funding, rising costs and workforce recruitment mean the need for collective action across system partners to act fairly and begin to reduce workforce inequity has never been greater.

Health Inequalities
Our ongoing work to address health inequalities has included facilitating the Communities of Interest Network; forging stronger links between this and our other specialist networks (MH, LD, PSI and Local Care Partnerships); continued engagement with the People's Voices Group and the further development of the Communities of Interest Network in response to the Covid pandemic. This has enabled us to better amplify their voices and create opportunities for them to influence decision makers, including through the Allyship Programme we developed with the Health and Wellbeing Board, and representation on the Population Health and Care Delivery Board, involvement in the Tackling Health Inequalities Group and promoting the Toolkit we co-developed and continuing to find ways to strengthen connections and bridge the gap between senior decision makers and people who experience the greatest health inequalities and the organisations that provide support. Our understanding of the needs of people in communities through our members is key to advocating for community voice to be at the centre of decision making and supporting shift of power to communities. We are developing the risk and issue work to monitoring when communities are experiencing inequality and challenging where this is or is not being recorded, escalated and acted upon. Finally, we are beginning to develop work with Roma communities to support community capacity building with Public Health.

MindWell
MindWell is the 'go-to' online resource for adult mental health and wellbeing support in Leeds, provided by Volition in partnership with Thrive by Design. MindWell offers a comprehensive directory of over 480 local and national services, information on common mental health issues, and a collection of accessible self-help resources. Widely used by healthcare professionals and the voluntary sector, MindWell ensures easy access to free, reliable mental health support.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, MindWell was a lifeline, providing crucial information in an accessible format. With ongoing economic pressures and rising demand for mental health services, MindWell's role is more important than ever.

Recognising that digital resources alone aren't enough, the team also produce printed materials and collaborate with existing support services to ensure people can access the help they need, when and where they need it.

Visit the About MindWell section of the website for more information on how the team helps people in Leeds.

2023-24 highlights for MindWell
Over the past year, MindWell has made substantial progress in multiple areas, focusing on strategic development, technical enhancements, community engagement, and capacity building. Below is an overview of the key achievements and activities from 2023.

Strategic Development and Planning
Throughout 2023, MindWell concentrated on refining its strategic direction, aligning with long-term goals while navigating challenges such as funding constraints and team capacity issues. This process included defining new mission, vision, and values, establishing six core strategic priorities, and laying out a roadmap for the next five years. You can read more about MindWell's commitment to improving mental health in Leeds in their recent blog.

Technical Improvements and Innovations
MindWell invested in numerous technical updates, most notably the development of the MindWell Personalisation Tool (MPT). This tool, designed to enhance the support provided to individuals seeking mental health resources, progressed from initial scoping to a more advanced prototype and demonstration video by the end of the year. Additionally, significant enhancements were made to web analytics dashboards, testing processes were improved and automation of web updates and data integration enabled more robust analytics and streamlined operations. The team now seek engagement from commissioners, funders and other relevant stakeholders to support the technical developments scoped.

Quality, Compliance, and Accreditation
A major focus of 2023 was the ongoing work towards PIF-Tick accreditation, reflecting MindWell's commitment to maintaining high content standards. Key activities included conducting a Directory audit and preparing all necessary documentation for the accreditation process, positioning MindWell to advance swiftly in the coming year. More recently, the team has been discussing ways to improve the process for updating directory entries, which is currently done manually. It is hoped a solution will be found and implemented during 2024-25.

Community Engagement and Marketing
MindWell's community engagement and visibility improved markedly over the year. The platform saw a significant increase in user interactions, with a record 17,000 clicks from Google in a 30-day period during the year. Marketing efforts, including newsletters and participation in events like the "Give a Hoot!" campaign, contributed to this growth. Google Analytics indicated a stable and engaged user base, with nearly 22,000 recurrent users and consistent session lengths, underscoring the platform's relevance and impact.

Capacity Building and Partnerships
The year also saw substantial work in building capacity and strengthening partnerships. This included the development of a new volunteer program, with comprehensive policy and operational planning completed in preparation for launch in July to September of 2024/25. MindWell also enhanced its collaboration with key partners, including Public Health and Being You Leeds, to ensure alignment on shared priorities.

Advisory Board and Hub Development
During the year, MindWell established an Advisory Board and developed the MindWell Hub, a platform to facilitate collaboration and information sharing among stakeholders. These initiatives are expected to play a crucial role in supporting the project's strategic objectives and ensuring effective governance in the coming phase.

Impact and Web Analytics
Over the past year, the MindWell website has consistently attracted around 10,000 sessions per month, with 7,300 of these being active users -individuals who regularly visit and engage with our content. Compared to the industry average of 3,900 active users per month in the Health and Wellbeing sector, these figures suggest that our website is effectively meeting the needs of its audience. Overall, key metrics such as session counts and page views indicate that MindWell is performing well above industry standards, demonstrating the strong engagement and relevance of our content. (Benchmark source for the Health and Wellbeing sector: Databox Benchmark Report)

Conclusion
Overall, this was a year of significant progress for MindWell. The project successfully navigated challenges, implemented key technical and strategic initiatives, and strengthened its engagement with the community. As MindWell prepares for the next phase of development, it is well-positioned to continue building on these achievements, ensuring ongoing support for mental health in Leeds.

Development Team
All the specialist development workers continue to fulfil their core remit with professionalism, enthusiasm, compassion and skill via monthly network meetings, regular bulletins and one to one meetings, supporting existing members and engaging and supporting the full range of organisations working in the sector. They have continued to shift the balance of time from system partner meetings to direct support and networking in response to member feedback and core aims. Changing staffing structures have required adaptability and a creative approach and all the team have risen to the challenges and excelled. Improved resources, links and communication have strengthened our offer e.g. through workforce padlets, funding and grant support and working closely with partners such as LCF and VAL to complement the combined offer.

The first joint network meeting in December 2023 was well attended and realised an ambition to practically work in a more intersectional way. The team work closely and focus on highlighting health inequalities.

Other highlights include but are not limited to

- The PSI network has begun the work of developing a city-wide PSI strategy in response to requests by members to advocate strongly and more effectively for disabled people.
- The Leeds For All Marketplace event on 30th November 2023 was held at Leeds Museum, under a theme of 'Transformation, Inclusion, Innovation' . A total of 380 people attended the event, plus 28 stallholders and volunteer helpers. It was a great success and included a wide variety of people with lived experience from learning disability, sensory impairment and autism support organisations and individuals as participating and active citizens of Leeds. Our 2023 reports and highlights video illustrate the successes of the marketplace event and grant funded group activities.

- The Leeds Autism and Learning Disability Employment Task Group streamlined and reviewed its offer in line with the funding coming to an end, legacy planning and reporting. It moved to an action focused task and finish group to be able to work through the plan within the funding and project envelope. The funding for this project came to an end March 2024 and with it the end of contract for the staff members with lived experience. It is a loss to the organisation. There were several successful events delivered including a reverse job fair.
- The Leeds Autism and Learning Disability Employment Task Group will continue to be hosted as a meeting without the underlying project work for 6 months to support it being hosted elsewhere.
- Funding was secured to host a learning disability awards event in summer 2024 in response to member demand.
- Mental Health First Aid with cultural competency: This project was funded using MH and Wellbeing hub grant funding and the aim was to work with each of the five West Yorkshire (WY) places to increase access to MH First Aid training and potentially other related training in order to support better mental and emotional wellbeing at work for the third sector as an integral part of the WY Integrated Care Partnership workforce. During the year, we continued to administer and coordinate this project. Training has been successfully planned and the first delivery has been across Leeds and the trainers will complete the project and deliver across West Yorkshire 2024/25 fulfilling the commissioner's remit.

Community Mental Health Transformation
The Round 2 Transforming Mental Health Grant-holders have been awarded funding, and many have started mobilising and we have supported this process throughout this financial year. There is a shift in development capacity of the core team as CMH Transformation becomes business as usual, with lots of staff changes/reductions. The focus for the core team is currently evaluating the three pilot LCPs, some focused workstreams ('Personality Disorder, Complex Rehab & Psychosis, Eating Disorders, Neurodiversity & Transitions) and preparing to mobilise the Wave 2 sites.

Forum Central have also been working at the request of the ICB and partners to support Leeds Mind, Northpoint, Barca and Touchstone to develop a partnership alliance model for people with complex mental health needs through re-contracting transformation provision using the Provider Selection Regime. They have developed a new delivery model that they have presented to the ICB, with really positive feedback. Forum Central is focusing on how to keep the process open and allow for other partners with expertise in this space to join the alliance as it builds and grows.

West Yorkshire Power of Communities
We have identified and responded to the needs of members through our planning and allocation of the WY Power of Communities funding, based on our understanding from our members of the impact on them of cost of operating and system financial pressures. Increasing demand and complexity and ability to innovate and flex in response to changes has seen, in partnership with Voluntary action Leeds and with input from Leeds Community Foundation, a significant amount of capacity building and development work and we will be capturing this impact as we move towards the evaluation phase of this work.

Community Champions
The Community Champions work with Voluntary Action Leeds and Partners from Leeds City Council has been a significant success for the city as it developed from a covid response into broader health and wellbeing conversations but retaining the commitment to developing community volunteering (see the Community Champions Evaluation & Report). The funding ended in March 2024 so VAL will be continuing the project at reduced capacity and building on its success with partners. Volition will continue to work in partnership with Voluntary Action Leeds and Leeds City Council to seek further funding to continue the fabulous work of Community Champions and raise the profile of this important community asset, along with our West Yorkshire colleagues.

Trauma Informed
This Project aims to develop city-wide capacity and initiatives that focus on developing, strengthening and implementing Trauma Informed care and support for Children and Young People in Leeds. It is a two year programme, due for completion in 2024/25. Volition received funding from Leeds ICB for a two-year Development Worker post to support this Project. Volition have developed and sustained a Trauma Informed Communities network, held regular orientation sessions and produced bi-monthly learning briefings. Volition partnered with Leeds Community Foundation and Leeds ICB on two grant programmes, playing an active role for grant recipients. Both the funds take a test and learn approach, with the ambition to embed learning into the Compassionate Leeds strategy.

Cost of living

During the year we supported the work of the Household Support Fund grants programme, which was primarily administered by Leeds Older People's Forum with funding from Leeds City Council. These grants were to smaller organisations to provide people with cost of living support, specifically fuel and food needs during the Winter of 23/24.

The continuing cost of living crisis has had a disproportionately greater impact on those communities already suffering the greatest health inequalities and we have highlighted several ways in which we have worked to highlight this. Through our Forum Central work we continue to support our members to ensure the third sector survives the current financial pressures by evidence of challenges facing the third sector workforce, via our Cost of Living member survey, and producing recommendations to support third sector organisations and working with system partners to influence at the highest level.

In addition to this, in March – April 2023, Volition's Forum Central Team played a critical role in the development of the warm space provision, led by Leeds City Council and Voluntary Action Leeds, providing guidance in strategic development of the work, and support with communications and delivery. On top of this, Volition led on the delivery of the Additional Health Support Needs work, providing enhanced support for organisations engaging with people previously known as 'shielding'.

Financial review

Review of financial activity
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011. The company has adopted FRS102 and complies with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (issued in December 2019).

The net expenditure for the year was £273,958 including net income of £34,268 on unrestricted funds and net expenditure of £308,226 on restricted funds.

The company's total funds amounted to £871,724 at 31st March 2024 (2023: £1,145,682), a decrease of £273,958. This is largely attributable to the decrease in debtors, which decreased by £325,000 to £45,494 at 31st March 2024 (2023: £370,494), offset by a smaller increase in our cash balances. Our debtors at the end of the prior financial year included the West Yorkshire Power of Communities funding of £310k, which was awarded in March 2023 with the funding received in April 2023.

We are also carrying funds in the form of cash balances, which have increased by £64,895 to £865,487 at 31st March 2024 (2023: £800,592). The amount of cash carried is mainly a result of the fact that several restricted funds span more than one year. Some of the major funds carried forward include:
- West Yorkshire Power of Communities funding of £210k – this is an 18 month project, due for completion in October 2024
- Mental Health Transformation funding for grants programmes and projects and Mental Health First Aid project - £136k.
- Leeds City Council Covid 19 Outbreak Plan funding - £57k has been carried forward to be spent on the Communities of Interest Network Development Worker post and to partly support the Community Champions programme in 24/25, in accordance with the funding agreement and wishes of the funder.
- MindWell - £30k has been carried forward in 24/25 to support operational and cashflow needs for MindWell.
- A number of smaller restricted funds have also been carried forward as set out in the Notes to these Accounts. All balances that have been carried forward are in accordance with the funding agreements.

A balance of £250,279 (2023: £216,011) is held in unrestricted funds. Details as to our reserves policy are found in the section below.

Reserves policy
The charity takes a risk based approach in setting the level of reserves. A minimum level (lower band) and maximum level (upper band) of reserves is set and reserves are maintained between the lower and upper band limits. This ensures that the charity holds enough reserves for an orderly winding up if faced with unexpected closure, whilst also ensuring the charity does not maintain unnecessary high surplus reserves.

The lower band level is set with reference to funds needed in order to conduct an orderly winding up of the charity in the face of unexpected closure. The number of months expenditure which is held for these purposes is 3 months of operating costs plus redundancy and other known committed expenditure and equated to £200,300 at the time of annual review in March 2024.

The upper level includes an allowance for any additional items - specifically £20,000 contingency for unexpected cash flow considerations, £20,000 in relation to specific additional expenditure and £71,000 to support the infrastructure and operation of the charity for the 12 month period to 31st March 2025. The upper band level has therefore been set at £311,300. In 2023/24, we received annual grant funding from the ICB Leeds to support our activities amounting to £302,000. In the financial year ending March 2025, this funding has been reduced and as a result we are undertaking a review of our staffing levels and structures to reflect this reduced level of funding. At the March 2024 Board, the Trustees formally noted that up to £71,000 of our Free Reserves could be used to support this review and the costs incurred in this transitional process.

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at 31st March 2024 were £250,016, and therefore are within our minimum and maximum banding levels. Our current forecast to 31 March 2025 anticipates year end reserves will fall below the upper level of reserves defined in our policy.

Plans for the Future

Volition has a strategic plan for the organisation, which is reviewed and updated annually - see page 3 for an Overview of our Strategic Objectives.

In terms of the Forum Central contract, the focus is on working with our infrastructure partner, Leeds Older People's Forum, to deliver a highly effective and recognised Forum Central service so that collectively we can be an effective voice for the health and care third sector in Leeds. Quarterly monitoring forms are submitted to our joint health and local authority funders who continue to give positive feedback about our performance. Feedback from our members and evaluation of the support we provide to both our members and partners is also positive with an overall increased demand on all areas of our work.

Our Mindwell partnership with LYPFT's Thrive by Design has been increasingly strong despite the lack of adequate funding or system leadership.

We are increasingly developing work that complements and extends beyond the Forum Central and MindWell contracts, which we have referred to as Added-Value Projects Achievements - either directly funded by other partners, additional funds from existing funders or done over/above our core work. This includes work and developments such as:

1) Continuing to inform and support members on the development of the financially challenged West Yorkshire and Leeds Integrated Care Boards
2) MindWell's next phase of development, which will include focusing on Quality and Compliance. This includes the creation of a new content management strategy, an advisory board for key decision making and the introduction of new auditing and monitoring tools and processes.
3) Community Mental Health Transformation work - continue to embed VCSE learning, establish hubs and second round of grants.
4) Partnership with Third Sector on Power of Communities
5) Develop the Workforce stream with Leeds One workforce and building on Forum Central's HR Network
6) Evaluation of the Community Champions delivered with Voluntary Action Leeds & Leeds City Council to establish future potential for development and funding beyond 2024
7) Team wellbeing and financial stability in the uncertain landscape and lower funding. In the financial year ending March 2025, funding has been reduced and as a result we are undertaking a review of our staffing levels and structures to reflect this.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Legal and administrative details

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 3 August 2000 with registered company number 04046674 and registered as a charity on 21 May 2002, registration number 1092126. The principal and registered office is Suite C24, Joseph's Well, Hanover Walk, LS3 1AB.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association as amended by special resolutions on 22 January 2018 and 22 August 2019. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The Trustees of the charity are also the Directors for the purposes of company law. Each member organisation can nominate a representative to stand for election but individuals become trustees in their own right. Volition's members are all invited to nominate representatives to stand for available places at each Annual General Meeting (AGM) at which trustees are elected. Each year one third of the trustees - the longest standing - are required to stand down and may stand for re-election. There is a maximum limit of 18 trustees and minimum number of 5 trustees on the Board. In addition, trustees can be co-opted for their particular knowledge or expertise, or if there is a vacancy between AGMs.

New trustees Steve Hoey, Rob Wilson, Mark Law, Nicky Lines and Rob Goodyear were appointed in August 2023 and we have continued our partnership working with our local infrastructure partner Voluntary Action Leeds through shared trustees Adrian Curtis and Neil Franklin.

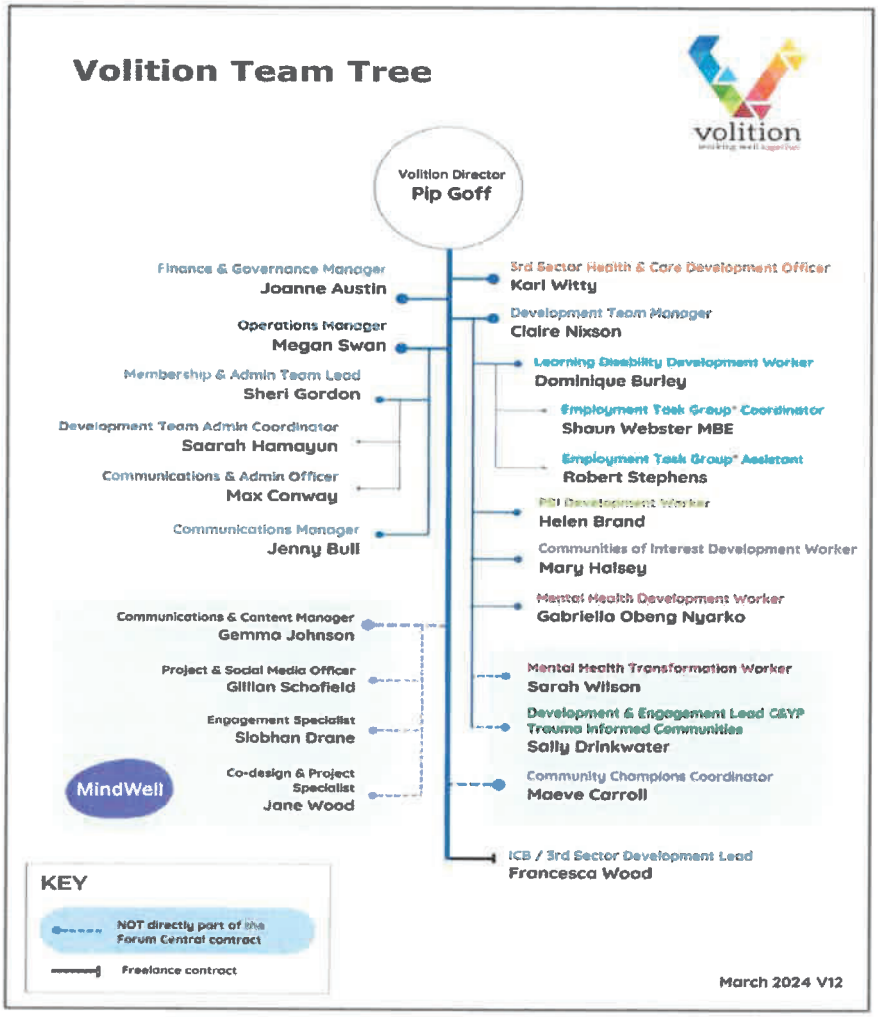
Organisational structure

The Trustees currently meet on a monthly basis including the AGM. The Chair is elected at the first meeting following the AGM. The meetings cover finance, governance and setting of the strategy for Volition-Leeds alternating between business and policy meetings. The Finance Sub-committee was established in 2022 to give assurance that the board is fully sighted on the organisation's increasingly complex finances. It met on a quarterly basis in 2023/24; it will meet monthly throughout 2024/25 to support the management team and oversee the Strategic Review at this challenging time of reduced funding. The Volition Director, Pip Goff, who is accountable to the Chair of the Trustees, manages the staff team.

Trustee Induction and Training

The Board keeps the skill requirements of the Trustee Body under review. Once appointed, newly elected trustees undergo an induction programme and any training requirements identified are addressed. The charity keeps up to date with key developments and training is provided to trustees as required.

Volition Staff Structure Diagram at 31 March 2024



Team development and recruitment
Our specialism leads have each supported a huge breadth of strategic and developmental work across the areas of Mental Health, Learning Disabilities, Physical and Sensory Impairment and Local Care Partnerships and we have seen greater diversity of engagement and increasing quality and breadth of contribution from our members resulting in a raised profile of third sector contribution to health and wellbeing.

Key management remuneration
The charity's Finance Sub-committee convenes annually as the Remuneration Committee in order to review salary bandings and scale points of all employees. The charity's pay scales are aligned with the pay scales of the National Joint Council for Local Government Services meaning salary increases are kept in line with those negotiated by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services. Volition also ensures benchmarking comparisons using an external benchmarking company with local government experience, to review new or changed job roles against job descriptions and compare with similar roles across the third sector to ensure pay is fair and reflective of the duties carried out by employees.

Risk Factors

The Trustees recognise the need to undertake a risk assessment. Volition is an infrastructure organisation rather than a direct service provider. The risks associated with our work include strategic and reputational risks as well as health and safety issues related to office-based work and also the risk, common across the third sector, of loss of funding. Our strategic and reputational risks are mitigated through our monthly board meetings when organisational risks are identified. These are captured in a formal risk document which is reviewed regularly. The Trustees ensure appropriate liaison with stakeholders, partners, commissioners and potential funders in order to secure sufficient funds to continue the work of the organisation.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 28th November 2024 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Mark Law

Mark Law - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF VOLITION-LEEDS

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Volition-Leeds ('the Company')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2024.

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

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

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

C. Darwin

Christopher Darwin FCA

Thomas Coombs Limited
Chartered Accountants
3365 The Pentagon
Century Way
Thorpe Park
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 8ZB

Date: 28th November 2024

VOLITION-LEEDS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Charitable activities	3				
Core charitable activities - grants		242,600	211,678	454,278	610,641
Core charitable activities – contract income		255,622	2,130	257,752	269,180
Grant making		-	46,132	46,132	397,233
Other trading activities	2	49,480	-	49,480	29,513
Total		547,702	259,940	807,642	1,306,567
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Core charitable activities		507,934	375,935	883,869	873,207
Grant making		5,500	192,231	197,731	331,083
Total		513,434	568,166	1,081,600	1,204,290
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		34,268	(308,226)	(273,958)	102,277
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		216,011	929,671	1,145,682	1,043,405
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		250,279	621,445	871,724	1,145,682

The notes form part of these financial statements

VOLITION-LEEDS

BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	863	-	863	9,227
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	14,894	30,600	45,494	370,494
Cash at bank		268,486	597,001	865,487	800,592
		283,380	627,601	910,981	1,171,086
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(33,964)	(6,156)	(40,120)	(34,631)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		249,416	621,445	870,861	1,136,455
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		250,279	621,445	871,724	1,145,682
NET ASSETS		250,279	621,445	871,724	1,145,682
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				250,279	216,011
Restricted funds				621,445	929,671
TOTAL FUNDS				871,724	1,145,682

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 28th November 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

C A Hill - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

VOLITION-LEEDS

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	64,895	(27,078)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		64,895	(27,078)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(6,583)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		-	(6,583)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		64,895	(33,661)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		800,592	834,253
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		865,487	800,592

The notes form part of these financial statements

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

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	**(273,958)**	102,277
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**2,890**	3,470
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	**5,474**	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**325,000**	(131,900)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	**5,489**	(925)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	**64,895**	(27,078)

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/23	Cash flow	At 31/3/24
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank	800,592	64,895	865,487
	800,592	64,895	865,487
Total	800,592	64,895	865,487

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

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

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

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

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets
Tangible fixed assets other than freehold land are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended. Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its useful life, as follows:

Computer equipment	20%	Straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	33%	Straight line

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

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pensions
The charity operates a defined pension contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are recognised in the year they are payable.

continued...

1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

Debtors and creditors receivable/ payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the SOFA on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. **OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other trading activities	49,480	29,513

3. **INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

Core Charitable Activities	2024 Unrestricted Funds	2024 Restricted Funds	2024 Total Funds	2023 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Grants	242,600	211,678	454,278	610,641
Contracts	255,622	2,130	257,752	269,180
	498,222	213,808	712,030	879,821

Grant making activities	2024 Unrestricted Funds	2024 Restricted Funds	2024 Total Funds	2023 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Grants	-	46,132	46,132	393,233
	-	46,132	46,132	397,233

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

	2024 Unrestricted funds	2024 Restricted funds	2024 Total funds	2023 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Mindwell	-	104,328	104,328	103,463
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	1,500	33,700	35,200	177,571
Mental Health Collaborative	-	-	-	25,962
CYP Ethnic Inequalities Post	-	-	-	1,000
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	-	-	-	75,000
Leeds For All (IDODP)	-	1,500	1,500	-
Community Champions	-	-	-	45,099
Household Support Fund	5,500		5,500	-
Warm spaces fund	-	750	750	-
Other	-	-	-	4,420
Demo Project	-	-	-	2,500
Communities of Interest Network	-	-	-	20,431
FC Business Case	-	-	-	120,195
Winter Pressures	-	-	-	35,000
ICB Engagement & Representation (Note)	235,600	66,400	302,000	-
ICS Research Engagement Network (REN) Programme	-	5,000	5,000	-
	242,600	211,678	454,278	610,641

continued...

Note - ICB Engagement and Representation grant: The Unrestricted element of the 23/24 grant represents the proportion that funds the enhanced Forum Central activities; the Restricted element of the 23/24 grant funds the direct staffing and other costs of the Mental Health Community Capacity Builder and Mental Health Collaborative posts. ICB Engagement & Representation grants in 2023 included the MH Collaboration grant and the FC Business Case grant and totalled £146,157.

Grant making activities	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	-	-	-	166,000
Roma HNA grants	-	12,070	12,070	-
WY Fellowship Bursary	-	10,000	10,000	-
ICS Research Engagement Network (REN) Programme	-	15,000	15,000	-
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	-	1,562	1,562	2,098
Community Champions	-	-	-	80,000
Household Support Fund	-	-	-	148,310
Warm Spaces Fund	-	7,500	7,500	825
	-	46,312	46,312	397,233

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 5) £	Grant funding of activities (see note 6) £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Core charitable activities	879,622	1,000	3,247	883,869
Grant making	26,658	171,073	-	197,731
	906,280	172,073	3,247	1,081,600

5. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs	649,724	597,571
Rent, rates and utilities	32,764	37,477
Insurance	3,548	2,544
Telephone	2,772	2,636
Equipment and materials	5,077	7,557
Room hire	3,646	7,743
Travel	1,570	1,170
Office and admin costs	15,984	21,077
Training	3,871	7,382
Refreshments	1,420	1,825
Other expenses	2,383	2,566
Freelance workers and consultants	109,655	103,588
IT Costs	8,071	15,714
Partner payments	32,756	39,678
Direct project delivery costs	24,675	43,912
Depreciation	2,890	3,470
Loss on sale of assets	5,474	-
	906,280	895,910

continued...

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2024	2023
	£	£
Core charitable activities	1,000	1,750
Grant making	171,073	302,132
	172,073	303,882

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Power of Communities Grant programme	64,000	-
5 Ways to Wellbeing	1,275	19,561
Community Champions	-	80,000
CMHT	27,000	31,500
Household Support Fund	-	148,310
Mental Health First Aid	45,548	20,562
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	-	1,500
Harnessing the Power of Communities Grant Programme	-	2,199
Leeds Disabled People's Organisation	-	250
ICS Research Engagement Network (REN) Programme	15,000	-
Warm Spaces: Additional Health Support Needs	8,250	-
West Yorkshire ICB Adversity Trauma and Resilience Fellowship	10,000	-
Black Health Initiative	1,000	-
	172,073	303,882

-Power of Communities Grant Programme	ICB (West Yorkshire) funded made to these organisations were to meet the Leeds System Health Care Priorities (called Harnessing the Power of Communities up until March 2024).
-5 Ways to Wellbeing	The grants made to these organisations were to develop tools to engage people and communities at risk of poor mental health.
-Community Champions	These Public Health funded grants paid out to these organisations were to support engagement with local communities to help connect people with key Covid-19 and wider health messages.
-CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	This ICB (Leeds) funded grant was paid out to fund peer support and involvement worker roles hosted by third party organisations.
-Household Support Fund	These LCC funded grants were paid out to organisations to support communities of interest to ensure people of fuel and food in winter.
-MHFA	These grants were paid out to organisations to increase access to Mental Health First Aid and related training across West Yorkshire.
-CYP Ethnic Inequalities	The grant made was for support offered by Young Lives Leeds and the Culturally Diverse Hub to the Children and Young Persons Ethnic Inequalities Mental Health Project.
-Leeds Disabled People's Organisation	This grant was made to Leeds Disabled People's Organisation for Disabled Voices Project 2023.
-ICS Research Engagement Network (REN) Programme	The grant was paid to an organisation acting on behalf of Leeds Community Anchor Network to support the REN Programme, which aimed to increase diversity in research participation.
-Warm Spaces: Additional Health Support Needs	Grants for organisations providing Warm Spaces to make these more useable for people with Additional Health Support Needs by using HEPA filters to remove viruses and allergens.
-West Yorkshire ICB Adversity Trauma and Resilience Fellowship	Bursary payment for West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board Adversity Trauma and Resilience Fellowship
-Black Health Initiative (BHI)	Grant paid to BHI to support the delivery of the Black Men in Conference Event in June 2023

continued...

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs £
Core charitable activities	3,247

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2024 Core charitable activities £	2023 Total activities £
Auditors' remuneration	747	4,498
Independent examination	2,500	-
	3,247	4,498

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Auditors' remuneration	747	4,498
Depreciation - owned assets	2,890	3,470
Deficit on disposal of fixed assets	5,474	-
Rent	29,430	30,953

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2024 nor for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were £29 of trustees' expenses relating to travel reimbursement paid for the year ended 31st March 2024 (2023: £42).

10. STAFF COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	569,868	526,256
Social security costs	47,461	44,058
Other pension costs	32,395	27,257
	649,724	597,571

The charity considers its key management personnel (in addition to the Board of Trustees) to be the director and operations manager. The total remuneration (including employer pension contributions) of the key management personnel was £97,450 (2023:£102,444).

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

	2024	2023
Staff	22	22

continued...

10. STAFF COSTS - continued

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

The average full time equivalent for the average number of employees is 16 (2023:16).

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Charitable activities			
Core charitable activities	273,600	606,221	879,821
Grant making	-	397,233	397,233
Other trading activities	29,098	415	29,513
Total	302,698	1,003,869	1,306,567
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Core charitable activities	314,777	558,430	873,207
Grant making	2,500	328,583	331,083
Total	317,277	887,013	1,204,290
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(14,579)	116,856	102,277
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	230,590	812,815	1,043,405
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	216,011	929,671	1,145,682

continued...

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st April 2023	3,109	27,594	30,703
Disposals	(3,109)	(26,155)	(29,264)
At 31st March 2024	-	1,439	1,439
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st April 2023	3,109	18,367	21,476
Charge for year	-	2,890	2,890
Eliminated on disposal	(3,109)	(20,681)	(23,790)
At 31st March 2024	-	576	576
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st March 2024	-	863	863
At 31st March 2023	-	9,227	9,227

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Debtors in the ordinary course of activities	30,638	349,960
Prepayments and accrued income	14,856	20,534
	45,494	370,494

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Creditors in the ordinary course of activities	14,389	4,500
VAT	11,456	10,278
Accruals and deferred income	14,275	19,853
	40,120	34,631

Deferred income included above amounted to £9,147 (2023: £3,785).

15. LEASING AGREEMENTS

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	27,222	27,222

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	216,011	34,268	250,279
Restricted funds			
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	354,195	(89,974)	264,221
MindWell & MindWell 2	43,166	(13,369)	29,797
LCC Partnership Board	703	-	703
Tenfold Fund	23,492	-	23,492
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	83,020	(26,492)	56,528
Mental Health Collaborative	24,459	154	24,613
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	14,937	(7,188)	7,749
Leeds For All (IDODP)	170	114	284
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	100,953	(3,218)	97,735
Community Mental Health Transformation staffing	7,830	927	8,757
Mental Health First Aid	87,699	(49,461)	38,238
5 Ways To Wellbeing	1,275	(1,275)	-
Community Champions	24,531	(24,531)	-
Emerge	2,222	-	2,222
Trauma	71,249	(44,240)	27,009
Videos	5,149	(5,149)	-
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	27,000	(27,000)	-
FC Business case 22/23	23,371	(23,371)	-
DEMO project	478	(96)	382
Communities of Interest Network	7,307	(7,307)	-
Winter Pressures	25,715	-	25,715
Warm spaces fund	750	(750)	-
ROMA grants	-	14,000	14,000
WY Fellowship Bursary	-	-	-
	929,671	(308,226)	621,445
TOTAL FUNDS	1,145,682	(273,958)	871,724

continued...

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**547,702**	**(513,434)**	**34,268**
Restricted funds			
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	**38,700**	**(128,674)**	**(89,974)**
MindWell & MindWell 2	**104,328**	**(117,697)**	**(13,369)**
Tenfold Fund	**-**	**-**	**-**
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	**-**	**(26,492)**	**(26,492)**
Mental Health Collaborative	**20,500**	**(20,346)**	**154**
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**-**	**(7,188)**	**(7,188)**
Leeds For All (IDODP)	**1,500**	**(1,386)**	**114**
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	**16,562**	**(19,780)**	**(3,218)**
Community Mental Health Transformation staffing	**45,900**	**(44,973)**	**927**
Mental Health First Aid	**-**	**(49,461)**	**(49,461)**
5 Ways To Wellbeing	**-**	**(1,275)**	**(1,275)**
Community Champions	**-**	**(24,531)**	**(24,531)**
Emerge	**-**	**-**	**-**
Trauma	**-**	**(44,240)**	**(44,240)**
Videos	**-**	**(5,149)**	**(5,149)**
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	**-**	**(27,000)**	**(27,000)**
Household support fund	**-**	**-**	**-**
FC Business case 22/23	**-**	**(23,371)**	**(23,371)**
DEMO project	**-**	**(96)**	**(96)**
Communities of Interest Network	**-**	**(7,307)**	**(7,307)**
Winter Pressures	**-**	**-**	**-**
Warm spaces fund	**8,250**	**(9,000)**	**(750)**
ROMA grants	**14,200**	**(200)**	**14,000**
WY Fellowship Bursary	**10,000**	**(10,000)**	**-**
	259,940	**(568,166)**	**(308,226)**
TOTAL FUNDS	**807,642**	**(1,081,600)**	**(273,958)**

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**230,590**	**(14,579)**	**216,011**
Restricted funds			
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	**94,394**	**259,801**	**354,195**
MindWell & MindWell 2	**48,429**	**(5,263)**	**43,166**
LCC Partnership Board	**703**	**-**	**703**
Tenfold Fund	**27,931**	**(4,439)**	**23,492**
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	**92,067**	**(9,047)**	**83,020**
Mental Health Collaborative	**23,370**	**1,089**	**24,459**
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**55,575**	**(40,638)**	**14,937**
Leeds For All (IDODP)	**1,032**	**(862)**	**170**
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	**39,302**	**61,651**	**100,953**
Community Mental Health Transformation staffing	**64,756**	**(56,926)**	**7,830**
Mental Health First Aid	**120,000**	**(32,301)**	**87,699**
5 Ways To Wellbeing	**25,000**	**(23,725)**	**1,275**
Community Champions	**26,028**	**(1,497)**	**24,531**
Emerge	**14,622**	**(12,400)**	**2,222**
Trauma	**99,606**	**(28,357)**	**71,249**
Videos	**20,000**	**(14,851)**	**5,149**
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	**60,000**	**(33,000)**	**27,000**
FC Business case 22/23	**-**	**23,371**	**23,371**
DEMO project	**-**	**478**	**478**
Communities of Interest Network	**-**	**7,307**	**7,307**
Winter Pressures	**-**	**25,715**	**25,715**
Warm spaces fund	**-**	**750**	**750**
	812,815	**116,856**	**929,671**
TOTAL FUNDS	**1,043,405**	**102,277**	**1,145,682**

continued...

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**302,698**	**(317,277)**	**(14,579)**
Restricted funds			
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	**328,571**	**(68,770)**	**259,801**
MindWell & MindWell 2	**103,588**	**(108,851)**	**(5,263)**
Tenfold Fund	**-**	**(4,439)**	**(4,439)**
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	**-**	**(9,047)**	**(9,047)**
Mental Health Collaborative	**25,962**	**(24,873)**	**1,089**
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**1,290**	**(41,928)**	**(40,638)**
Leeds For All (IDODP)	**-**	**(862)**	**(862)**
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	**92,098**	**(30,447)**	**61,651**
Community Mental Health Transformation staffing	**-**	**(56,926)**	**(56,926)**
Mental Health First Aid	**-**	**(32,301)**	**(32,301)**
5 Ways To Wellbeing	**-**	**(23,725)**	**(23,725)**
Community Champions	**125,099**	**(126,596)**	**(1,497)**
Emerge	**-**	**(12,400)**	**(12,400)**
Trauma		**(28,357)**	**(28,357)**
Videos		**(14,851)**	**(14,851)**
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	**-**	**(33,000)**	**(33,000)**
Household support fund	**148,310**	**(148,310)**	**-**
FC Business case 22/23	**120,195**	**(96,824)**	**23,371**
DEMO project	**2,500**	**(2,022)**	**478**
Communities of Interest Network	**20,431**	**(13,124)**	**7,307**
Winter Pressures	**35,000**	**(9,285)**	**25,715**
Warm spaces fund	**825**	**(75)**	**750**
	1,003,869	**(887,013)**	**116,856**
TOTAL FUNDS	**1,306,567**	**(1,204,290)**	**102,277**

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

5 Ways to Wellbeing	Funding from Public Health, LCC for the 5 Ways to Wellbeing Small Community Grants scheme with a focus on developing 5 ways to Wellbeing tools to engage people and communities at risk of poor mental health.
Building Capacity in 3rd Sector	Funding from Public Health (LCC) to distribute as grants to smaller organisations across Leeds to get the covid 19 messaging out through local trusted organisations.
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	As part of the Community Mental Health Transformation programme, funding for Peer Support and Involvement Worker roles hosted by third sector organisations, and for Volition to manage the third sector host organisation selection process.
COIN	Core20+5 Health Inequalities funding via Healthwatch Leeds to fund a Development Worker for the Communities of Interest Network.
Community Champions	Funding from LCC to support the Community Champions project and to provide further capacity to support engagement with local communities to help connect people with key Covid-19 and wider health messages and the support available in the city.
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	Funding given for a two year post to address mental health inequalities (Black & Minority Ethnic Communities) across Leeds.
DEMO	Collaborative project led by University of Leeds to understand barriers and enablers of engagement for people with musculoskeletal (MSK) conditions from 'under-served' communities.
Emerge	Project funded by Leeds and York Partnership Foundation NHS Trust to scope out availability of third sector community level support in Leeds for young people aged 18-25 with complex mental health needs, create partnerships and identify gaps in service provision.
Forum Central Business Case 22/23 and 23/24	Funding from the ICB (Leeds) to enable Volition on behalf of Forum Central to continue to support third sector organisations so that the third sector can maximise the added value within the Integrated Care System (ICS).
Household Support Fund	Funding from LCC via Leeds Older People's Forum to distribute to organisations who support communities of interest to ensure people have fuel and food in Winter 22/23 and 23/24.
HPoC	Funding from Leeds CCG towards the costs of the Harnessing the Power of Communities Project.
ICS Research Engagement Network (REN) Programme	Funding to support the REN Programme, which aimed to increase diversity in research participation.
Leeds for All (IDDP)	Funding from LCC to run the International Day of Disabled people across Leeds through engagement with Leeds partners.
Mental Health Collaborative	Funding given to work with partners to improve lives, support inclusion as part of Leeds' Mental Health Strategy model for change.
Mental Health First Aid	Funding for grants paid to organisations to increase access to Mental Health First Aid and related training across West Yorkshire.
Mental Health Group Work	Funding to support VCSE organisations in their contribution to work focused around mental health and wellbeing for WY and Harrogate integrated Care system.
MH Transformation Grants	Funding from the ICB (Leeds) to support the community mental health transformation grants scheme in collaboration with Leeds Community Foundation.
MindWell	Funding from ICB (Leeds) for the MindWell project.
MindWell 2	Winter pressures funding from LCC and CCG for the MindWell project.
NHS Transformation Project	Funding was to enable work to be carried out to understand and identify the potential capability and infrastructure to strengthen collaborative working within the health and care third sector organisations in Leeds.
Roma grants	Funding received from LCC to administer and allocate community grants for improving the health of the Roma community within Leeds.

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Strategic Infrastructure Grant	Funding from LCC to support Volition to respond to the challenges of Covid, both in terms of supporting members and internal organisation.
Tenfold	Project to develop city-wide capacity and initiatives that focus on developing, strengthening and implementing Trauma Informed care and support for Children and Young People in Leeds.
Videos	Funding from Health Education England for the co-production of videos of people's experience of dealing with issues around mental health.
Warm Spaces	Funding from Voluntary Action Leeds for grants to Warm Spaces providers to enable them to support people with additional health needs.
Winter at Risk	'Winter at Risk - Reach and Equity' funding from Leeds City Council for outreach support for communities experiencing health inequalities.
WY Fellowship Bursary	Funding received from the ICB (West Yorkshire) to provide a bursary payment for West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board Adversity Trauma and Resilience Fellowship.
WY PoC and VCSE support	One-off funding from the ICB (West Yorkshire) to support Power of Communities projects including a grant-making programme, VCSE representatives support and infrastructure support.

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During 2024 Volition paid out grants totalling £35,000 to Voluntary Action Leeds, a Charity which Adrian Curtis and Neil Franklin are trustees of. These grants were distributed by Volition on behalf of West Yorkshire ICS, as unconnected organisation. A further payment of £1,000 was paid to Voluntary Action Leeds to contribute towards expenses.

Volition were involved in the distribution of Warm Spaces pass through funding totalling £8,250 on behalf of Voluntary Action Leeds.

£3,000 was received from Voluntary Action Leeds to jointly fund a State of the Sector report.

£200 was received from Voluntary Action Leeds to contribute to a book library for the sector which was being developed by Volition Leeds.

Trustees are required to declare all relevant interests with which they are connected and in accordance with the Charity's policy withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises. Some trustees use their experience in areas affecting Volition-Leeds, but no trustee has any significant personal financial interest in transactions with the Charity during the year.

18. CAPITAL

Volition-Leeds is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The members have agreed to contribute £1 each to the Charity's assets in the event of it winding up, if it's assets should prove insufficient to cover its liabilities.

19. TAXATION

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities by virtue of section 505 of the income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

continued...

VOLITION-LEEDS

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Other trading activities		
Other trading activities	**49,480**	29,513
Charitable activities		
Grants	**500,410**	1,007,874
Contracts	**257,752**	269,180
	758,162	1,277,054
Total incoming resources	**807,642**	1,306,567
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	**564,868**	526,256
Social security	**52,461**	44,058
Pensions	**32,395**	27,257
Rent, rates and utilities	**32,764**	37,477
Insurance	**3,548**	2,544
Telephone	**2,772**	2,636
Equipment and materials	**5,077**	7,557
Room hire	**3,646**	7,743
Travel	**1,570**	1,170
Office and admin costs	**15,984**	21,077
Training	**3,871**	7,382
Refreshments	**1,420**	1,825
Other expenses	**2,383**	2,566
Freelance workers and consultants	**109,655**	103,588
IT Costs	**8,071**	15,714
Partner payments	**32,756**	39,678
Direct project delivery costs	**24,675**	43,912
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**2,890**	3,470
Loss on sale of intangible fixed assets	**5,474**	-
Grants to institutions	**172,073**	303,882
	1,078,353	1,199,792
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	**747**	4,498
Independent examination	**2,500**	-
	3,247	4,498
Total resources expended	**1,081,600**	1,204,290
Net (expenditure)/income	**(273,958)**	102,277

VOLITION - LEEDS

England & Wales - Charity number 1092126

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04046674 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1092126

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

FOR

VOLITION-LEEDS

Thomas Coombs Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
3365 The Pentagon
Century Way
Thorpe Park
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 8ZB

VOLITION-LEEDS

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

TRUSTEES	Z A Bawn D J Blythe (resigned 24/02/23) P C Gleeson (resigned 18/7/22) C A Hill J A Hill H A Kemp (resigned 10/11/22) R A Kettle O Sutton P Bhupal A N Curtis A Hanif N Morrisroe (resigned 1/12/22) M E Hylton (appointed 13/10/22) (resigned 30/3/23) J L Thornton (appointed 10/11/22) N Franklin (appointed 10/11/22) K J M Proud (appointed 10/11/22) S M Hoey (appointed 17/8/23) R Wilson (appointed 17/8/23) N A Lines (appointed 17/8/23) R Goodyear (appointed 17/8/23) (resigned 21/09/23) M S Law (appointed 17/8/23)
REGISTERED OFFICE	Suite C24 Josephs Well Hanover Walk Leeds West Yorkshire LS3 1AB
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER	04046674 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1092126
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS	Thomas Coombs Limited Statutory Auditor Chartered Accountants 3365 The Pentagon Century Way Thorpe Park Leeds West Yorkshire LS15 8ZB
BANKERS	Unity Trust Bank 9 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB

VOLITION-LEEDS
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

I am delighted, on behalf of the Volition-Leeds Board, to present our Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

We have seen changes at Board level and said a heartfelt thank you to Phil Gleeson, Helen Kemp, Neil Morrisroe and Marcia Hylton who stood down during the year and who had each in different ways contributed very significantly. At the AGM we welcomed dynamic new trustees - Jenny Thornton, Karl Proud and Neil Franklin - and their contributions have already been significant in strengthening our diverse board. I extend my deep gratitude to all our Board members who give so generously of their time, and to our dedicated team who put so much drive, energy, and passion into our work on behalf of the whole sector and wider health and care system.

Volition-Leeds delivers a wide range of work both directly as Volition, notably Mindwell, and also as Forum Central working with our fantastic partner Leeds Older People's Forum (LOPF). In 2022/23 we celebrate some significant highlights and achievements despite, and in response to Covid legacy challenge and the ongoing cost of living crises, which have impacted throughout this financial year and will continue to for some time yet. Volition continues to learn from and strengthen collaborations with all of our member organisations, partners and other stakeholders, always seeking to improve. Volition membership now stands at over 258 organisations (when combined with LOPF giving Forum Central a 279 strong membership).

We have worked with LOPF and our city partners to ensure resources flow to the sector, such as the allocation of 24 grants at a total value of £80,000 to a range of third sector organisations and community groups to enable them to support Covid prevention work across communities facing the greatest challenge in collaboration with Leeds City Council, and 10 grants to organisations to support people with Additional Health Needs, by purchasing HEPA filters for Warm Spaces. We have distributed 41 Household Support Fund grants in partnership with LOPF with funding from Leeds City Council. We have worked with Leeds Community Foundation to distribute 8 Mental Health transformation grants, with a value of £40,500. This is an important element in the transformation of mental health support for people with serious mental illness which aims to ensure people will be able to access better care and support, and live as well as possible across all our diverse communities.

The third sector is playing a crucial role in the now established Integrated Care System and partnership structures through Local Care Partnerships at neighbourhood, Leeds Place and West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board levels. Through our Forum Central work we have developed a mature third sector infrastructure and have been proactive in shaping the approach and direction of the partnership through our contribution to the Population Health Boards, subgroups and various working groups, always bringing to the table feedback from our members and sharing and sense checking progress back with them, notably through the fortnightly Reference Group and Health and Care Leaders Meetings. We are truly achieving our mission of being the collective voice of the health and care third sector. The Reference Group set up in January 2022 has been a vital source of up-to-date information, representation and assurance for our growing role on population health boards and the Integrated Care Boards and surrounding structures. They are valued by attendees as evidenced through quality contributions and feedback.

MindWell continues to be an invaluable source of trusted local mental health and wellbeing information, self-help, and peer support as well as formal services where people in Leeds can find help for their mental health and practical support, which proved critical throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

Our work, linked to Synergi, to highlight and address the needs of Black and Minority Ethnic Children and Young People's access to mental health support over a two year period ended in March, has sought to ensure that children, young people and families' voices help shape this work, illustrated by the lasting legacy of the powerful Speak Up campaign.

We have continued our focus on addressing health inequalities, the wider determinants of health and wellbeing, as well as continuing to prioritise our work with smaller organisations. Our ongoing engagement with Leeds' People's Voices Partnership and the evaluation and further development of the Communities of Interest Network in response to the pandemic supports this along with our Inclusion Working Group.

Support for communities through the current cost-of-living crisis has been a major challenge this year with the services proving the many ways in which third sector organisations are vital. In turn, Forum Central is supporting our members to ensure the third sector survives the current financial pressures by evidencing both impact and challenges facing the third sector workforce, producing recommendations to support third sector organisations and working with system partners to influence at the highest level.

I need to thank the Volition team and my fellow Trustees for all their hard work and support this year. I am so proud of our achievements this year and my decision to step down, as Chair was not an easy one. I pass the chair's role to Mark Law with a high level of confidence that we have a strong platform from which to seek to secure a sustainable future, despite the huge challenges faced, for our members and the diverse communities that we work with across the city.

Ruth Kettle
Chair of Trustees
Date: 16·11·23

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

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRATEGIC REPORT

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Legal and administrative details

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 3 August 2000 with registered company number 04046674 and registered as a charity on 21 May 2002, registration number 1092126. The principal and registered office is Suite C24, Joseph's Well, Hanover Walk, LS3 1AB.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association as amended by special resolutions on 22 January 2018 and 22 August 2019. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Principal Activity

The charity's objects are, for the public benefit, to promote the preservation of good mental and physical health, the relief of persons experiencing poor mental health and/or mental health illness, the relief of persons with physical and sensory impairments and the relief of those with learning disabilities, in Leeds and the surrounding area and to raise public awareness of such needs.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives and in planning activities.

The charity's main activities

Volition-Leeds is an alliance of third sector (i.e. voluntary, community, faith or social enterprise) member organisations which provide mental health, physical health and wellbeing support in Leeds. On 30 June 2023, Volition-Leeds had 258 members and Forum Central (our partnership with Leeds Older People's Forum) had a combined membership of 279.

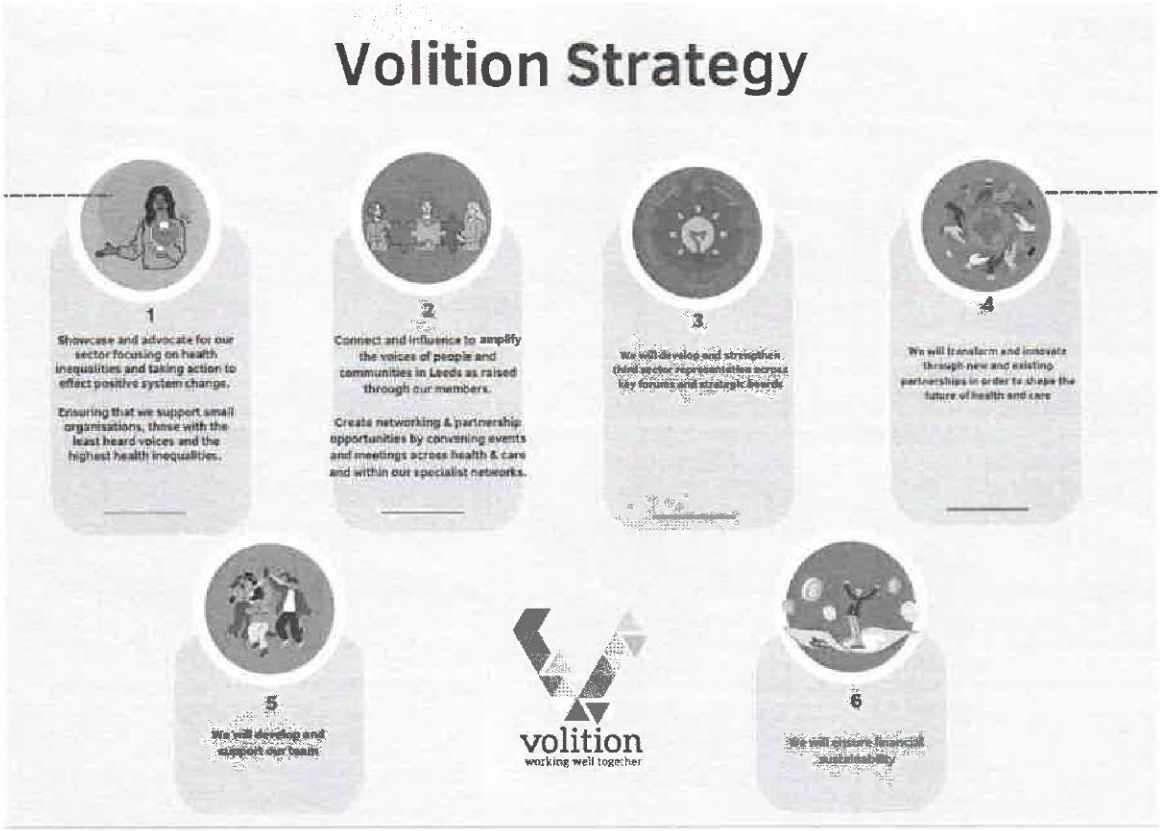
Volition-Leeds exists to:
- Promote and support the contribution of the voluntary sector in strategic planning and development across the health and care system
- Encourage collaboration and partnership between agencies and across sectors
- Promote and contribute the voluntary sector's person and community centred perspective in aspects of service and practice development
- Inform and resource third sector organisations to enable them to better meet the mental, physical health and wellbeing, learning disability and physical and sensory impairment needs of people across all our diverse Leeds' communities.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the relief of those in need, by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

We have developed strategic aims alongside short-term goals and objectives. We have strengthened our expertise and processes for supporting our smaller members and the wider sector through engagement and representation and grant making as part of our delivery strategy. This enables us to ensure that a wider number of our member organisations can access funds and deliver at ground level.

We held a Board discussion to refine our strategy, building on the three-year strategy developed in September 2021.



Trustee Induction and Training

The Board keeps the skill requirements of the Trustee Body under review. Once appointed, newly elected trustees undergo an induction programme and any training requirements identified are addressed. The charity keeps up to date with key developments and training is provided to trustees as required.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The Trustees of the charity are also the Directors for the purposes of company law. Each member organisation can nominate a representative to stand for election, but individuals become trustees in their own right. Volition-Leeds' members are all invited to nominate representatives to stand for available places at each Annual General Meeting (AGM) at which trustees are elected. Each year one third of the trustees - the longest standing - are required to stand down and may stand for re-election. There is a maximum limit of 18 trustees and minimum number of 5 trustees on the Board. In addition, trustees can be co-opted for their knowledge or expertise, or if there is a vacancy between AGMs.

New trustees Jenny Thornton, Karl Proud and Neil Franklin were appointed at the AGM in November 2022, and we have continued our partnership working with our local infrastructure partner Voluntary Action Leeds through shared trustees Adrian Curtis and James Hill. Neil Franklin will take over this role from James Hill as of April 2023.

Key Management Remuneration

The charity's Finance Sub-committee convenes annually as the Remuneration Committee to review salary bandings and scale points of all employees. The charity's pay scales are aligned with the pay scales of the National Joint Council for Local Government Services meaning salary increases are kept in line with those negotiated by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services. Volition also ensures benchmarking comparisons using an external benchmarking company with local government experience, to review new or changed job roles against job descriptions and compare with similar roles across the third sector to ensure pay is fair and reflective of the duties carried out by employees.

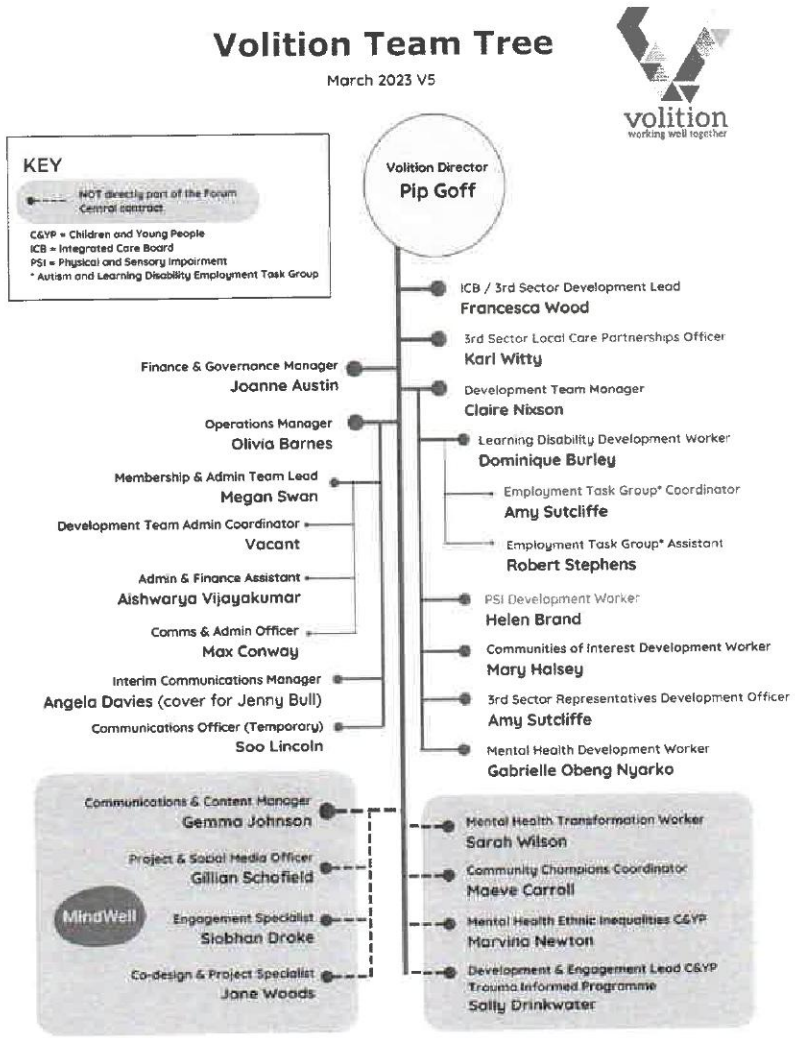
Organisational Structure

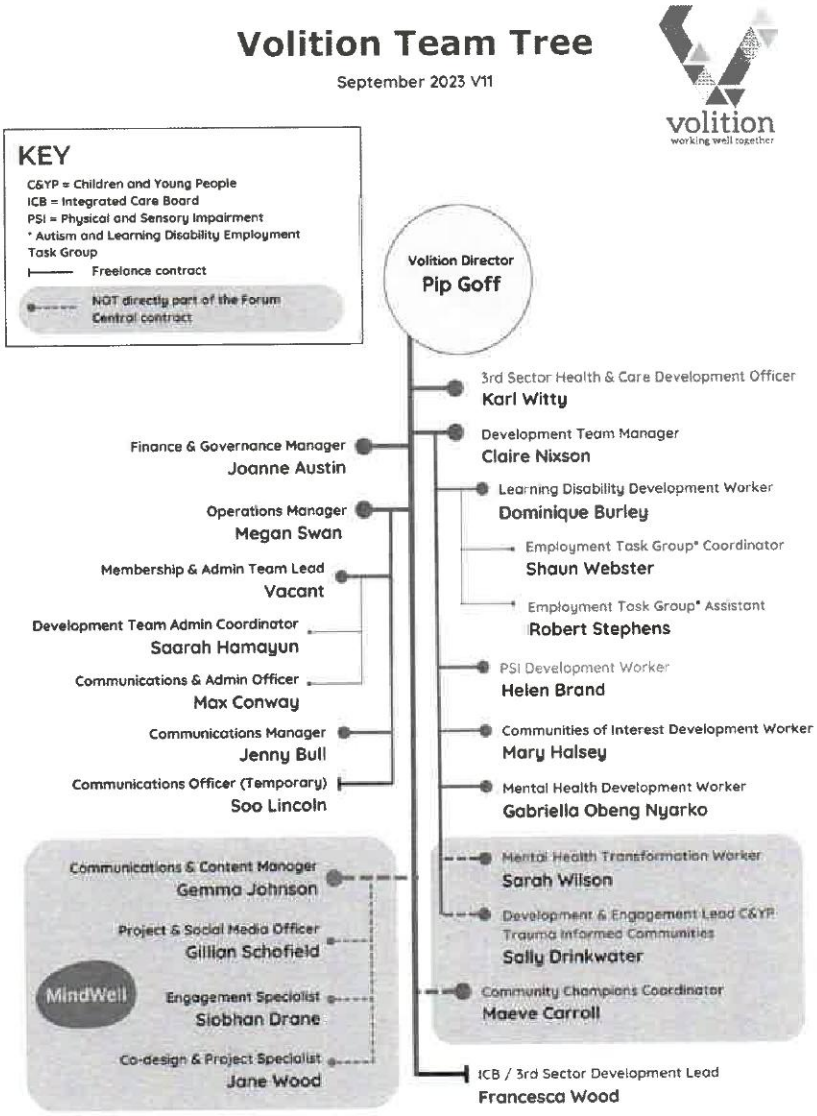
The Trustees currently meet monthly including the AGM. The Chair is elected at the first meeting following the AGM. The meetings cover finance, governance and setting of the strategy for Volition-Leeds alternating between business and policy meetings. The Finance Sub-committee was established two years ago to give assurance that the board is fully sighted on the organisation's increasingly complex finances and meets on a quarterly basis. The Volition-Leeds Director, Pip Goff, who is accountable to the Chair of the Trustees, manages the staff team.

Risk Factors

The Trustees recognise the need to maintain a risk register. Volition-Leeds is an infrastructure organisation rather than a direct service provider. The risks associated with our work include strategic and reputational risks as well as health and safety issues related to office-based work and also the risk, common across the third sector, of loss of funding. Our strategic and reputational risks are managed through our monthly board meetings when organisational risks are identified and mitigating plans discussed. The Trustees ensure appropriate liaison with stakeholders, partners, commissioners and potential funders in order to secure sufficient funds to continue the work of the organisation.

Volition Staff Structure Diagram at 31 March and 1 September 2023





ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

This year we have been able to demonstrate our achievements against the charity's aims and objectives both to our members and funders using a range of indicators, milestones and benchmarks. We are seeing the long term effect of the charity's activities on both individual member beneficiaries, at a wider level of the communities we serve and the health and care system in which we operate. We have sought to increase the range of our partners and the number and diversity of our members; we have strengthened strategic engagement across Leeds and with our West Yorkshire peers.

We have responded to the changing NHS structures, building on the former Clinical Commissioning Group with the establishment of the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board in July 2022, formally signing the Memorandum of Understandings on behalf of the sector as an equal partner at both Leeds and West Yorkshire.

We have continued to support and engage smaller organisations and those reaching the most marginalised communities. For example through our Third Sector Local Partnership work, we have developed our reach into Local Care Partnerships - the Primary Care level partnership structures, focussing on specific areas following the Widening the Net report. This report completed in 2022 which built on the Third Sector Leeds and the ABCD team at Leeds City Council. Forum Central commissioned a report written by Nahid Rasool from Shantona in 2021, funded through our Harnessing Power of Communities funds, as part of our Leeds Place-based Partnership/ Shaping our Future development work. This built on work that was delivered with Leeds Community Foundation, Shantona and BHI, to understand the needs of small groups and helps us build the involvement of the Third Sector in the future Leeds system.

Key achievements in 2022/23 have included:

Digital

Following cross sector consultation and ongoing discussion with our members, Forum Central and Voluntary Action Leeds have been working together to define four key priorities for the sector in regards to digital transformation. These are:

Provision and translation of core activities (digital/hybrid service provision)
Digital integration (data infrastructure & business intelligence)
Data sharing (organisational & service data; person/patient data)
Digital inclusion/capability (third sector, communities & patients/citizens)

Linked to the priorities referenced above, we are seeking to progress four lines of action priorities.

- **1**: Continue to support third sector organisations to translate current and future activities to digital/hybrid platforms, in line with the needs of communities served, through investment in inclusive infrastructure, roles and training.
- **2**: Improve access to, and quality of information about, third sector provision for system partners and citizens through investment in shared digital information infrastructure.
- **3**: Enable relevant third sector organisations to access and share information about citizens of Leeds, in support of joined up, person-centred delivery, through investment in shared information governance roles.
- **4**: Continue to extend the role that the third sector plays in providing personalised support to the people in Leeds who are most vulnerable to digital exclusion, through work with 100% Digital Leeds.

Encompassed within each of the above is a need for an ongoing cross system conversation around development of our individual and shared digital assets in pursuit of overarching city plans.

Workforce

An estimated 57,000 people are employed across Leeds in health and care services. The Leeds Health and Care Academy is overseen by the Leeds One Workforce Strategic Board. As Forum Central, we have been working to ensure there is third sector representation on the Board and across multiple work streams of the Academy. This has included ensuring that training and support is available to meet the needs of the third sector workforce. To address this, Forum Central and Leeds Health and Care Academy have begun to work together to establish and coordinate a Third Sector HR Network. The Network was established in 2022 following a Forum Central workforce survey that raised concerns about challenges being faced by the sector.

We recognised a need to be talking to those who are responsible for workforce, recruitment, retention, and development in their organisations. The network exists to share information about workforce developments, support, and opportunities available. It is an important space to hear themes and share good practice from across the health and care sector workforce. The network meets quarterly and sends a monthly e-bulletin, and website links with a great range of resources.

The HR Network covers workforce, culture, inclusion, and organisational development matters. This is to aid service performance of Forum Central's members and in turn enhance the service experiences of Leeds residents from the third sector across health, care, and well-being, now and into the future.

In kind support has now been allocated via Health and Care Academy to support this important piece of work, which is great progress for the partnership. Emma Holford is working on this 0.5 days a week as project manager and is currently recruiting a project officer. They will be sending bulletins to share key updates and information via CiviCRM (Forum Central's membership database).

Continued engagement in the citywide workforce programme through the One Workforce Strategic Board and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy in Leeds has seen an increased recognition of the value of the VCSE workforce within Health and Social Care. The ambition of Leeds' One Workforce Strategic Board is to 'be the best place to learn and work whatever your age'. It is also about working together, creating opportunities for skills and jobs, and engaging and recruiting those within disadvantaged communities, and the potential implications of this for third sector organisations as well as individual workers, volunteers and Board members is significant. The challenges of reducing contract and grant funding, rising costs and workforce recruitment mean the need for collective action across system partners to act fairly and begin to reduce workforce inequity has never been greater.

Health Inequalities

Our work to address health inequalities has included involvement in the Tackling Health Inequalities Group, promoting the Toolkit we co-developed, and finding ways to strengthen connections and bridge the gap between senior decision makers and people who experience the greatest health inequalities and the organisations that provide support. We established our third sector Inclusion Working Group in response to the Black Lives Matter movement, with a focus on exploring how we can take meaningful action to collectively amplify the voices of our members from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Communities. Our understanding of the needs of people in communities through our engagement with the People's Voices Group and the further development of the Communities of Interest Network has enabled us to better amplify their voices and create opportunities for influencing decision makers, including through the Allyship Programme we developed with the Health and Wellbeing Board, and representation on the Population Health and Care Delivery Board.

MindWell

MindWell, the 'go-to' mental health website for people in Leeds, is delivered by Volition-Leeds, in partnership with Thrive by Design. MindWell provides signposting to local services and support, information about common mental health issues, and accessible resources for wellbeing and self-help. It is a vital tool used by primary healthcare, social, and VCSE sector professionals who require easy access to free online mental health resources. The MindWell team actively participate in important city events, manage printed materials, and deliver specialised training to those in signposting roles.

Since 2016 MindWell has welcomed over half a million visitors, expanded this unique directory of services in Leeds, West Yorkshire and nationwide, which now has over 550 entries, and developed an extensive library of over 200 self-help resources. The website itself has grown to over 450 pages filled with inclusive and reliable content that makes mental health support and self-help guidance readily available to the people of Leeds, their caregivers, and professionals alike.

MindWell has established strong partnerships with statutory and third-sector organisations, including the Voluntary Community Social Enterprise and Faith sector; wellbeing teams; local universities; GPs and primary care, social prescribers, Public Health, crisis services and community spaces. These collaborations enable us to continuously improve the technical, strategic, and functional aspects of MindWell. We aim to ensure that the website remains an invaluable asset for the city, adapting and evolving to address local needs while keeping up with digital advancements happening elsewhere.

A digital resource for difficult times - during the Covid-19 pandemic, MindWell played a crucial role in Leeds by providing isolated individuals and communities with essential information in a simple and accessible format. With the current economic and acute system pressures and the growing demand for mental health services in Leeds, having a free local resource like MindWell is more important than ever.

We recognise that a digital-only approach is not sufficient in isolation. That's why, in addition to our digital resources and printed materials, we aim to work with those already delivering support to complement existing services, ensuring that people have options and can access the right support whenever and wherever they need it.

To further bridge the digital divide and reach those who may not have online access, we recently organised creative wellbeing sessions with the assistance of a paid artist. We aim to expand this initiative in the future, with guidance from 100% Digital Leeds.

2022-23 highlights for MindWell included successfully recruiting for two new key roles: Gemma Johnson, Content and Communications Manager (employed by Volition-Leeds) and Zoe Merity, Business Admin Manager (employed by Thrive for Design). We refreshed and produced new website content, added new accessibility tools, created a postcode finder tool, developed a new process for producing the newsletter, and implemented a new project management system to improve our ways of working. We also expanded our outreach and attended numerous events across the city to raise awareness of MindWell and the support we offer to the people of Leeds.

Over the past year, we have also taken steps to improve MindWell's reach and impact by conducting extensive research, testing, and listening work to understand the people who use MindWell. We produced a 'discovery phase' report, including interviews with key stakeholders, a market review, a competitor analysis, and a grey literature review to help us improve the website. We also developed improved web analytics dashboards to gather more insights into how people use MindWell, including different ways people access the website, what information they are looking for, and which site areas are most used.

To ensure our website is accessible, we developed a user research process on the home page to provide valuable guidance on making the website more user-friendly so that people can find what they need quickly. We also held a digital workshop for autistic people to better understand their needs, working closely with the team at Leeds AIM to develop the session.

Finally, we created a digital mapping tool that combines the MindWell Directory of Services with the Digital Exclusion Indices of the regions where those services are available. This tool has helped us understand and gain new knowledge about how digital exclusion could affect people's ability to access digital services like MindWell. We envision working closely with 100% Digital Leeds to develop effective strategies for engaging with digitally excluded people in the coming year.

Partnerships

The continuation of Volition-Leeds' partnership with Leeds Older People's Forum through the Forum Central contract has seen us deliver ongoing specialist support to our members, sustaining the Health and Care Leaders Network and Representatives meetings. Our developing partnership with Voluntary Action Leeds, Healthwatch, Leeds Community Foundation and statutory partners continues to be core to our work and has brought significant benefits of increased influence for people and communities and additional resources to our members and the wider third sector.

Third sector visibility

Developing third sector visibility through the State of the Sector Report with Voluntary Action Leeds and LOOP has been key to supporting the health and care third sector profile across West Yorkshire and developing mechanisms to support our members and communities through the various stages of the Covid pandemic and the current financial crisis.

Team development and recruitment

The development and recruitment of a skilled and dedicated team (outlined in the diagram on page 6) has seen workers recruited to deliver key new roles: a Communities of Interest Network development worker, a Trauma-informed development worker and a Development Team Manager. We also took over the responsibility for the post of Comms Manager for Forum Central, which was previously hosted by Leeds Older People's Forum and recruited a Comms and Admin assistant to support this role.

Our **specialism leads** have each supported a huge breadth of strategic and developmental work across the areas of Mental Health, Learning Disabilities, Physical and Sensory Impairment and Local Care Partnerships and we have seen greater diversity of engagement and increasing quality and breadth of contribution from our members resulting in an increase in influence and raised profile of third sector contribution to health and wellbeing.

Leeds For All - International Day of Disabled People 2022

The Leeds for All Marketplace event on Wednesday 30th November 2022 was held at Leeds Museum, under a theme of Hidden Disabilities. It was a successful event with over 30 organisations taking a stall, raising awareness around disabilities and networking with each other, service users and the public who visited the event. Our 2022 report and highlights video illustrate the successes of the marketplace event and grant funded group activities.
Leeds For All Report 2022 (pdf, 5Mb)

Learning Disability including Employment Task Group; Autism

In 2020, the Leeds Autism and Learning Disability Employment Task Group agreed on an initial 5-year action statement and plan, from 2020-2025, with an annual refresh and update. Progress has been made since then, and the needs and priorities of the Task Group have changed slightly. In addition, an agreement has been reached to broaden the scope of the initiative to include a focus on Autism, as well as Learning Disabilities. Accordingly, it was agreed that it was appropriate to re-draft the Strategy and Action plan, rather than refresh it.

The Task Group focuses on providing support and information for autistic people and/or people with a learning disability, but does not require anyone to have a formal diagnosis. We are open to supporting people who self-identify as autistic and/or with any type of learning disability. We note the distinct nature of 'learning disability' and 'learning difficulty'. 'Learning difficulty' is often used to refer to conditions such as dyslexia, dyscalculia, or dyspraxia. Learning disabilities are different in nature to learning difficulties, though we recognise some may identify with the latter term and will use whichever term an individual identifies with. We also recognise that the categories 'learning disability' and 'autism' are themselves vast and contain a broad spectrum of individuals. We wish to recognise the differences between and within these two groups and understand the unique experience of different individuals who identify as learning disabled or autistic. To reflect the distinctions, it has been agreed that the group will be called the Leeds Autism & Learning Disability Employment Task Group.

Mental Health projects

We administered and steered **The 5 Ways of Wellbeing Small Community Grants** scheme with funding provided by Public Health, Leeds City Council. Third sector community organisations applied for one off grants in the region of £5,000 to enable them to demonstrate how they were embedding and evaluating the 5 ways to wellbeing in their work with communities at risk of poor mental health, ensuring inclusivity and ideas for helping produce a local resource and an evaluation/learning event.

Co-production Videos project: Funding of £1,500 per organisation, in addition to production and editing funding, was secured from Health Education England to co-produce six short videos with people with experiences of dealing with issues around mental health that would be used as part of the induction of new members of the Community Mental Health Transformation workforce and to raise awareness amongst the Health and Care workforce. We administered and coordinated the process.

Mental Health First Aid project: MH and Wellbeing hub grant funding. We helped to plan, and administered and coordinated this project. The aim of the funding is to work with each of the five West Yorkshire (WY) places to increase access to MH First Aid training and potentially other related training to support better mental and emotional wellbeing at work for the third sector as an integral part of the WY Integrated Care Partnership workforce.

Other projects and activities:

We represented the sector on a range of different Gold, Silver and Bronze Covid response meetings which continued into the early part of this year, as we worked to ensure the parity of the third sector for testing, vaccination and mutual aid, including coordinating access to Covid vaccinations for frontline health and care third sector staff and volunteers. The access to this provision led in turn to both a fuller contribution to responding to system demands and pressures and a heightened recognition of the third sector workforce.

We administered the allocation of 24 grants to a range of third sector organisations and community groups to enable them to **support Covid prevention and development work** in communities, working in collaboration with Public Health. The grants have enabled organisations and groups to develop innovative approaches to deliver proactive actions in response to the Covid pandemic.

We continued to inform and involve the sector in wider **health system change** including the development of an Integrated Care System at West Yorkshire level and an Integrated Care Partnership for Leeds. This continues to be a significant area of investment and activity and has resulted in the recruitment of a broad network of representatives.

Cost of living

During the year we distributed 41 Household Support Fund grants in partnership with Leeds Older People's Forum with funding from Leeds City Council. These grants were to smaller organisations to provide people with cost-of-living support, specifically fuel and food needs during the Winter of 22/23.

As noted by our Chair in their Report, support for communities through the current cost-of-living crisis has been a major challenge this year with the services proving the many ways in which third sector organisations are vital. The crisis has had a disproportionately greater impact on those communities already suffering the greatest health inequalities and we have highlighted several ways in which we have worked to draw attention to this. This includes our involvement in the Tackling Health Inequalities Group and promoting the Toolkit we co-developed. Forum Central is supporting our members to ensure the third sector survives the current financial pressures by evidencing the challenges facing the third sector workforce, via our Cost of Living member survey, and producing recommendations to support third sector organisations and working with system partners to influence at the highest level.

In addition to this Volition-Leeds staff played a critical role in the development of the Warm Space provision, led by Leeds City Council and Voluntary Action Leeds, providing guidance in strategic development of the work, and support with communications and delivery. On top of this, Volition-Leeds led on the delivery of the Additional Health Support Needs work, providing enhanced support for organisations engaging with people previously referred to as 'shielding'.

Covid-19

Covid-19 continued to impact on our members' activity during the first quarter of 22/23. It did not impact on our core activity income and expenditure but meant significant funding in 2021/2 that came, through us, to our members through the Public Health funded Third Sector Covid Response. The Covid pandemic made Volition's role in working in partnership with key partners including Public Health, Leeds City Council and our local NHS bodies stronger in a number of ways. It saw us supporting and giving voice to the sector and our members' work with communities, many of whose health outcomes were already the poorest. This work is needed more than ever. We continue to see that, despite limited financial resources, our members are maintaining their efforts to ensure that some of the most marginalised people and communities across Leeds continue to receive essential support and provision. The health and care third sector in Leeds provided a lifeline for many people and communities during the pandemic, adapting and digitising services to meet the challenge.

Community Champions

We have continued to work in partnership with Voluntary Action Leeds on many different Covid response areas including volunteering; development and evaluation of the Communities of Interest Network; developing the resilience survey. The Community Champions have developed out of the Covid Champions programme in partnership with Leeds City Council, as the Third Sector Outbreak plan and grant funding developed into broader health and wellbeing conversations but retaining the commitment to developing community volunteering and health messaging through community voices.

Impact and Outcomes

We believe that local solutions, informed by trusted relationships with people and communities, have proved invaluable, which fits with the achievement of the charity's aims and objectives. Evidence of our impact can be seen in the following examples based on our strategic priorities (in bold):

Strong and vibrant third sector - evidenced by identifying and responding to the needs of members through Harnessing Power of Communities funding, and working with our members to survey them on cost of living impacts. Our **work to address health inequalities** has included engagement with partners to help create and disseminate the Health Inequalities Toolkit for Leeds; finding ways to strengthen connections and bridge the gap between senior decision makers and people who experience the greatest health inequalities and the organisations that provide support. It has also included supporting the Third Sector Inclusion working group, originally established in response to the Black Lives Matter movement, with a focus on exploring how we can take meaningful action to collectively amplify the voices of our members from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Communities.

Creating and publishing the State of the Sector Report to highlight challenges faced by the sector has enabled us to quantify and benchmark the sector and its strengths and challenges. It has been raised at the Partnership Executive and Commissioning Executive meetings of the Health and Wellbeing Board which has raised the profile of the third sector. In turn this has helped to secure additional funding e.g. Health Inequalities and Mental Health Transformation grants. The State of the Sector report was also presented alongside the Yorkshire and Humber work so brought greater understanding of the synergies and differences across the West Yorkshire system.

We have worked with Voluntary Action Leeds to highlight the specific digital issues for the sector in a report Community and Third Sector Needs from Digital Transformation paper shared with senior people in the city digital team, key system leaders through the Third Sector Partnership, as well as being shared at WY level, but it has yet to be addressed.

We have worked with our Learning Disability member organisations, the Leeds City Digital team, 100% Digital and Leeds Community Foundation to support members to prevent people and organisations from being left behind as some services are increasingly delivered digitally or rely on information sharing between organisations that is not possible with the current picture of disconnected and unequally distributed resources.

Informed and knowledgeable third sector - through evaluation sessions, events and materials e.g. weekly emails to members amended in response to feedback, regular information about Covid restrictions, access to testing and other key updates, we gather intelligence from the Health and Care membership through representatives, meetings and events which enabled us to help achieve better health outcomes in relation to the values and principles of the Integrated Care System. Information delivered through the Forum Central website, email and social media enabled our members to better respond to the pandemic. We completed a short-term project on Third Sector Visibility in summer 2022 through a shared directory database and capacity building with front line organisations. This focused on maintaining the one information source principle of the former LOOP partnership across existing and new partner organisations.

Actively contribute to and influence policy and strategy - we support representation on around 100 different boards and strategic groups bringing a sector perspective as well as keeping others in the sector engaged and well informed. The key evidence of the impact of our contribution in this area is feedback from system partners including the Leeds Office of the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board or ICB Leeds which cites the vibrant and engaged third sector among the system's key assets.
We are also an active partner in the Leeds Health and Care Hub work with the Cabinet Office. Launched in July 2022, the Leeds Health and Social Care Hub represents a new and dynamic way for Central Government, Local Government, the NHS and the Voluntary and Community Sector to work together to improve health outcomes.

Financial review

Review of financial activity

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011. The company has adopted FRS102 and complies with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (issued in December 2019).

The net income for the year was £102,277 including net expenditure of £14,579 on unrestricted funds and net income of £116,856 on restricted funds.

The company's total funds amounted to £1,145,682 at 31st March 2023 (2022: £1,043,405), an increase of £102,277. This is largely attributable to the increase in debtors, which increased by £131,900 to £370,494 at 31st March 2023 (2022: £238,594) offset by a smaller decrease in our cash balances. The increase in debtors is mainly because of timing differences. Several restricted funds span one or more financial years due to their nature. In some cases, the grant funding was awarded, and we had unconditional entitlement to the funding, in 2022/23 and so this was recorded as income and a debtor in our accounts but the actual funding was received after the year end. For example, the West Yorkshire Power of Communities funding of £310k was awarded in March 2023 and funding received in April 2023, and is for various projects, including direct grants, over an 18 month period.

We are also carrying funds in the form of cash balances, which have decreased slightly by £33,661 to £800,592 at 31st March 2023 (2022: £834,253). Again, the amount of cash carried is mainly a result of timing differences and the fact that several restricted funds span more than one year. Some of the major funds carried forward include:

- Leeds City Council Covid 19 Outbreak Plan and Community Champions funding - £107k has been carried forward to be spent on the Community Champions programme in 23/24, in accordance with the funding agreement and wishes of the funder.
- Mental Health Transformation funding for grants programmes and projects - £223k.
- MindWell - £43k has been carried forward for development projects in 23/24 and to support operational and cashflow needs for MindWell.
- Trauma - £71k has been carried forward to fund this project until July 2024.
- A number of smaller restricted funds have also been carried forward as set out in the Notes to these Accounts. All balances that have been carried forward are in accordance with the funding agreements.

A balance of £216,011 (2022: 230,590) is held in unrestricted funds. Details as to our reserves policy are found in the section below. The increase in restricted grant funding received during this year and last, and the associated growth of services offered, has meant that Volition has had to review its infrastructure and support costs to enable the company to deliver the increase in services smoothly and efficiently.

Last year, we noted that the Trustees had identified a further need for the use of reserves to continue the programme of development of the infrastructure in 2022/23. To enable Volition-Leeds to utilise more of its reserves to support the staffing structure it was considered by the Trustees in 2022 that it would be reasonable and with an acceptably low level of risk to reduce the lower band level for reserves from 6 months to 3 months of expenditure (see Reserves Policy note below). We were therefore able to recruit a number of new posts in 2022/23 to support the growing team's work including recruiting a Finance and Governance Manager, Staff Development Team Manager and Comms / Admin Assistant.

Reserves policy

The charity takes a risk based approach in setting the level of reserves. A minimum level (lower band) and maximum level (upper band) of reserves is set and reserves are maintained between the lower and upper band limits. This ensures that the charity holds enough reserves for an orderly winding up if faced with unexpected closure, whilst also ensuring the charity does not maintain unnecessary high surplus reserves.

The lower band level is set with reference to funds needed in order to conduct an orderly winding up of the charity in the face of unexpected closure. The number of months expenditure which is held for these purposes was reviewed during the last financial year and reduced from 6 months to 3 months of operating costs plus redundancy and other known committed expenditure and equated to £188,400 at the time of annual review.

The upper level includes an allowance for any additional items - specifically £20,000 contingency for unexpected cash flow considerations, £15,000 in relation to specific additional expenditure and £63,200 to be spent on salaries to support the infrastructure and operation of the charity for the 12 month period to 31st March 2024. The upper band level has therefore been set at £286,600.

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at 31st March 2023 were £206,784, and therefore were above our minimum banding levels. Our current forecast to 31 March 2024 anticipates year end reserves will fall below the upper level of reserves defined in our policy.

Plans for the Future

Volition-Leeds has a strategic plan for the organisation, which is reviewed and updated annually - see page 3 for an Overview of our Strategic Objectives.

In terms of the Forum Central contract, the focus is on working with our infrastructure partner, Leeds Older People's Forum, to deliver a highly effective and recognised Forum Central service so that collectively we can be an effective voice for the health and care third sector in Leeds. Quarterly monitoring forms are submitted to our joint health and local authority funders who continue to give positive feedback about our performance. Feedback from our members and evaluation of the support we provide to both our members and partners is also positive with an overall increased demand on all areas of our work.

We are increasingly developing work that complements and extends beyond the Forum Central contract, which we have referred to as Added-Value Projects Achievements - either directly funded by other partners, additional funds from existing funders or done over/above our core work. This includes work and developments such as:

1) Continuing to inform and support members on the development of the financially challenged West Yorkshire and Leeds Integrated Care Board
2) MindWell's next phase of development, which will include focusing on Quality and Compliance. This includes the creation of a new content management strategy, an advisory board for key decision making and the introduction of new auditing and monitoring tools and processes.
3) Community Mental Health Transformation work - continue to embed VCSE learning, establish hubs and second round of grants.
4) Partnership with Third Sector on Power of Communities
5) Develop the workforce stream with Leeds One workforce and building on Forum Central's HR Network
6) Evaluation of the Community Champions delivered with Voluntary Action Leeds & Leeds City Council to establish future potential for development and funding beyond 2024
7) Team wellbeing and financial stability in the uncertain landscape

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Volition-Leeds for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

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

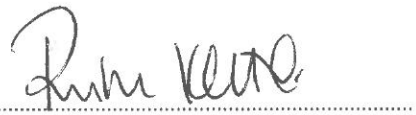
In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

AUDITORS

The auditors, Thomas Coombs Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 16th November 2023 and signed on the board's behalf by:



R A Kettle

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF VOLITION-LEEDS

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

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

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements
We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

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 management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the sector.
- We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts of the operations of the Charity, including the Charities Act 2011.
- We assessed the extent of compliance with laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence.
- 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.
- Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:
- Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships.
- Identified and tested journal entries and identified any significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business.
- Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.
- Challenged assumptions and judgements made by management in determining significant accounting estimates.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed audit procedures which included, but were not limited to:
- Agreeing financial statements disclosures to underlying supporting documentation.
- Discussions with management of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators including the Charities Commission and the Charity's legal advisors.

At the completion stage of the audit, the engagement partner's review included ensuring that the team had approached their work with appropriate professional scepticism and thus the capacity to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance of laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement relating to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment.

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

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF VOLITION-LEEDS

Use of our report

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

C. Darwin

Christopher Darwin (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Thomas Coombs Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
3365 The Pentagon
Century Way
Thorpe Park
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 8ZB

Date: 16th November 2023

VOLITION-LEEDS

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

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	*2022 Total funds £*
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Charitable activities	3				
Core charitable activities		**273,600**	**606,221**	**879,821**	*785,421*
Grant making		**-**	**397,233**	**397,233**	*263,390*
Other trading activities	2	**29,098**	**415**	**29,513**	*21,560*
Total		**302,698**	**1,003,869**	**1,306,567**	*1,070,371*
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Core charitable activities		**314,777**	**558,430**	**873,207**	*693,695*
Grant making		**2,500**	**328,583**	**331,083**	*110,427*
Total		**317,277**	**887,013**	**1,204,290**	*804,122*
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		**(14,579)**	**116,856**	**102,277**	*266,249*
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		**230,590**	**812,815**	**1,043,405**	*777,156*
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**216,011**	**929,671**	**1,145,682**	*1,043,405*

The notes form part of these financial statements

VOLITION-LEEDS

BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	*2022 Total funds £*
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	**9,227**	-	**9,227**	*6,114*
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	**30,673**	**339,821**	**370,494**	*238,594*
Cash at bank		**210,742**	**589,850**	**800,592**	*834,253*
		241,415	**929,671**	**1,171,086**	*1,072,847*
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	**(34,631)**	-	**(34,631)**	*(35,556)*
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**206,784**	**929,671**	**1,136,455**	*1,037,291*
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**216,011**	**929,671**	**1,145,682**	*1,043,405*
NET ASSETS		**216,011**	**929,671**	**1,145,682**	*1,043,405*
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				**216,011**	230,590
Restricted funds				**929,671**	812,815
TOTAL FUNDS				**1,145,682**	1,043,405

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 16th November 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Carol Hill

C A Hill - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

VOLITION-LEEDS

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	**(27,078)**	*52,044*
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		**(27,078)**	*52,044*
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		**(6,583)**	*(4,865)*
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		**(6,583)**	*(4,865)*
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		**(33,661)**	*47,179*
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	2	**834,253**	*787,074*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	2	**800,592**	*834,253*

The notes form part of these financial statements

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

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

	2023	*2022*
	£	*£*
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	**102,277**	*266,249*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**3,470**	*4,363*
Increase in debtors	**(131,900)**	*(184,513)*
Decrease in creditors	**(925)**	*(34,055)*
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	**(27,078)**	*52,044*

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/22	Cash flow	**At 31/3/23**
	£	£	**£**
Net cash			
Cash at bank	**834,253**	**(33,661)**	**800,592**
	834,253	**(33,661)**	**800,592**
Total	**834,253**	**(33,661)**	**800,592**

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

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

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

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

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets
Tangible fixed assets other than freehold land are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its useful life, as follows:

Computer equipment	20%	Straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	33%	Straight line

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

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pensions
The charity operates a defined pension contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are recognised in the year they are payable.

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Debtors and creditors receivable/ payable within one year
Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Leases
Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the SOFA on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other trading activities	29,513	21,560

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Core Charitable Activities	2023 Unrestricted Funds	2023 Restricted Funds	2023 Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Grants	4,420	606,221	610,641	483,126
Contracts	269,180	-	269,180	302,295
	273,600	606,221	879,821	785,421

Grant making activities	2023 Unrestricted Funds	2023 Restricted Funds	2023 Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Grants	-	397,233	397,233	263,390
	-	397,233	397,233	263,390

continued...

3. INCOME FROM CHARITIABLE ACTIVITIES - continued

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

Core Charitable Activities	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Mindwell	-	**103,463**	**103,463**	100,274
Mental Health Collaborative	-	**25,962**	**25,962**	25,364
CYP Ethnic Minorities Post	-	**1,000**	**1,000**	24,168
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	-	**75,000**	**75,000**	82,250
Demo Project	-	**2,500**	**2,500**	-
LCF – Covid 19 Strategic Infrastructure	-	-	-	55,000
Communities of Interest Network	-	**20,431**	**20,431**	-
FC Business Case	-	**120,195**	**120,195**	-
Winter Pressures	-	**35,000**	**35,000**	-
Leeds For All	-	-	-	1,860
Community Champions	-	**45,099**	**45,099**	25,118
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	-	**177,571**	**177,571**	50,000
Trauma	-	-	-	100,000
Emerge	-	-	-	18,822
Other	**4,420**	-	**4,420**	-
	4,420	**606,221**	**610,641**	483,126

Grant making activities	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total Funds £
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	-	**166,000**	**166,000**	13,390
Mental Health Group Work	-	-	-	25,000
5 Ways to Wellbeing	-	-	-	25,000
CMHT – Third Sector Role Development	-	-	-	60,000
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	-	**2,098**	**2,098**	140,000
Community Champions	-	**80,000**	**80,000**	-
Household Support Fund	-	**148,310**	**148,310**	-
Warm Spaces Fund	-	**825**	**825**	-
	-	**397,233**	**397,233**	263,390

continued...

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 5)	Grant funding of activities (see note 6)	Support costs (see note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Core charitable activities	**866,959**	**1,750**	**4,498**	**873,207**
Grant making	**28,951**	**302,132**	**-**	**331,083**
	895,910	**303,882**	**4,498**	**1,204,290**

5. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Core charitable activities

	2023 Unrestricted funds	2023 Restricted funds	2023 Total funds	2022 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	**304,117**	**264,918**	**569,035**	410,514
Rent, rates and utilities	**25,431**	**12,046**	**37,477**	29,394
Insurance	**2,544**	**-**	**2,544**	2,471
Telephone	**2,007**	**629**	**2,636**	1,380
Equipment and materials	**6,977**	**580**	**7,557**	1,871
Room hire and events	**1,779**	**5,549**	**7,328**	1,577
Travel	**641**	**529**	**1,170**	274
Office and admin costs	**9,979**	**11,098**	**21,077**	17,854
Management and administration recharges	**(121,103)**	**121,103**	**-**	(4,275)
Training	**6,530**	**852**	**7,382**	5,417
Refreshments	**1,788**	**37**	**1,825**	899
Other expenses	**2,574**	**(8)**	**2,566**	1,391
Freelance workers and consultants	**13,429**	**90,159**	**103,588**	89,788
IT Costs	**14,096**	**1,618**	**15,714**	21,766
Partner payments	**39,678**	**-**	**39,678**	69,482
Direct project delivery costs	**(3,096)**	**47,008**	**43,912**	26,201
Depreciation	**2,658**	**812**	**3,470**	4,002
	310,029	**556,930**	**866,959**	680,044

continued...

5. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - continued

Grant making activities

	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Staff costs	**2,500**	**26,036**	**28,536**	26,859
Rent, rates and utilities	-	-	-	1,795
Telephone	-	-	-	75
Equipment and materials	-	-	-	-
Room hire	-	**415**	**415**	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Office and admin costs	-	-	-	2,020
Management reharges	-	-	-	4,275
Other expenses	-	-	-	20
Freelance workers and consultants	-	-	-	11,610
Direct project delivery costs	-	-	-	50
Depreciation	-	-	-	361
	2,500	**26,451**	**28,951**	47,065

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2023 £	*2022 £*
Core charitable activities	**1,750**	*9,741*
Grant making	**302,132**	*63,362*
	303,882	*73,103*

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	2023 £	*2022 £*
Covid 19 Messaging	-	*24,078*
Wellness Engagement Advocacy Service	-	*8,491*
Men's Health Unlocked	-	*13,000*
5 Ways to Wellbeing	**19,561**	-
Community Champions	**80,000**	-
CMHT	**31,500**	-
Household Support Fund	**148,310**	-
Mental Health First Aid	**20,562**	-
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**1,500**	*1,250*
Harnessing the Power of Communities Grant Programme	**2,199**	*26,284*
Leeds Disabled People's Organisation	**250**	-
	303,882	*73,103*

continued...

6. GRANTS PAYABLE - continued

-Harnessing the Power of Communities Grant Programme	The grants made to these organisations were to meet the Leeds System Health Care Priorities
-5 Ways to Wellbeing	The grants made to these organisations were to develop tools to engage people and communities at risk of poor mental health.
-Community Champions	The grants paid out to these organisations were to support engagement with local communities to help connect people with key Covid-19 and wider health messages.
-CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	This grant was paid out to fund peer support worker roles hosted by third party organisations for Mental Health Transformation.
-Household Support Fund	These grants were paid out to organisations to support communities of interest to ensure people of fuel and food in winter.
-Mental Health First Aid	These grants were paid out to organisations to increase access to Mental Health First Aid and related training across West Yorkshire.
-CYP Ethnic Inequalities	The grant made was for support offered by Young Lives Leeds and the Culturally Diverse Hub to the Children and Young Persons Ethnic Inequalities Mental Health Project.
Leeds Disabled People's Organisation	This grant was made to Leeds Disabled People's Organisation for Disabled Voices Project 2023.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Core charitable activities	**4,498**

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023 Core charitable activities	*2022* Total activities
	£	*£*
Auditors' remuneration	**4,498**	***3,950***

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2023	*2022*
	£	*£*
Auditors' remuneration	**4,498**	*3,950*
Depreciation - owned assets	**3,470**	*4,362*
Rent	**30,953**	*31,189*

continued...

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

Expenses reimbursed to trustees in the year totalled £42 (2022: £Nil). The expenses were reimbursed to 1 of the trustees for travel expenses.

10. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	526,256	388,554
Social security costs	44,058	30,052
Other pension costs	27,257	18,766
	597,571	437,372

The charity considers its key management personnel (in addition to the Board of Trustees) to be the director and operations manager. The total remuneration (including employer pension contributions) of the key management personnel was £102,444 (2022:£95,172).

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

	2023	2022
Staff	22	16

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

The average full time equivalent for the average number of employees is 16 (2022:12).

continued...

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Charitable activities			
Core charitable activities	360,028	425,393	785,421
Grant making	-	263,390	263,390
Other trading activities	18,875	2,685	21,560
Total	378,903	691,468	1,070,371
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Core charitable activities	400,651	293,044	693,695
Grant making	-	110,427	110,427
Total	400,651	403,471	804,122
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(21,748)	287,997	266,249
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	252,338	524,818	777,156
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	230,590	812,815	1,043,405

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023	**3,109**	**21,011**	**24,120**
Additions	-	**6,583**	**6,583**
	3,109	**27,594**	**30,703**
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023	**3,109**	**14,897**	**18,006**
Charge for year	-	**3,470**	**3,470**
	3,109	**18,367**	**21,476**
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st March 2023	-	**9,227**	**9,227**
At 31st March 2022	-	*6,114*	*6,114*

continued...

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Debtors in the ordinary course of activities	349,960	207,649
Prepayments and accrued income	20,534	30,945
	370,494	238,594

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Creditors in the ordinary course of activities	4,500	16,692
Social security and other taxes	-	57
VAT	10,278	9,672
Accruals and deferred income	19,853	9,135
	34,631	35,556

15. LEASING AGREEMENTS

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Within one year	27,222	2,998
Between one and five years	-	796
	27,222	3,794

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**230,590**	**(14,579)**	**216,011**
Restricted funds			
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	**94,394**	**259,801**	**354,195**
Mindwell & Mindwell 2	**48,429**	**(5,263)**	**43,166**
LCC Partnership Board	**703**	**-**	**703**
Tenfold Fund	**27,931**	**(4,439)**	**23,492**
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	**92,067**	**(9,047)**	**83,020**
Mental Health Collaborative	**23,370**	**1,089**	**24,459**
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**55,575**	**(40,638)**	**14,937**
Leeds For All (IDPD)	**1,032**	**(862)**	**170**
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	**39,302**	**61,651**	**100,953**
Community Mental Health Transformation staffing	**64,756**	**(56,926)**	**7,830**
Mental Health First Aid	**120,000**	**(32,301)**	**87,699**
5 Ways To Wellbeing	**25,000**	**(23,725)**	**1,275**
Community Champions	**26,028**	**(1,497)**	**24,531**
Emerge	**14,622**	**(12,400)**	**2,222**
Trauma	**99,606**	**(28,357)**	**71,249**
Videos	**20,000**	**(14,851)**	**5,149**
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	**60,000**	**(33,000)**	**27,000**
FC Business case 22/23	**-**	**23,371**	**23,371**
DEMO project	**-**	**478**	**478**
Communities of Interest Network	**-**	**7,307**	**7,307**
Winter Pressures	**-**	**25,715**	**25,715**
Warm spaces fund	**-**	**750**	**750**
	812,815	**116,856**	**929,671**
TOTAL FUNDS	**1,043,405**	**102,277**	**1,145,682**

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	302,698	(317,277)	(14,579)
Restricted funds			
HPoC and WY Power of Communities	328,571	(68,770)	259,801
Mindwell & Mindwell 2	103,588	(108,851)	(5,263)
Tenfold Fund	-	(4,439)	(4,439)
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	-	(9,047)	(9,047)
Mental Health Collaborative	25,962	(24,873)	1,089
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	1,290	(41,928)	(40,638)
Leeds For All (IDPD)	-	(862)	(862)
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	92,098	(30,447)	61,651
Community Mental Health Transformation staffing	-	(56,926)	(56,926)
Mental Health First Aid	-	(32,301)	(32,301)
5 Ways To Wellbeing	-	(23,725)	(23,725)
Community Champions	125,099	(126,596)	(1,497)
Emerge	-	(12,400)	(12,400)
Trauma		(28,357)	(28,357)
Videos		(14,851)	(14,851)
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	-	(33,000)	(33,000)
Household support fund	148,310	(148,310)	-
FC Business case 22/23	120,195	(96,824)	23,371
DEMO project	2,500	(2,022)	478
Communities of Interest Network	20,431	(13,124)	7,307
Winter Pressures	35,000	(9,285)	25,715
Warm spaces fund	825	(75)	750
	1,003,869	(887,013)	116,856
TOTAL FUNDS	1,306,567	(1,204,290)	102,277

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	252,338	(21,748)	-	230,590
Restricted funds				
HPoC	157,357	(62,963)	-	94,394
Mindwell	10,022	22,136	-	32,158
LCC Partnership Board	703	-	-	703
Tenfold Fund	29,631	(1,700)	-	27,931
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	201,686	(79,619)	(30,000)	92,067
Mental Health Collaborative	19,518	3,851	-	23,369
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	59,780	(4,205)	-	55,575
Leeds For All	1,012	20	-	1,032
LOOP	13,109	(13,109)	-	-
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	12,000	212,058	-	224,058
Mindwell 2	20,000	(3,728)	-	16,272
5 Ways To Wellbeing	-	25,000	-	25,000
Community Champions	-	(3,972)	30,000	26,028
Emerge	-	14,622	-	14,622
Trauma	-	99,606	-	99,606
Videos	-	20,000	-	20,000
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	-	60,000	-	60,000
	524,818	287,997	-	812,815
TOTAL FUNDS	777,156	266,249	-	1,043,405

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	378,903	(400,651)	(21,748)
Restricted funds			
HPoC	63,390	(126,353)	(62,963)
Mindwell	100,508	(78,372)	22,136
Tenfold Fund	-	(1,700)	(1,700)
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	1	(79,620)	(79,619)
Mental Health Collaborative	27,813	(23,962)	3,851
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	24,169	(28,374)	(4,205)
Leeds For All	1,860	(1,840)	20
LOOP	-	(13,109)	(13,109)
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	224,788	(12,730)	212,058
Mindwell 2	1	(3,729)	(3,728)
5 Ways To Wellbeing	25,000	-	25,000
Community Champions	25,116	(29,088)	(3,972)
Emerge	18,822	(4,200)	14,622
Trauma	100,000	(394)	99,606
Videos	20,000	-	20,000
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	60,000	-	60,000
	691,468	(403,471)	287,997
TOTAL FUNDS	1,070,371	(804,122)	266,249

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

HPoC	-Funding from Leeds CCG towards the costs of the Harnessing the Power of Communities Project.
Mindwell	-Funding from ICB (Leeds) for the Mindwell project.
Tenfold	-Funds transferred from Tenfold ring-fenced towards improving the health and wellbeing of people with a learning difficulty/autism.
Building Capacity in 3rd Sector	-Funding from Public Health (LCC) to distribute as grants to smaller organisations across Leeds to get the covid 19 messaging out through local trusted organisations.
Mental Health Collaborative	-Funding given to work with partners to improve lives, support inclusion as part of Leeds' Mental Health Strategy model for change.
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	-Funding given to fund a two year post to address mental health inequalities (Black and Minority Ethnic Communities) across Leeds.
Leeds for All (IDDP)	- Funding from LCC to run the International Day of Disabled People across Leeds through engagement with Leeds partners.
LOOP	-One year funding to support the Leeds Open Online Platform Initiative.
Mental Health Group Work	-Funding to support VCSE organisations in their contribution to work focused around mental health and wellbeing for WY and Harrogate integrated Care system.
Mindwell 2	-Winter Pressures Funding from LCC and CCG for the Mindwell project.
NHS Transformation Project	-Funding was to enable work to be carried out to understand and identify the potential capability and infrastructure to strengthen collaborative working within the health and care third sector organisations in Leeds.
Strategic Infrastructure Grant	-Funding from LCC to support Volition to respond to the challenges of Covid, both in terms of supporting members and internal organisation.
5 Ways to Wellbeing	Funding from Public Health, Leeds City Council for the 5 Ways to Wellbeing Small Community Grants scheme with a focus on the developing 5 ways to Wellbeing tools to engage people and communities at risk of poor mental health, includes the Grant pot and administration fee.
Community Champions	Funding from Leeds City Council to support the Community Champions project and to provide further capacity to support engagement with local communities to help connect people with key Covid-19 and wider health messages and the support available in the city.
Emerge	Project funded by Leeds and York Partnership Foundation NHS Trust to scope out availability of third sector community level support in Leeds for young people aged 18-25 with complex mental health needs, create partnerships and identify gaps in service provision.
Trauma Informed	Project to develop city-wide capacity and initiatives that focus on developing, strengthening and implementing Trauma Informed care and support for Children and Young People in Leeds.

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Videos	Funding from Health Education England for the co-production of videos of people's experience of dealing with issues around mental health.
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	As part of the Community Mental Health Transformation programme, funding for Peer Support and Involvement Worker roles hosted by third sector organisations, and for Volition to manage the third sector host organisation selection process.
COIN	Core20PLUS5 Health Inequalities funding via Healthwatch Leeds to fund a Development Worker for the Communities of Interest Network.
DEMO	Collaborative project led by University of Leeds to understand barriers and enablers of engagement for people with musculoskeletal (MSK) conditions from 'under-served' communities.
Forum Central Business Case 22/23	Funding from the ICB (Leeds) to enable Volition on behalf of Forum Central to continue to support third sector organisations so that the third sector can maximise the added value within the Integrated Care System (ICS).
Household Support Fund	Funding from Leeds City Council via Leeds Older People's Forum to distribute to organisations who support communities of interest to ensure people have fuel and food in Winter 22/23.
MH Transformation Grants	Funding from the ICB (Leeds) to support the community mental health transformation grants scheme in collaboration with Leeds Community Foundation.
Warm Spaces	Funding from Voluntary Action Leeds for grants to Warm Spaces providers to enable them to support people with additional health needs.
WY Power of Communities	One-off funding from the Integrated Care Board (ICB) (West Yorkshire) to support Power of Communities projects including a grant-making programme and infrastructure support.
Winter at Risk	'Winter at Risk - Reach and Equity' funding from Leeds City Council for outreach support for communities experiencing health inequalities.
Mental Health First Aid	Grants were paid out to organisations to increase access to Mental Health First Aid and related training across West Yorkshire.

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

Trustees are required to declare all relevant interest which they are connected and in accordance with the Charity's policy withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises. Some trustees use their experience in areas affecting Volition-Leeds, but no trustee has any significant personal financial interest in transactions with the Charity during the year.

18. CAPITAL

Volition-Leeds is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The members have agreed to contribute £1 each to the Charity's assets in the event of it winding up, if it assets should prove insufficient to cover its liabilities.

19. TAXATION

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities by virtue of section 505 of the income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

VOLITION-LEEDS

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

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Other trading activities		
Other trading activities	**29,513**	*21,560*
Charitable activities		
Grants	**1,007,874**	*746,516*
Contracts	**269,180**	*302,295*
	1,277,054	*1,048,811*
Total incoming resources	**1,306,567**	*1,070,371*
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	**526,256**	*388,554*
Social security	**44,058**	*30,052*
Pensions	**27,257**	*18,766*
Rent, rates and utilities	**37,477**	*31,189*
Insurance	**2,544**	*2,471*
Telephone	**2,636**	*1,456*
Equipment and materials	**7,557**	*1,870*
Room hire and events	**7,743**	*1,578*
Travel	**1,170**	*275*
Office and admin costs	**21,077**	*19,873*
Training	**7,382**	*5,417*
Refreshments	**1,825**	*899*
Other expenses	**2,566**	*1,411*
Freelance workers and consultants	**103,588**	*101,396*
IT Costs	**15,714**	*21,766*
Partner payments	**39,678**	*69,482*
Direct project delivery costs	**43,912**	*26,251*
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**3,470**	*4,363*
Grants to institutions	**303,882**	*73,103*
	1,199,792	*800,172*
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	**4,498**	*3,950*
Total resources expended	**1,204,290**	*804,122*
Net income	**102,277**	*266,249*

VOLITION - LEEDS

England & Wales - Charity number 1092126

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04046674 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1092126

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

FOR

VOLITION-LEEDS

Thomas Coombs Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
3365 The Pentagon
Century Way
Thorpe Park
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 8ZB

VOLITION-LEEDS

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

TRUSTEES	Z A Bawn D J Blythe P C Gleeson C A Hill J A Hill T K Kayani (resigned 9/12/21) H A Kemp - Treasurer R A Kettle - Chair A N K Lowe (resigned 8/7/21) A P Ogilvie (resigned 30/9/21) A J Rawnsley (resigned 9/7/21) O Sutton P Bhupal (appointed 9/12/21) A N Curtis A Hanif (appointed 9/12/21) N Morrisroe (appointed 9/12/21)
REGISTERED OFFICE	Suite C24 Josephs Well Hanover Walk Leeds West Yorkshire LS3 1AB
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER	04046674 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1092126
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS	Thomas Coombs Limited Statutory Auditor Chartered Accountants 3365 The Pentagon Century Way Thorpe Park Leeds West Yorkshire LS15 8ZB
BANKERS	Unity Trust Bank 9 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB

VOLITION-LEEDS

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

I am delighted, on behalf of the Board, to be presenting our Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022. I was appointed as chair in August 2021 taking over the mantle from Andy Rawnsley and Alison Lowe, who have done such a brilliant job of steering the organisation for several years and then through the pandemic.

We had a number of changes at Board level this year and said goodbye and a heartfelt thank you to Andy Rawnsley, Taira Kayani and Alison Lowe who stood down during the year. We welcomed new Trustees, Arfan Hanif, Neil Morrisroe, Pam Bhupal and look forward to seeing the fruits of their contributions in strengthening our dedicated board. I extend my deep gratitude to our Board members who give so freely of their time, to our wonderful staff team and consultants who put so much drive, energy, and passion into our work on behalf of the whole sector.

In 2021/22 we again saw strong progress and some remarkable highlights and achievements despite, and in response to, the ongoing Covid pandemic, which has again impacted throughout this financial year and will continue to for some time yet. Volition continues to learn from and strengthen collaborations with all of our partner organisations and members and is seeking ways we can improve. Our membership now stands at over 250 organisations and we have worked with our city partners to ensure resources flow to the sector, such as the allocation of 139 grants to a range of third sector organisations and community groups to enable them to support Covid prevention work across communities facing the greatest challenge in collaboration with Leeds City Council. The grants have enabled organisations and groups to develop innovative approaches to deliver proactive actions in response to the Covid pandemic.

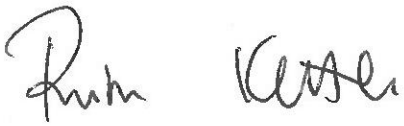
I am particularly pleased that we have been able to ensure that the third sector is playing a crucial role in the emerging Integrated Care System and partnership structures through Local Care Partnerships at neighbourhood, Leeds Place and West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board levels. Through our Forum Central work we have developed the infrastructure to make this happen and ensure the third sector has been proactive in shaping the approach and direction of the partnership through sharing feedback from our members. We are truly achieving our mission of being the collective voice of the health and care third sector.

Mindwell continues to be an invaluable source of trusted local mental health and wellbeing information and included a coronavirus mental health information hub which brings together information about self-help resources for mental health and where people in Leeds can find help for their mental health as well as practical support during the Covid-19 pandemic.

We have developed an increasing focus on addressing health inequalities, the wider determinants of health and wellbeing, as well as continuing to prioritise our work with smaller organisations. We have focussed on developing our understanding of the needs of, and supporting the voice of, people in our communities. Our ongoing engagement with Leeds' People's Voices Partnership and the evaluation and further development of the Communities of Interest Network in response to the pandemic supports this along with our Inclusion Working Group.

I am so proud of our significant achievements this year and look forward to the coming year and beyond, with a high level of confidence. We have a strong platform from which to continue to strengthen the influence and impact of the sector, and continue to support and work alongside our members and other local partners to have a real and lasting impact on the health and well-being of all of our diverse Leeds communities, which after all is our vision: healthier, happier lives for people throughout all our diverse Leeds communities

Ruth Kettle
Chairman of Trustees



Date: 10th November 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRATEGIC REPORT

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Legal and administrative details

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 3 August 2000 with registered company number 04046674 and registered as a charity on 21 May 2002, registration number 1092126. The principal and registered office is Suite C24, Joseph's Well, Hanover Walk, LS3 1AB.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association as amended by special resolutions on 22 January 2018 and 22 August 2019. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Principal Activity

The charity's objects are, for the public benefit, to promote the preservation of mental and physical health, the relief of persons suffering from mental health illness or from physical and sensory impairments and the relief of those with learning disabilities, in Leeds and the surrounding area and to raise public awareness of such needs.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives and in planning activities.

The charity's main activities

Volition-Leeds is an alliance of third sector (i.e. voluntary, community, faith or social enterprise) member organisations which provide mental health, physical health and wellbeing support in Leeds. On 31 June 2022, Volition-Leeds had 239 members and Forum Central (our partnership with Leeds Older People's Forum) had a combined membership of 324.

Volition-Leeds exists to:

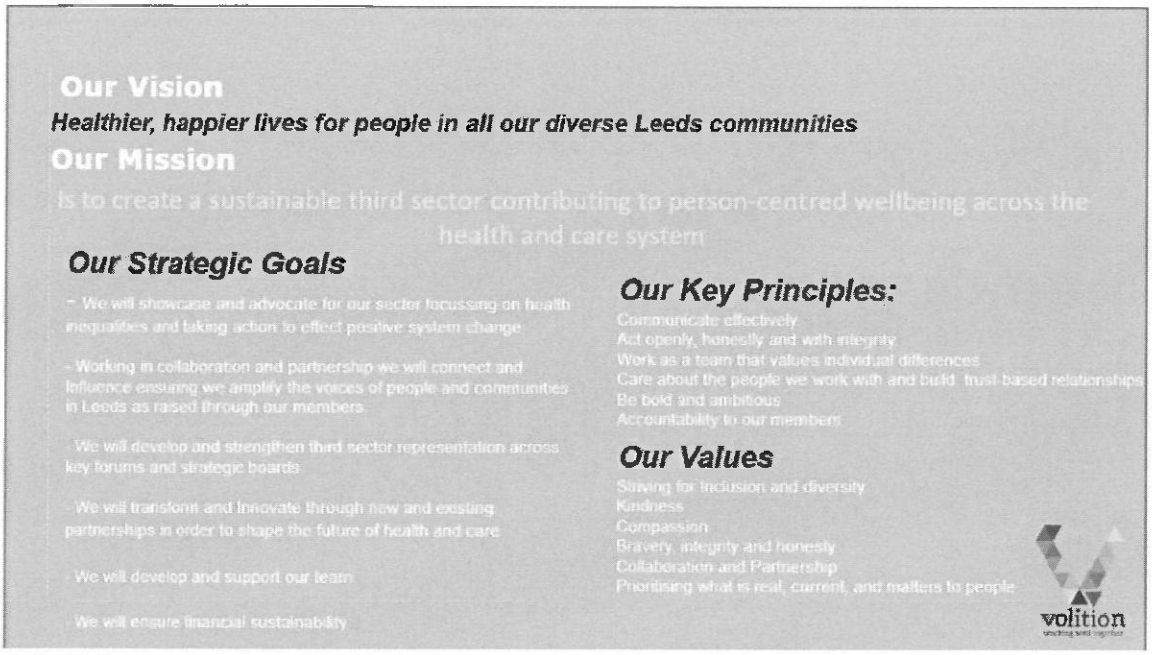
- Promote and support the contribution of the voluntary sector in strategic planning and development across the health and care system.
- Encourage collaboration and partnership between agencies and across sectors.
- Promote and contribute the voluntary sector's person and community centred perspective in aspects of service and practice development.
- Inform and resource third sector organisations to enable them to better meet the mental, physical health and wellbeing, learning disability and physical and sensory impairment needs of people across all our diverse Lead's communities.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the relief of those in need, by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

We have developed strategic aims alongside short-term goals and objectives. We have strengthened our expertise and processes for supporting our smaller members and the wider sector through engagement and representation and also grant making as part of our delivery strategy. This enables us to ensure that a wider number of our member organisations are able to access funds and deliver at ground level.

We held a Board away day to review and develop our strategy for the next three years in September 2021.



Trustee Induction and Training
The Board keeps the skill requirements of the Trustee Body under review. Once appointed, newly elected Trustees undergo an induction programme and any training requirements identified are addressed. The Charity keeps up to date with key developments and training is provided to Trustees as required.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees
The Trustees of the charity are also the Directors for the purposes of company law. Each member organisation can nominate a representative to stand for election but individuals become trustees in their own right. Volition-Leeds members are all invited to nominate representatives to stand for available places at each Annual General Meeting (AGM) at which Trustees are elected. Each year one third of the Trustees – the longest standing – are required to stand down and may stand for re-election. There is a maximum limit of 14 trustees and minimum number of 3 trustees on the Board. In addition, trustees can be co-opted for their particular knowledge or expertise, or if there is a vacancy between AGMs.

New Trustees Pam Bhupal, Neil Morrisroe and Arfan Hanif were appointed at the AGM on December 21 and we have strengthened our partnership working with our local infrastructure partner Voluntary Action Leeds through trustees Adrian Curtis and James Hill.

Our two Co-Chairs Alison Lowe and Andy Rawnsley stepped down at the end of July 2021 and existing trustee Ruth Kettle was unanimously elected as the new chair from 1st August 2021.

Key Management Remuneration

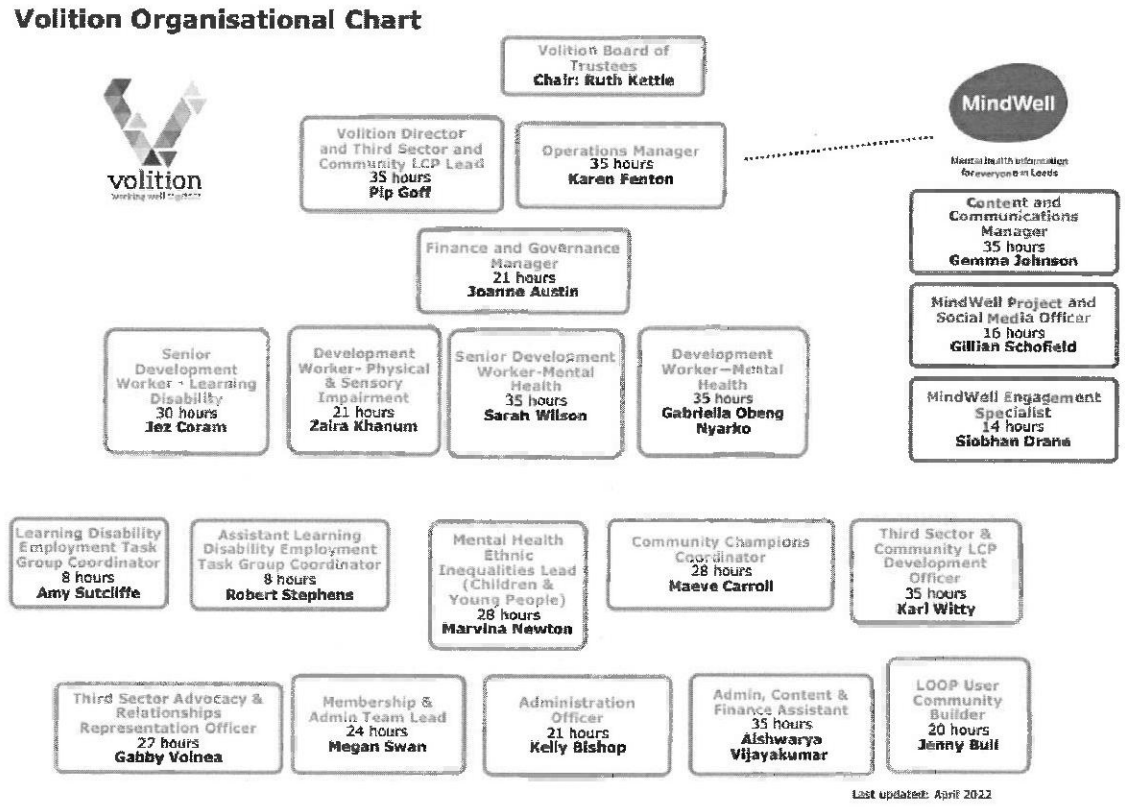
The Charity's finance subcommittee convenes annually as the remuneration committee in order to review salary bandings and scale points of all employees. The charity's pay scales align with the pay scales of the National Joint Council for Local Government Services, and any salary increases are in line with those negotiated by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services. The remuneration committee also ensures benchmarking comparisons using an external benchmarking company with local government experience, to review new or changed job roles against job descriptions and compare with similar roles across the third sector to ensure pay is fair and reflective of the duties carried out by employees.

Organisational Structure
The Trustees currently meet on a monthly basis including the AGM. The Chair is elected at the first meeting following the AGM. The Trustees' meetings cover finance, governance and setting of the strategy for Volition-Leeds alternating between business and policy meetings. The Finance sub-committee was established two years ago to give assurance that the board is fully sighted on the organisation's increasingly complex finances and meets on a quarterly basis. The Volition-Leeds Director, Pip Goff, who is accountable to the Chair of the Trustees, manages the staff team along with Karen Fenton, the Operations Manager.

Risk Factors

Volition-Leeds Trustees recognise the need to undertake a risk assessment. Volition-Leeds is an infrastructure organisation rather than a direct service provider. The risks associated with our work include strategic and reputational risks as well as health and safety issues related to office-based work and also the risk, common across the third sector of loss of funding. Our strategic and reputational risks are mitigated through our monthly board meetings when organisational risks are identified. These are captured in a formal Risk document which is reviewed regularly. The Trustees ensure appropriate liaison with stakeholders, partners, commissioners and potential funders in order to secure sufficient funds to continue the work of the organisation.

Volition Staff Structure Diagram at 31st March 2022



Achievements and performance

In this year we have been able to demonstrate our achievements against the charity's aims and objectives both to our members and funders using a range of indicators, milestones and benchmarks and are seeing the long term effect of the charity's activities on both individual member beneficiaries and at a wider level of the communities we serve and the health and care system in which we operate. We have, for example, seen a steady increase in the range of our partners and the number and diversity of our members; we have strengthened strategic engagement by securing a commitment to further funding for Third Sector Local Partnership work, enabling us to further develop our reach into Local Care Partnerships - the Primary Care level partnership structures - as they are developing. We have responded to the changing NHS structures, building on the former Clinical Commissioning Group's Shaping Our Future work developed in 2020/21. We have continued to develop our support to and engagement with smaller organisations and those reaching the most marginalised communities. Our understanding of the needs of people in communities through our engagement with the People's Voices Group and the further development of the Communities of Interest Network in response to the Covid pandemic has enabled us to better amplify their voices and create opportunities for them to influence decision makers including through the Allyship Programme we developed with the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Population Health and Care delivery board representation.

Key achievements in 2021/22 have included:

MindWell has continued to develop with improvements to the site's navigation and content accessibility, including a prototype 'search by postcode' tool and a range of more inclusive illustrations. The site also became home to a new Community Mental Health Transformation page, which provides strategic information and advice for interested organisations across the city. During the last financial year, MindWell was shortlisted for the Tech4Good award and reached a user milestone—2 million visits since the site's go-live date. There has also been the resumption of face to face engagement events, the recruitment of two new team members and a comprehensive review involving market analysis, a grey literature review and structured interviews—all of which informed the recent 'Discovery Phase Report'.

The continuation of our **partnership with Leeds Older People's Forum** (LOPF) delivering the Forum Central contract has seen us deliver ongoing specialist support to our members, sustaining the Health and Care Leaders Network and Representatives meetings. Our developing collaborations with Voluntary Action Leeds, Healthwatch, Leeds Community Foundation and statutory partners continues to be core to our work and has brought significant benefits of increased influence for people and communities and additional resources to our members and the wider third sector.

Developing Forum Central's profile across West Yorkshire and Harrogate and developing mechanisms to support our members and communities through the various stages of the Covid pandemic.

Team development and recruitment of a skilled and dedicated team (outlined in the diagram above) has seen workers recruited to deliver key new roles: on Children and Young People's Mental Health Inequalities; Learning Disability Employment Task group and a Finance and Governance Manager taking over from Alex Firth who as a self employed Management Accountant worker has done so much to support Volition over many years. We employed a communications specialist to conduct a project on Third Sector Visibility through a shared directory database and capacity building with front line organisations. Finally we appointed a Senior Mental Health Development Worker as a key enabler for the Community Mental Health Transformation Programme supported by the Mental Health Development worker. We were able to create two separate posts due to additional Mental Health funding received.

Our **specialism leads** have each supported a huge breadth of strategic and developmental work across the areas of Mental Health, Learning Disabilities, Physical and Sensory Impairment and Local Care Partnerships and we have seen greater diversity of engagement and increasing quality and breadth of contribution from our members resulting in a raised profile of Third Sector contribution to health and wellbeing.

Development of engagement around **Leeds One Workforce**, the new citywide workforce programme, in line with the One Workforce Strategic Board and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy in Leeds. The ambition of Leeds' One Workforce Strategic Board is to 'be the best place to learn and work whatever your age'. It is also about working together, creating opportunities for skills and jobs, engaging and recruiting those within disadvantaged communities, and the potential implications of this for third sector organisations as well as individual workers, volunteers and Board members is significant, if we can ensure collective action across system partners to act fairly and begin to reduce workforce inequity.

Representing the sector on a range of different Gold, Silver and Bronze Covid response meetings continued through 2021/22. We have worked to ensure the parity of the third sector for testing, vaccination and mutual aid, including coordinating access to Covid vaccinations for frontline health and care third sector staff and volunteers. The access to this provision has led in turn to both a fuller contribution to responding to system demands and pressures and a heightened recognition of the third sector workforce.

Allocation of 139 grants to a range of third sector organisations and community groups to enable them to **support Covid prevention and development work** in communities, working in collaboration with Public Health. The grants have enabled organisations and groups to develop innovative approaches to deliver proactive actions in response to the Covid pandemic.

Preparing to inform and involve the sector in wider **health system change** including the development of an Integrated Care System at West Yorkshire level and an Integrated Care Partnership for Leeds has been a significant area of investment and activity and has resulted in the recruitment of a broad network of representatives.

We commissioned a report written by Nahid Rasool, Shantona for Forum Central, funded through our Harnessing Power of Communities funds as part of our Leeds Place-based Partnership/ Shaping our Future development work. This built on work that was delivered with Leeds Community Foundation, Shantona and BHI to understand the needs of small groups and helps us build the involvement of the Third Sector in the future Leeds system. This is part of our work to ensure that small and micro groups have a voice in the development of these systems if they want to, and addressing barriers that exist.

Our **work to address health inequalities** has included engagement with partners to help create and disseminate the Health Inequalities Toolkit for Leeds; finding ways to strengthen connections and bridge the gap between senior decision makers and people who experience the greatest health inequalities and the organisations that provide support. It has also included creating a third sector inclusivity working group in response to the Black Lives Matter movement, with a focus on exploring how we can take meaningful action to collectively amplify the voices of our members from Black, Asian and minority ethnic (sometimes abbreviated to BAME) communities.

Covid-19

Covid-19 continues to massively impact on our members' activity and the focus of our work. It did not impact on our core activity income and expenditure but it led to significant new funding that came through us to our members through the Public Health funded Third Sector Covid Response. The Covid pandemic has made Volition's role in working in partnership with key partners including Public Health, Leeds City Council and our local NHS bodies stronger in some ways. It has seen us supporting and giving voice to the sector and our members' work with communities, many of whose health outcomes were already the poorest. This work is needed more than ever. We continue to see that, despite limited financial resources, our members are maintaining their efforts to ensure that some of the most marginalised people and communities across Leeds continue to receive essential support and provision. The health and care third sector in Leeds provided a lifeline for many people and communities during the pandemic, adapting and digitising services to meet the challenge.

Impact and Outcomes

We are increasingly seeing that local solutions, informed by trusted relationships with people and communities, have proved invaluable, which fits with the achievement of the charity's aims and objectives. Evidence of our impact can be seen in the following outcome examples:

Strong and vibrant third sector – evidenced by identifying and responding to the needs of members through Harnessing Power of Communities funding, working with VAL to conduct a third resilience survey and creating and publishing the State of the Sector Report to highlight challenges faced by the sector. These findings were raised at the Partnership Executive and Commissioning Executive meetings of the Health and Wellbeing Board as a result of which our Third Sector profile was significantly raised and this in turn has helped to secure additional funding eg Health Inequalities and Mental Health Transformation grants. The State of the Sector report was also presented alongside the West Yorkshire work so brought greater understanding of the synergies and differences across the West Yorkshire system. We have also worked with our Learning Disability member organisations, the Leeds City Digital team, 100% Digital and also Leeds Community Foundation to support members to prevent people and organisations from being left behind as some services are increasingly delivered digitally or rely on information sharing between organisations that is not possible with current picture of disconnected and unequally distributed resources.

Informed and knowledgeable third sector – Evaluation sessions, events and materials e.g. weekly emails to members amended in response to feedback, regular information about Covid restrictions, access to testing and other key updates. We gather intelligence from the Health and Care membership through reps, meetings and events which has enabled us to help achieve better health outcomes in relation to the Leeds 'Left shift' model. Information delivered through the Forum Central website, email and social media has enabled our members to better respond to the pandemic. We are delivering a short term project on Third Sector Visibility through a shared directory database and capacity building with front line organisations and focused on maintaining the one information source principles the former LOOP partnership across existing and new partner organisations.

Actively contribute to and influence policy and strategy – we support representation on around 100 different boards and strategic groups bringing a sector perspective as well as keeping others in the sector engaged and well informed. The key evidence of the impact of our contribution in this area is feedback from system partners including the CCG (now the Leeds Office of the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board or ICB Leeds) which cites the vibrant and engaged third sector among the system's key assets.

Work in Partnership – We have also worked in partnership with Voluntary Action Leeds on many different Covid response areas including volunteering; development and evaluation of the Communities of Interest Network; developing the resilience survey, the Covid Champions programme in partnership too with Leeds City Council, and the Third Sector Outbreak plan and grant funding.

Examples of feedback from our member organisations

'Forum Central has been so supportive of our work, particularly during the Pandemic. It's really helped us keep connected to different communities across the city and enabled us to take part in important events and form partnerships to help improve the way we work and who we work with.' **General Feedback from Ascendance**

"A distanced and well ventilated meeting today of Leeds Green Activity Provider Network @SkeltonGrange some passionate discussion on how we could work together more, a list of actions made. Thanks @MyForumCentral for small funding to facilitate this series of meetings" **TCV Development North**

*"The team at **SLATE** have been so grateful to you all and your advocacy through the pandemic and I hope our messages saying so have reached you, you have been a brilliant light in the gloomier days. Thank you. You really have been a lifeline for us all.*

"MASSIVE THANK YOU ! Hi Folks, I'm at Broad Lea Community Centre ... on the vaccination pop up today but just wanted to say a massive thank [third sector partners] for your leafleting today. Please thank you teams and much appreciated."

Financial Review
Review of financial activity

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011. The company has adopted FRS102 and complies with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (issued in December 2019).

The net income for the year was £266,249 including net expenditure of £21,748 on unrestricted funds and net income of £287,997 on restricted funds.

The company's total funds amounted to £1,043,405 at 31st March 2022 (2021: £777,156), an increase of £266,249. The increase in net assets is largely attributable to the increase in debtors, which increased by £184,513 to £238,594 at 31st March 2022 (2021: £54,081). This is mainly because of timing differences. Several restricted funds span one or more financial years due to their nature. In some cases, the grant funding was awarded, and we had unconditional entitlement to the funding, in 2021/22 and so this was recorded as income and a debtor in our accounts, but the actual funding was received after the year end.

We are also carrying funds in the form of cash balances, which have increased slightly by £47,029 to £834,253 at 31st March 2022 (2021: £787,074). Again, the amount of cash carried is mainly a result of timing differences and the fact that several restricted funds span more than one year. Some of the major funds carried forward include:

- New grant funds that were received within a few months of the year-end, to be mainly spent in subsequent years. For example: Mental Health First Aid (£120k); Community Mental Health Transformation (£27k and £33k); and Trauma (£100k).
- Grant funding received for projects spanning several financial years, such as:
    - LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan - £90k has been carried forward to be spent on a grant making programme in 22/23, in accordance with the funding agreement
    - HPoC - £84k has been carried forward to fund this project to October 2022. It is a three year project that commenced November 2019.
    - CYP Ethnic Inequalities - £55k has been carried forward. This is a two year project that commenced March 2021 - the project will run to March 2023.
    - A number of smaller restricted funds have also been carried forward as set out in the Notes to these Accounts. All balances that have been carried forward are in accordance with the funding agreements.

A balance of £230,590 (2021: £252,338) is held in unrestricted funds. Details as to our reserves policy are found in the section below. The increase in restricted grant funding received during this year and last, and the associated growth of services offered, has meant that Volition has had to review its infrastructure and support costs to enable the company to deliver the increase in services smoothly and efficiently. Last year, it was agreed that it was appropriate to budget for some of the unrestricted reserves to be spent in 2021/22 to support the development of Volition-Leeds's infrastructure. During 2021/22, £22k of our unrestricted reserves was used for this purpose. This compares to a budgeted amount identified by the trustees for 2021/22 of £100k of our unrestricted reserves to be spent on salaries to support the infrastructure and operation of the company, along with a further £38k to fund office relocation and overdue upgrades to website, IT support and HR support. There was an underspend of £62k on salaries compared with the budgeted figure and it was decided to remain in the same office space in the short term.

However, there is a continued need for spending on infrastructure in 2022/23 and this is seen as a key necessity to enable Volition-Leeds to 'future proof' the services it can offer in a structured, efficient and planned manner. Therefore, for 2022/23, the trustees have identified a further need for the use of reserves to continue the programme of development of the infrastructure. To enable Volition-Leeds to utilise more of its reserves to support the staffing structure it was considered by the trustees that it would be reasonable and with an acceptably low level of risk to reduce the lower band level for reserves from 6 months to 3 months of expenditure (see Reserves Policy note below).

Reserves policy
The charity takes a risk based approach in setting the level of reserves. A minimum level (lower band) and maximum level (upper band) of reserves is set and reserves are maintained between the lower and upper band limits. This ensures that the charity holds enough reserves for an orderly winding up if faced with unexpected closure, whilst also ensuring the charity does not maintain unnecessary high surplus reserves.

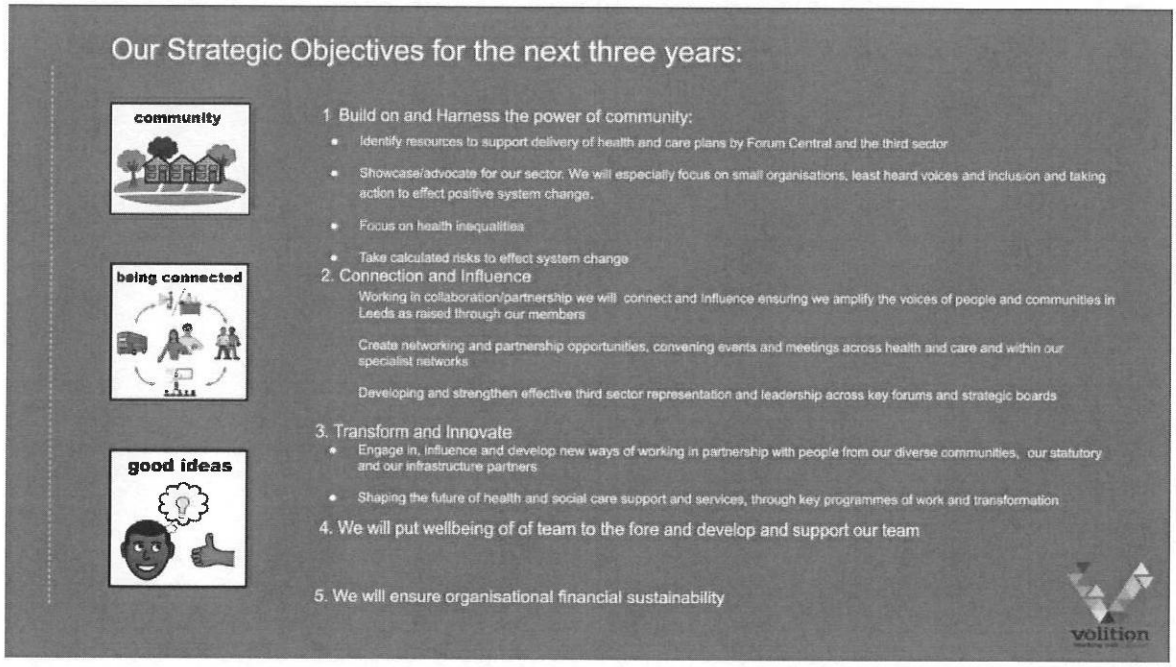
The lower band level is set with reference to funds needed in order to conduct an orderly winding up of the charity in the face of unexpected closure. The number of months expenditure which is held for these purposes was reviewed during the financial year and reduced from 6 months to 3 months of operating costs plus redundancy and other known committed expenditure and equated to £85,915 at the time of review.

The upper level includes an allowance for any additional items - specifically £20,000 contingency for unexpected cash flow considerations, £10,000 in relation to specific additional expenditure and £156,000 to be spent on salaries to support the infrastructure and operation of the charity for the 12 month period to 31st March 2023. The upper band level has therefore been set at £271,915.

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at 31st March 2022 were £224,476, and therefore fell within our banding levels. Our current forecast to 31 March 2023 anticipates year end reserves will fall below the upper level of reserves defined in our policy.

Plans for the Future

Volition-Leeds has a strategic plan for the organisation, which is reviewed and updated annually.



In terms of the Forum Central contract, the focus is on working with our infrastructure partner, Leeds Older People's Forum, to deliver a highly effective and recognised Forum Central service so that collectively we can be an effective voice for the health and care third sector in Leeds. Quarterly monitoring forms are submitted to our joint health and local authority funders who continue to give positive feedback about our performance. Feedback from our members and evaluation of the support we provide to both our members and partners is also positive with an overall increased demand on all areas of our work.

We are increasingly developing work that complements and extends beyond the Forum Central Contract, which we have referred to as Added-Value Projects Achievements - either directly funded by other partners, additional funds from existing funders or done over/above our core work. We are in the process of drawing up a business case to cover these areas, which includes work such as:

- Continuing to inform and support members on the development and formalisation of the new West Yorkshire and Leeds Integrated Care Board arrangements that came into effect on 1st July 2022. Bi-weekly reference meetings set up in January 2022 have been a vital source of up to date information, representation, and assurance for our growing role on population health boards and the Integrated Care Boards and surrounding structures. They are valued by attendees as evidenced through the feedback and that they have been so well attended.
- MindWell's next phase of development will be informed from the recently prepared 'Discovery Phase Report' and subsequent strategic meetings with our project partners, Thrive by Design. From these sessions, which are still underway, we have scoped the following priorities and core activities: deeper research and engagement with our audience; improving the site's accessibility tools and functionality; reducing the cognitive load through the development of a social prescribing tool; maintaining a regular drumbeat of communications and increasing our audience reach; curating and publishing new content and maintaining and improving existing content; developing our long term vision for the site, including brand development and the funding pipeline.
- Community Mental Health Transformation work.
- Partnership with Third Sector on digital, mapping and information sharing which has been developed since the year-end.
- Work with workforce with plans for developing a Forum central HR Network.
- Community Champions delivered with Voluntary Action Leeds * Leeds City Council, strengthening partnerships and relationships.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Volition-Leeds for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

AUDITORS
The auditors, Thomas Coombs Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 10th November 2022 and signed on the board's behalf by:

H A Kemp - Trustee

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF VOLITION-LEEDS

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Volition-Leeds (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:
- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:
- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

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 management, and from our commercial knowledge of the sector.
- We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts of the operations of the Charity, including the Charities Act 2011.
- We assess the extent of compliance with laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence.
- Identified laws and regulations ere 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.
- Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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

- Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships.
- Identified and tested journal entries and identified any significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business.
- Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.
- Challenged assumptions and judgements made by management in determining significant accounting estimates.

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

- Agreeing financial statements disclosures to underlying supporting documentation.
- Discussions with management of know or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations
- Reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators including the Charities Commission and the charity's legal advisors.

At the completion stage of the audit, the engagement partner's review included ensuring the team had approached their work with appropriate professional scepticism and thus the capacity to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance of laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement relating to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment.

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

Use of our report

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

C. Darwin

Christopher Darwin (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Thomas Coombs Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
3365 The Pentagon
Century Way
Thorpe Park
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 8ZB

Date: 10th November 2022

VOLITION-LEEDS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	**2022 Total funds £**	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	3				
Core charitable activities		**360,028**	**425,393**	**785,421**	478,477
Grant making		**-**	**263,390**	**263,390**	851,000
Other trading activities	2	**18,875**	**2,685**	**21,560**	56,574
Total		**378,903**	**691,468**	**1,070,371**	1,386,051
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Core charitable activities		**400,651**	**293,044**	**693,695**	346,599
Grant making		**-**	**110,427**	**110,427**	620,568
Total		**400,651**	**403,471**	**804,122**	967,167
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		**(21,748)**	**287,997**	**266,249**	418,884
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		**252,338**	**524,818**	**777,156**	358,272
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**230,590**	**812,815**	**1,043,405**	777,156

The notes form part of these financial statements

VOLITION-LEEDS

BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2022 **Total funds £**	*2021 Total funds £*
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	**6,114**	-	**6,114**	*5,611*
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	**39,772**	**198,822**	**238,594**	*54,081*
Cash at bank		**212,465**	**621,788**	**834,253**	*787,074*
		252,237	**820,610**	**1,072,847**	*841,155*
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	**(27,761)**	**(7,795)**	**(35,556)**	*(69,610)*
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**224,476**	**812,815**	**1,037,291**	*771,545*
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**230,590**	**812,815**	**1,043,405**	*777,156*
NET ASSETS		**230,590**	**812,815**	**1,043,405**	*777,156*
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				**230,590**	252,338
Restricted funds				**812,815**	524,818
TOTAL FUNDS				**1,043,405**	777,156

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 10th November 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

H A Kemp - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

VOLITION-LEEDS

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	*2021* *£*
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	**52,044**	*438,004*
Net cash provided by operating activities		**52,044**	*438,004*
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		**(4,865)**	*(5,733)*
Net cash used in investing activities		**(4,865)**	*(5,733)*
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		**47,179**	*432,271*
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	2	**787,074**	*354,803*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	2	**834,253**	*787,074*

The notes form part of these financial statements

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

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

	2022	*2021*
	£	*£*
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	**266,249**	*418,884*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**4,362**	*3,875*
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	**(184,513)**	*32,651*
Decrease in creditors	**(34,054)**	*(17,406)*
Net cash provided by operations	**52,044**	*438,004*

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/21	Cash flow	**At 31/3/22**
	£	£	**£**
Net cash			
Cash at bank	**787,074**	**47,179**	**834,253**
	787,074	**47,179**	**834,253**
Total	**787,074**	**47,179**	**834,253**

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

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

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Income

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

Grants, contracts and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Where grants and contracts are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

Expenditure

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

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets other than freehold land are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its useful life, as follows:

Computer equipment	20%	Straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	33%	Straight line

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pensions

The charity operates a defined pension contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are recognised in the year they are payable.

continued...

1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

Debtors and creditors receivable/ payable within one year
Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Leases
Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the SOFA on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. **OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	2022	*2021*
	£	*£*
Other trading activities	21,560	*56,574*

3. **INCOME FROM CHARITIABLE ACTIVITIES**

Core Charitable Activities	2022 Unrestricted Funds	2022 Restricted Funds	2022 Total Funds	2021 Total Funds
	£	£	£	*£*
Grants	57,733	425,393	483,126	*252,508*
Contracts	302,295	-	302,295	*225,969*
	360,028	425,393	785,421	478,477

Grant making activities	2022 Unrestricted Funds	2022 Restricted Funds	2022 Total Funds	2021 Total Funds
	£	£	£	*£*
Grants	-	263,390	263,390	*851,000*
	-	263,390	263,390	851,000

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

	2022 Unrestricted funds	2022 Restricted funds	2022 Total funds	2021 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Mindwell	-	100,274	100,274	90,000
Mental Health Collaborative	-	25,364	25,364	25,000
CYP Ethnic Minorities Post	-	24,168	24,168	60,000
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	2,733	79,787	82,520	28,500
Mindwell 2	-	-	-	20,000
Forum Central Transformation Project	-	-	-	583
LCF – Covid 19 Strategic Infrastructure	55,000	-	55,000	25,000
Leeds For All	-	1,860	1,860	3,425
Community Champions	-	25,118	25,118	-
HPoC	-	50,000	50,000	-
Trauma	-	100,000	100,000	-
Emerge	-	18,822	18,822	-
	57,733	425,393	483,126	252,508

continued...

3. INCOME FROM CHARITIABLE ACTIVITIES continued

	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total Funds £
HPoC	-	**13,390**	**13,390**	325,000
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	-	-	-	526,000
Mental Health Collaborative	-	**20,000**	**20,000**	-
Mental Health Group Work	-	**25,000**	**25,000**	-
5 Way to Wellbeing	-	**25,000**	**25,000**	-
CMHT – Third Sector Role Development	-	**60,000**	**60,000**	-
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	-	**120,000**	**120,000**	-
	-	**263,390**	**263,390**	851,000

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 5) £	Grant funding of activities (see note 6) £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Core charitable activities	**680,004**	**9,741**	**3,950**	**693,695**
Grant making	**47,065**	**63,362**	-	**110,427**
	727,069	**73,103**	**3,950**	**804,122**

continued...

5. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Core charitable activities

	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Staff costs	**237,030**	**173,484**	**410,514**	280,591
Rent, rates and utilities	**22,248**	**7,146**	**29,394**	18,166
Insurance	**2,471**	**-**	**2,471**	1,790
Telephone	**841**	**539**	**1,380**	1,787
Equipment and materials	**1,439**	**432**	**1,871**	-
Room hire	**942**	**635**	**1,577**	252
Travel	**168**	**106**	**274**	93
Office and admin costs	**10,736**	**7,118**	**17,854**	2,678
Management recharges	**(37,311)**	**33,036**	**(4,275)**	(101,350)
Training	**4,721**	**696**	**5,417**	2,241
Refreshments	**567**	**331**	**898**	88
Other expenses	**1,181**	**210**	**1,391**	1,004
Freelance workers and consultants	**43,417**	**46,371**	**89,788**	36,383
IT Costs	**20,845**	**921**	**21,766**	3,317
Partner payments	**69,482**	**-**	**69,482**	58,840
Direct project delivery costs	**14,815**	**11,386**	**26,201**	2,775
Depreciation	**3,108**	**894**	**4,002**	3,238
	396,700	**283,305**	**680,004**	311,893

Grant making activities

	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Staff costs	**-**	**26,859**	**26,859**	33,889
Rent, rates and utilities	**-**	**1,795**	**1,795**	1,142
Telephone	**-**	**75**	**75**	187
Equipment and materials	**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Room hire	**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Travel	**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Office and admin costs	**-**	**2,020**	**2,020**	165
Management recharges	**-**	**4,275**	**4,275**	101,350
Training	**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Refreshments	**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Other expenses	**-**	**20**	**20**	176
Freelance workers and consultants	**-**	**11,610**	**11,610**	41,253
IT Costs	**-**	**-**	**-**	506
Direct project delivery costs	**-**	**50**	**50**	391
Depreciation	**-**	**361**	**361**	637
	-	**47,065**	**47,065**	179,696

continued...

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2022	2021
	£	£
Core charitable activities	**9,741**	*30,756*
Grant making	**63,362**	*440,872*
	73,103	*471,628*

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Harnessing the Power of Communities Grant Programme	**26,284**	*201,300*
Covid 19 Messaging	**24,078**	*239,572*
Men's Health Unlocked	**13,000**	-
Wellness Engagement Advocacy Service	**8,491**	*25,000*
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**1,250**	-
Neighbourhood Networks	**-**	*5,356*
Training	**-**	*400*
	73,103	*471,628*

-Harnessing the Power of Communities Grant Programme	The grants made to these organisations were to meet the Leeds System Health Care Priorities
-Covid 19 Messaging	The grants made to these organisations were to help fund positive COVID 19 messaging.
-Wellness Engagement Advocacy Scheme	The grant made to Apple Box was to support the set up of the Wellness Engagement Advocacy Service
-Neighbourhood Networks	The grant made was to support Neighbourhood Networks through the Covid 19 crisis
-Training	The grant made was to provide training to member organisations.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Core charitable activities	**3,950**

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2022 Core charitable activities	2021 Total activities
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	**3,950**	***3,950***

continued...

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2022	2021
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	3,950	3,950
Depreciation - owned assets	4,362	3,875
Rent	31,189	19,308

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2022 nor for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2022 nor for the year ended 31st March 2021.

10. STAFF COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	388,554	280,725
Social security costs	30,052	20,222
Other pension costs	18,766	13,533
	437,372	314,480

The charity considers its key management personnel (in addition to the Board of Trustees) to be the director and operations manager.The total remuneration (including employer pension contributions) of the key management personnel was £95,172 (2021:£83,158).

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

	2022	2021
Staff	16	10

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

The average full time equivalent for the average number of employees is 12 (2021:9).

continued...

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	-	-	-
Charitable activities			
Core charitable activities	219,552	258,925	478,477
Grant making	-	851,000	851,000
Other trading activities	73,280	(16,706)	56,574
Total	292,832	1,093,219	1,386,051
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Core charitable activities	178,925	167,674	346,599
Grant making	-	620,568	620,568
Total	178,925	788,242	967,167
NET INCOME	113,907	304,977	418,884
Transfers between funds	2,867	(2,867)	-
Net movement in funds	116,774	302,110	418,884
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	135,564	222,708	358,272
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	252,338	524,818	777,156

continued...

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st April 2021	**3,109**	**16,146**	**19,255**
Additions	**-**	**4,865**	**4,865**
At 31st March 2022	**3,109**	**21,011**	**24,120**
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st April 2021	**3,109**	**10,535**	**13,644**
Charge for year	**-**	**4,362**	**4,362**
At 31st March 2022	**3,109**	**14,897**	**18,006**
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st March 2022	**-**	**6,114**	**6,114**
At 31st March 2021	-	*5,611*	*5,611*

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Debtors in the ordinary course of activities	**207,649**	*47,153*
Prepayments and accrued income	**30,945**	*6,928*
	238,594	*54,081*

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Creditors in the ordinary course of activities	**16,692**	*6,250*
Social security and other taxes	**57**	-
VAT	**9,672**	*18,631*
Accruals and deferred income	**9,135**	*44,729*
	35,556	*69,610*

15. LEASING AGREEMENTS

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

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Within one year	**2,998**	*19,820*
Between one and five years	**796**	*6,606*
	3,794	*26,426*

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	**252,338**	**(21,748)**	**-**	**230,590**
Restricted funds				
HPoC	**157,357**	**(62,963)**	**-**	**94,394**
Mindwell	**10,022**	**22,136**	**-**	**32,158**
LCC Partnership Board	**703**	**-**	**-**	**703**
Tenfold Fund	**29,631**	**(1,700)**	**-**	**27,931**
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	**201,686**	**(79,619)**	**(30,000)**	**92,067**
Mental Health Collaborative	**19,518**	**3,852**	**-**	**23,370**
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**59,780**	**(4,205)**	**-**	**55,575**
Leeds For All	**1,012**	**20**	**-**	**1,032**
LOOP	**13,109**	**(13,109)**	**-**	**-**
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	**12,000**	**212,058**	**-**	**224,058**
Mindwell 2	**20,000**	**(3,729)**	**-**	**16,271**
5 Ways To Wellbeing	**-**	**25,000**	**-**	**25,000**
Community Champions	**-**	**(3,972)**	**30,000**	**26,028**
Emerge	**-**	**14,622**	**-**	**14,622**
Trauma	**-**	**99,606**	**-**	**99,606**
Videos	**-**	**20,000**	**-**	**20,000**
CMHT – Third Sector Role Development	**-**	**60,000**	**-**	**60,000**
	524,818	**287,997**	**-**	**812,815**
TOTAL FUNDS	**777,156**	**266,249**	**-**	**1,043,405**

With the agreement of the funder £30,000 was reallocated from the Building Capacity in 3rd Sector to the Community Champions fund.

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**378,903**	**(400,651)**	**(21,748)**
Restricted funds			
HPoC	**63,390**	**(126,353)**	**(62,963)**
Mindwell	**100,508**	**(78,372)**	**22,136**
Tenfold Fund	**-**	**(1,700)**	**(1,700)**
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	**-**	**(79,619)**	**(79,619)**
Mental Health Collaborative	**27,814**	**(23,962)**	**3,852**
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**24,168**	**(28,373)**	**(4,205)**
Leeds For All	**1,860**	**(1,840)**	**20**
LOOP	**-**	**(13,109)**	**(13,109)**
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	**224,788**	**(12,730)**	**212,058**
Mindwell 2	**-**	**(3,729)**	**(3,729)**
5 Ways To Wellbeing	**25,000**	**-**	**25,000**
Community Champions	**25,118**	**(29,090)**	**(3,972)**
Emerge	**18,822**	**(4,200)**	**14,622**
Trauma	**100,000**	**(394)**	**99,606**
Videos	**20,000**	**-**	**20,000**
CMHT – Third Sector Role Development	**60,000**	**-**	**60,000**
	691,468	**(403,471)**	**287,997**
TOTAL FUNDS	**1,070,371**	**(804,122)**	**266,249**

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	135,562	113,909	2,867	252,338
Restricted funds				
Community Service Model	42,705	(42,705)	-	-
HPoC	128,613	28,744	-	157,357
Mindwell	14,970	(4,948)	-	10,022
LCC Partnership Board	703	-	-	703
LCF Health Grant	5,970	(5,970)	-	-
Tenfold Fund	29,749	(118)	-	29,631
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	-	201,686	-	201,686
Mental Health Collaborative	-	19,518	-	19,518
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	-	59,780	-	59,780
Leeds For All	-	1,012	-	1,012
LOOP	-	13,109	-	13,109
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	-	12,000	-	12,000
Mindwell 2	-	20,000	-	20,000
Strategic Infrastructure Grant	-	2,867	(2,867)	-
	222,710	304,975	(2,867)	524,818
TOTAL FUNDS	358,272	418,884	-	777,156

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	292,832	(178,923)	113,909
Restricted funds			
Community Service Model	(17,081)	(25,624)	(42,705)
HPoC	324,998	(296,254)	28,744
Mindwell	90,000	(94,948)	(4,948)
LCF Health Grant	-	(5,970)	(5,970)
Tenfold Fund	-	(118)	(118)
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	526,001	(324,315)	201,686
Mental Health Collaborative	25,000	(5,482)	19,518
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	60,000	(220)	59,780
Leeds for All	3,800	(2,788)	1,012
LOOP	16,500	(3,391)	13,109
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	12,000	-	12,000
Mindwell 2	20,000	-	20,000
NHS Transformation Project	7,000	(7,000)	-
Strategic Infrastructure Grant	25,001	(22,134)	2,867
	1,093,219	(788,244)	304,975
TOTAL FUNDS	1,386,051	(967,167)	418,884

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Community Service Model	-For the development of personalisation and personal health budget processes within mental health commissioning.
HPoC	-Funding from Leeds CCG towards the costs of the Harnessing the Power of Communities Project.
Mindwell	-Funding from LCC, CCG and community links for the Mindwell project.
LCF Health Grants	-To support and facilitate networking and relationship building between small frontline organisations and local health structures.
Tenfold	-Funds transferred from Tenfold ring-fenced towards improving the health and wellbeing of people with a learning difficulty/autism.
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	-Funding from Public Health (LCC) to distribute as grants to smaller organisations across Leeds to get the covid 19 messaging out through local trusted organisations.
Mental Health Collaborative	-Funding given by NHS Leeds CCG to work with partners to improve lives, support inclusion as part of the mental health strategy's model for change.
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	-Funding given to fund a two year post to address mental health inequalities (BAME) across Leeds.
Leeds For All	-To run the International Day of Physical Disabilities across Leeds through engagement with Leeds partners.
LOOP	-One year funding to support the Leeds Open Online Platform Initiative.
Mental Health Transformation and Projects	-Funding to support VCSE organisations in their contribution to work focused around mental health and wellbeing for WY and Harrogate integrated Care system
Mindwell 2	-Funding from LCC, CCG and community links for the Mindwell project.
NHS Transformation Project	-Funding was to enable work to be carried out to understand and identify the potential capability and infrastructure to strengthen collaborative working within the health and care third sector organisations in Leeds
Strategic Infrastructure Grant	-Funding to support Volition to respond to the challenges of Covid, both in terms of supporting members and internal organisation
5 Ways to Wellbeing	Funding from Public Health, Leeds City Council for the 5 Ways to Wellbeing Small Community Grants scheme with a focus on the developing 5 ways to Wellbeing tools to engage people and communities at risk of poor mental health, includes the Grant pot and administration fee.
Community Champions	Funding from LCC to support the Community Champions project and to provide further capacity to support engagement with local communities to help connect people with key Covid-19 and wider health messages and the support available in the city.
Emerge	Project funded by Leeds and York Partnership Foundation NHS Trust to scope out availability of third sector community level support in Leeds for young people aged 18-25 with complex mental health needs, create partnerships and identify gaps in service provision.
Trauma	Project to develop city-wide capacity and initiatives that focus on developing, strengthening and implementing trauma informed care and support for Children and Young People in Leeds
Videos	Funding from Health Education England for the co-production of videos of people's experience of dealing with issues around mental health.
CMHT - Third Sector Role Development	As part of the Community Mental Health Transformation programme, funding for Peer Support and Involvement Worker roles hosted by third sector organisations, and for Volition to manage the third sector host organisation selection process.

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Transfers between funds

A transfer has been made between restricted funds in relation to a reallocation grants received during the year.

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st March 2022.

18. CAPITAL

Volition-Leeds is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The members have agreed to contribute £1 each to the Charity's assets in the event of it winding up, if it assets should prove insufficient to cover its liabilities.

19. TAXATION

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities by virtue of section 505 of the income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

VOLITION - LEEDS

England & Wales - Charity number 1092126

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04046674 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1092126

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

FOR

VOLITION-LEEDS

volition
working well together

Thomas Coombs Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
3365 The Pentagon
Century Way
Thorpe Park
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 8ZB

CHARITY COMMISSION

21 DEC 2021

ACCOUNTS
RECEIVED

VOLITION-LEEDS

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

TRUSTEES	A N K Lowe (resigned 8/7/21)	
	A J Rawnsley (resigned 9/7/21)	
	H A Kemp	-Treasurer
	Z A Bawn	
	D J Blythe	
	P C Gleeson	
	C A Hill	
	J A Hill	
	T K Kayani	
	R A Kettle	-Chair
	A P Ogilvie (resigned 30/9/21)	
	O Sutton	
	A Kay (resigned 11/2/21)	
	M Whitehead (resigned 9/4/20)	
	A Curtis (appointed 1/2/21)	
REGISTERED OFFICE	Suite C24 Josephs Well Hanover Walk Leeds West Yorkshire LS3 1AB	
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER	04046674 (England and Wales)	
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1092126	
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS	Thomas Coombs Limited Statutory Auditor Chartered Accountants 3365 The Pentagon Century Way Thorpe Park Leeds West Yorkshire LS15 8ZB	
BANKERS	Unity Trust Bank 9 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB	

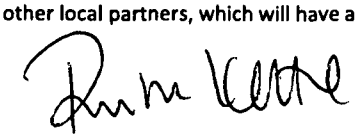
Chair's Statement

I am delighted, on behalf of the Board, to be presenting our Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021, having been appointed as chair in August 2021 taking over from Andy Rawnsley and Alison Lowe, and having been a board member since 2015.

Both Alison and Andy have made an enormous contribution to the Volition Board and leave a legacy of brilliant partnership and strategic work, having played a key role in our outstanding developments across the health and care sector. Alison stepped down from the role as Volition Co-Chair to become the deputy mayor for policing and crime for West Yorkshire and Andy has stepped down from the board for personal reasons but continues to actively support our work in the area of Learning Disabilities.

In 2020/21 we again saw strong progress and some remarkable highlights and achievements despite, and in response to, the Covid pandemic, which affected the entire year. Volition has strengthened its collaborations with all of our partner organisations and members, but is always seeking ways we can improve.

I am particularly pleased that we have been able to enhance our work with smaller organisations and our understanding of the needs of people in communities through our increasing engagement with the People's Voices Group and the development of the Communities of Interest Network in response to the pandemic.
I am proud to sign off on our significant achievements for this year and look forward to 2021/22 and beyond, with a high level of confidence that we have an excellent platform from which to deliver a great many more successes delivered together with our members and other local partners, which will have a real and lasting impact across our diverse Leeds communities.



Ruth Kettle
Chair of Trustees

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRATEGIC REPORT

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Legal and Administrative details

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 3 August 2000 with registered company number 04046674 and registered as a charity on 21 May 2002, registration number 1092126. The principal and registered office is Suite C24, Joseph's Well, Hanover Walk, LS3 1AB.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association as amended by special resolutions on 22 January 2018 and 22 August 2019. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Principal Activity

The charity's objects are, for the public benefit, to promote the preservation of mental and physical health, the relief of persons suffering from mental health illness or from physical and sensory impairments and the relief of those with learning disabilities, in Leeds and the surrounding area and to raise public awareness of such needs.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives and in planning activities.

The charity's main activities

Volition-Leeds is an alliance of third sector member organisations, which provide mental health and wellbeing support. On 31 March 2021, Volition-Leeds had 275 members.

Volition-Leeds exists to:

- Promote and support the contribution of the voluntary sector to strategic planning and development across the health and care system
- Encourage cooperation and partnership between agencies and across sectors
- Promote and contribute the voluntary sector perspective in aspects of service and practice development
- Inform and resource third sector organisations to enable them to better meet the mental, physical health and wellbeing, learning disability and physical and sensory impairment needs of people across all Leeds' communities.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the relief of those in need, by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

We are in the process of developing longer-term strategic aims to support our short-term goals and objectives. We have developed expertise and processes for supporting our smaller members and the wider sector including through grant making as part of our delivery strategy. This method enables us to ensure that a wider number of our member organisations are able to access funds and deliver at ground level. We held a team away day with our Leeds Older People's Forum colleagues to develop the Forum Central strategy in this period.

Trustee Induction and Training

The Board keeps the skill requirements for the Trustee Body under review. Once an appointment has been made, the newly elected Trustee undergoes an induction programme and training requirements identified are addressed. The Charity keeps up to date with key developments and training is provided to Trustees as and when required.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees
The Trustees of the charity are also the directors for the purposes of company law. Each member organisation can nominate a representative to stand for election. Volition-Leeds members are all invited to nominate representatives to stand for available places at each Annual General Meeting (AGM) at which Trustees are elected. Each year one third of the trustees – the longest standing – are required to stand down, and can stand for re-election. There is a maximum limit of 18 trustees and minimum number of 3 trustees on the Board. In addition trustees can be co-opted onto the Board for their particular interest or expertise, or if there is a vacancy between AGMs. An additional trustee (Adrian Curtis) was co-opted during this period to broaden our partnership working with our local infrastructure partner Voluntary Action Leeds.

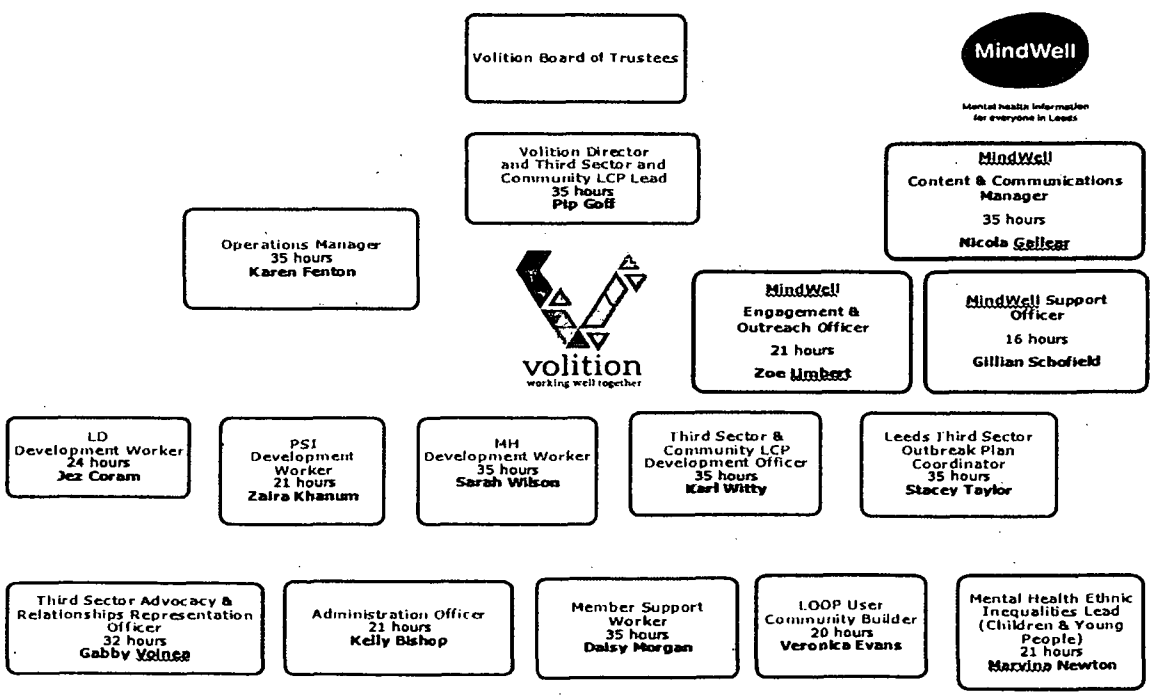
Since March 2021, the two Co-Chairs stepped down at the end of July 2021 and existing trustee Ruth Kettle was unanimously elected as the new chair from 1st August.

Key Management Remuneration
The Charity's finance sub committee convenes annually as the remuneration committee in order to review salary bandings and scale points of all employees. The charity's payscales align with the payscales of the National Joint Council for Local Government Services, and any salary increases are in line with those negotiated by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services. The remuneration committee also undertakes benchmarking comparisons using an external benchmarking company with local government experience, to review all job roles against job descriptions and compare with similar roles across the 3rd sector to ensure pay is fair and reflective of the duties carried out by employees.

Organisational Structure
The Trustees currently meet on a monthly basis including the AGM. A formal Finance sub-committee was established this year to give assurance that the board is fully sighted on the organisation's increasingly complex finances. A Chair is elected at the first meeting of the Trustees following the AGM. The Trustees' meetings cover finance, governance and setting of the strategy for Volition-Leeds. The Volition-Leeds Director, Pip Goff, who is accountable to the Chair of the Trustees, manages the staff team along with Karen Fenton, the Operations Manager, appointed in 2020.

Risk Factors
Volition-Leeds Trustees recognise the need to undertake a risk assessment. Because Volition-Leeds is an infrastructure organisation rather than a direct service provider, the risks associated with its work include strategic and reputational risks as well as health and safety issues related to office-based work and also the risk, common across the third sector, of loss of funding. Our strategic and reputational risks are mitigated through our monthly board meeting which currently alternate strategy/policy with business meetings and an organisational risk assessment document is regularly reviewed. The Trustees ensure appropriate liaison with partners, commissioners and potential funders in order to secure sufficient funds to continue the work of the organisation.

Volition Staff Structure Diagram



Achievements and performance
In this year we have been able to demonstrate our achievements against the charity's aims and objectives both to our members and funders using a range of indicators, milestones and benchmarks and are seeing the long term effect of a charity's activities on both individual member beneficiaries and at a wider level of the communities we serve and the health and care system in which we operate. We have for example seen a steady increase in the range of our partners and the number of our members; we have sought to strengthen strategic engagement by securing a commitment to a further two years funding for Third Sector Local Partnership work, enabling us to further develop our reach into Primary Care level NHS structures as they are developing, as well as short term funding to respond to the CCG's Shaping Our Future work. We have enhanced our work with smaller organisations and our understanding of the needs of people in communities through our increasing engagement with the People's Voices Group and the development of the Communities of Interest Network in response to the Covid pandemic.

Key achievements in 2020/21 have included:
In this period we have retained key members of our excellent team and also recruited workers to deliver new posts: Stacey Taylor for the Public Health funded Covid response work and Communities of Interest Network; Daisy Morgan and Gabby Voinea respectively for Member Support and Advocacy and Representation roles, and recruited to the vacancies for the Mental Health and the Physical and Sensory Impairment specialisms created by Karen Fenton's appointment to the Operational Director post, bringing Sarah Wilson and Zaira Khanum into the team. Each of these appointments bring a breadth and diversity of expertise that will enrich our team. We were able to split these into two separate posts due to Mental Health Collaborative funding received.

Continuation of our **partnership with Leeds Older People's Forum** (LOPF) delivering the Forum Central contract which has seen us deliver ongoing specialist support to our members, sustaining the Health and Care Leaders Network and Representatives meetings; developing Forum Central's profile across West Yorkshire and Harrogate and developing mechanisms to support our members and communities at the start of the Covid pandemic.

Development of our partnership with other **Third Sector Infrastructure organisations** Voluntary Action Leeds, Leeds Community Foundation, Healthwatch and Leeds Involving People, and other statutory partners including Leeds City Council, with whom we convened a discussion around budget cuts and the future direction for the Council and relationships with the sector, and developing a joint Third Sector strategy with Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

Our **specialism leads** have supported Mental Health strategy development and suicide prevention; Learning Disabilities capacity around employment; Physical and Sensory Impairment work on street and highways access, organising a very successful series of online International Day of Disabled people events in December and Local Care Partnerships have continued to see a raised profile of Third Sector organisations' engagement.

Development of engagement around **Leeds One Workforce**, the new citywide workforce programme, in line with the One Workforce Strategic Board and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy in Leeds. The ambition of Leeds One Workforce Strategic Board is to 'be the best place to learn and work whatever your age'. It is also about working together, creating opportunities for skills and jobs, engaging and recruiting those within disadvantaged communities, and the implications of this for third sector organisations as well as individual workers, volunteers and Board members is significant.

Representing the sector on a range of different Gold, Silver and Bronze Covid response meetings
and working hard at ensuring the parity of the third sector for testing and vaccination, including coordinating access to Covid vaccinations for frontline health and care third sector staff and volunteers.

Allocation of 139 grants to a range of third sector organisations and community groups to enable them to **support Covid prevention work** in their communities, working in collaboration with Public Health. The grants have enabled organisations and groups to develop innovative approaches to deliver proactive actions in response to the Covid pandemic.

Preparing to inform and involve the sector in wider **health system change** including the development of an Integrated Care System at West Yorkshire level and an Integrated Care Partnership for Leeds.

Our **work to address health inequalities** has included engagement with partners to help create the Health Inequalities Toolkit for Leeds; finding ways to strengthen connections and bridge the gap between senior decision makers and people who experience the greatest health inequalities and the organisations that provide support. It has also included creating a third sector inclusivity working group in response to the Black Lives Matter movement, with a focus on exploring how we can take meaningful action to collectively amplify the voices of our members from Black, Asian and other minority ethnic (sometimes referred to as BAME) communities.

Delivering Summer Time Out in partnership with LOPF during August 2020 saw a month-long festival for our collective membership of learning devoted to improving third sector workplace wellbeing, creating a healthy, happy and inclusive workplace and supporting third sector colleagues in response to current and developing challenges due to the pandemic.

Covid-19

Social-distancing measures brought into effect on the 18th March 2020 in response to the Covid-19 pandemic significantly impacted on the team's activities and those of our members. Covid-19 did not impact on our core activity income or expenditure in that our funding income was not reduced and all our workers continued without any need for furlough, but it did massively impact on our members' activity and completely changed the focus of our work. It also led to significant new funding that came through us to our members through the Public Health funded Third Sector Covid Response. We were fortunate to receive a Leeds Community Foundation (LCF) Resilience grant to support Forum Central's work to support sector innovation and resilience across both Volition and Leeds Older People's Forum i.e. our joint Forum Central work.

The Covid pandemic continues to have a dramatic impact on all aspects of our work. It has made Volition's role in working in partnership with key partners including Public Health, Leeds City Council and our local NHS bodies stronger. It has seen us supporting and giving voice to the sector and our members' work with communities, many of whose health outcomes were already the poorest. This work is needed more than ever. We anticipate that Covid will continue to affect our future plans and delivery mechanisms significantly over the coming months. It will also mean our staff will continue to work from home, alongside plans for safe return to the office and maximising digital and web-based communication with our partners and members. We are seeing that, despite limited financial resources, our members are - with our support – redoubling their efforts to ensure some of the most marginalised people and communities across Leeds continue to receive essential support and provision.

The health and care third sector in Leeds is providing a lifeline for many people and communities during the pandemic, adapting and digitising services to meet the challenge.

Impact and Outcomes

We are increasingly seeing that local solutions, informed by trusted relationships with people and communities, have proved invaluable, which fits with achievement of the charity's aims and objectives. Evidence of our impact can be seen in the following outcome examples:

Strong and vibrant third sector – evidenced by identifying and responding to the needs of members through securing Harnessing Power of Communities funding, working with VAL to conduct a second resilience survey and creating the State of the Sector Report to highlight challenges faced by the sector which were then heard by the Health and Wellbeing Board. We have also worked with our Learning Disability member organisations, the Leeds City Digital team, 100% Digital and also Leeds Community Foundation to support members to better adapt to the increased need for support to be delivered digitally.

Informed and knowledgeable third sector – Evaluation sessions, events and materials e.g. weekly emails to members amended in response to feedback, regular information about Covid restrictions, access to testing and other key updates. We gather intelligence from the Health & Care sector through reps and team attending meetings and events which has enabled us to help achieve better health outcomes in relation to the 'Left shift' model developed by NHS Leeds CCG. Information delivered through the Forum Central website, email and social media has enabled our members to better respond to the pandemic. We are curators of Leeds Open Online Platform (LOOP) and host the Community Builder role which is focused on engagement of LOOP across existing and new curator organisations.

Actively contribute to and influence policy and strategy – we support representation on over 120 different boards and strategic groups who are able to bring a sector perspective as well as keep others in the sector informed. The key evidence of this is our work which began in January 2020 with NHS Leeds CCG to ensure the health and care third sector was fully engaged in the 'Shaping Our Future' programme which laid the foundations for our subsequent work in response to the new health structures proposed in the government white paper. This is seeing Third Sector representation on the proposed new Leeds Place partnership taking over when the CCGs cease to exist along with our ongoing West Yorkshire level input into the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership.

Work in Partnership – we continue to work with LOPF to successfully deliver the Forum Central contract and with both statutory and Healthwatch colleagues to conduct the Big Leeds Chat which leads to service user experiences being better heard across the health and care system and helping to change the culture. We have also worked in partnership with Voluntary Action Leeds on many different Covid response areas including volunteering; establishing the Communities of Interest Network; developing the resilience survey, the Covid Champions programme in partnership too with Leeds City Council, and the Third Sector Outbreak plan and grant funding.

Financial Review

Review of financial activity

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011. The company has adopted FRS102 and complies with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (issued in December 2019).

The net income for the year was £418,884, including net income of £116,774 on unrestricted funds and net income of £302,110 on restricted funds.

The net assets of the company increased by £418,884. The company's total funds amounted to £777,156 (2020: £358,272) at 31st March 2021.

The increase in the net assets of the company is largely attributable to the holding of cash balances at the year end. Cash balances increased by £432,271 from £354,803 (31 March 2020) to £787,074 (31 March 2021) during the period. This is as a result of :

- Timing differences - A number of restricted funds span one or more financial years due to their nature. Funding has been received upfront but will not be spent until subsequent financial years - leaving large balances in the form of cash held at the year end. At 31 March 2021 such balances included:
  - LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan - £201k has been carried forward to be spent on a grant making programme in 21/22, in accordance with the funding agreement
  - HPoC - £157k has been carried forward to fund this project to October 2022. It is a three year project that commenced November 2019.
  - CYP Ethnic Inequalities - £59,780 has been carried forward. This is a two year project that commenced March 2021 - the project will run to March 2023.
  - A number of smaller restricted funds have also been carried forward including Mindwell (£10k); Tenfold (£29.6k); CCG Mental Health Collaborative (£19.5k); IDPD (£1k), LOOP (£13k) and Mindwell 2(£20k). All balances that have been carried forward are in accordance with funding agreements.
- A balance of £252,338 is held in unrestricted funds. Details as to our reserves policy are found in the section below. It should be noted however that the increase in funding received during the year and associated growth of services offered has meant that Volition has had to review its infrastructure and support costs to enable the company to deliver the increase in services smoothly and efficiently. It was agreed therefore that it is appropriate to budget for some of the unrestricted reserves to support the development of its infrastructure. Specifically, £100k of our unrestricted reserves has been budgeted by the trustees to be spent on salaries to support the infrastructure and operation of the company for the next 12 months, along with a further £38k to fund office relocation and overdue upgrades to website, IT support and HR support. The spending on infrastructure is a key necessity to enable Volition-Leeds to 'future proof' the services it can offer in a structured, efficient and planned manner.

Reserves policy

The charity takes a risk based approach in setting the level of reserves. A minimum level (lower band) and maximum level (upper band) of reserves is set and reserves are maintained between the lower and upper band limits. This ensures that the charity holds enough reserves for an orderly winding up if faced with unexpected closure, whilst also ensuring the charity does not maintain unnecessary high surplus reserves.

The lower band level is set with reference to funds needed in order to conduct an orderly winding up of the charity in the face of unexpected closure. This has been set at 6 months of operating costs plus redundancy and other known committed expenditure and equates to £184,000.

The upper level includes an allowance for any additional items - specifically £20,000 contingency for unexpected cash flow considerations, £38,000 in relation to specific additional expenditure and £100,000 to be spent on salaries to support the infrastructure and operation of the charity for the 12 month period to 31 March 2022. The upper band level has therefore been set at £342,000.

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at the year end were £246,727, and therefore fell within our banding levels. Our current forecast to 31 March 2022 anticipates year end reserves will fall below the upper level of reserves defined in our policy.

Plans for the Future

Volition-Leeds has a strategic plan for the organisation, which is reviewed and updated annually. Our strategic objectives are to:

1 Promote networking and partnership working across the voluntary sector and with other sectors.
2 Provide information for and about the sector.
3 Ensure that the health and care third sector is represented, resourced and able to participate in strategic planning both in Leeds, regionally and nationally.
4 Ensure the financial viability of Volition-Leeds.

In terms of the Forum Central contract, the focus is on working with our infrastructure partner, Leeds Older People's Forum, to deliver a highly effective and recognised Forum Central service so that collectively we can be an effective voice for the health and care third sector in Leeds. For this period, much of our focus as partners has been on building our partnership following the merger of Volition and Tenfold and the successful re-tendering for the new Forum Central contract last year for a three year period from April 2019 - March 2022, with potential for a further two years subject to performance.

Quarterly monitoring forms are submitted to our joint health and local authority funders who continue to give positive feedback about our performance. Feedback from our members and evaluation of the support we provide to both our members and partners is also positive with an overall increased demand on all areas of our work.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Volition-Leeds for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

AUDITORS

The auditors, Thomas Coombs Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 11th Novemb- 2021 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Hela A Kemp.

H A Kemp - Trustee

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Volition-Leeds (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:
- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:
- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:
- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

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

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

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the entity and industries in which it operates, we identified the principle risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to Charities Act 2011. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006.

We evaluated managements incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined the principle risks were related to posting journal entries to increase profits and management bias in accounting estimates, especially depreciation and bad debts.

In a response to these risks, audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:
-Discussions with management of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.
-Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in determining significant accounting estimates, in particular in relation to depreciation and bad debts.
-Identifying and testing journal entries.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non compliance of laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement relating to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment.

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

Other matters
The corresponding figures for the year ended 31st March 2020 are unaudited.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF VOLITION-LEEDS

Use of our report

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

C. Darwin

Christopher Darwin (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Thomas Coombs Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
3365 The Pentagon
Century Way
Thorpe Park
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 8ZB

Date: 11th November 2021

VOLITION-LEEDS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	3				
Core charitable activities		**219,552**	**258,925**	**478,477**	294,939
Grant making		-	**851,000**	**851,000**	325,000
Other trading activities	2	**73,280**	**(16,706)**	**56,574**	41,144
Other income		-	-	-	30,452
Total		**292,832**	**1,093,219**	**1,386,051**	691,535
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Core charitable activities		**178,925**	**167,674**	**346,599**	368,499
Grant making		-	**620,568**	**620,568**	173,888
Total		**178,925**	**788,242**	**967,167**	542,387
NET INCOME		**113,907**	**304,977**	**418,884**	149,148
Transfers between funds	16	**2,867**	**(2,867)**	-	-
Net movement in funds		**116,774**	**302,110**	**418,884**	149,148
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		**135,562**	**222,710**	**358,272**	209,124
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**252,336**	**524,820**	**777,156**	358,272

The notes form part of these financial statements

VOLITION-LEEDS

BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	*2020 Total funds £*
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	**5,611**	-	**5,611**	*3,753*
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	**49,642**	**4,439**	**54,081**	*86,732*
Cash at bank		**265,916**	**521,158**	**787,074**	*354,803*
		315,558	**525,597**	**841,155**	*441,535*
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	**(68,831)**	**(779)**	**(69,610)**	*(87,016)*
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**246,727**	**524,818**	**771,545**	*354,519*
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**252,338**	**524,818**	**777,156**	*358,272*
NET ASSETS		**252,338**	**524,818**	**777,156**	*358,272*
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				**252,338**	135,562
Restricted funds				**524,818**	222,710
TOTAL FUNDS				**777,156**	358,272

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 11th November 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

H A Kemp - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

VOLITION-LEEDS

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	*2020* *£*
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	**438,004**	*125,033*
Net cash provided by operating activities		**438,004**	*125,033*
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		**(5,733)**	*(5,303)*
Net cash used in investing activities		**(5,733)**	*(5,303)*
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		**432,271**	*119,730*
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		**354,803**	*235,073*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		**787,074**	*354,803*

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

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

	2021	*2020*
	£	*£*
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	**418,884**	*149,148*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**3,875**	*1,945*
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**32,651**	*(85,012)*
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	**(17,406)**	*58,952*
Net cash provided by operations	**438,004**	*125,033*

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/20	Cash flow	At 31/3/21
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank	**354,803**	**432,271**	**787,074**
	354,803	**432,271**	**787,074**
Total	**354,803**	**432,271**	**787,074**

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

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

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

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

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets
Tangible fixed assets other than freehold land are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its useful life, as follows:

Computer equipment	20%	Straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	33%	Straight line

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

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pensions
The charity operates a defined pension contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are recognised in the year they are payable.

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Debtors and creditors receivable/ payable within one year
Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Leases
Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the SOFA on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other trading activities	56,574	41,144

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Core Charitable Activities	2021 Unrestricted Funds	2021 Restricted Funds	2021 Total Funds	2020 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Grants	583	251,925	252,508	75,970
Contracts	218,969	7,000	225,969	218,969
	219,552	258,925	478,477	294,939

Grant making activities	2021 Unrestricted Funds	2021 Restricted Funds	2021 Total Funds	2020 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Grants	-	851,000	851,000	104,200
	-	851,000	851,000	104,200

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

	2021	2020
	£	£
Leeds North CCG - Mindwell	90,000	70,000
Leeds Community Foundation	-	5,970
NHS Leeds CCG - HPoC	325,000	104,200
NHS Wakefield CCG - HPoC	-	220,800
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	526,000	-
NHS Leeds CCG - Mental Health Collaborative	25,000	-
CYP Ethnic Inequalities Post	60,000	-
LCC LOOP User Community Builder Role	16,500	-
NHS Wakefield CCG - Mental Health Group Work	12,000	-
Leeds North CCG - Mindwell 2	20,000	-
NHS Leeds CCG - Forum Central Transformation Project	583	-
LCF - Covid 19 Strategic Infrastructure	25,000	-
LCC MICE	3,425	-
	1,103,508	400,970

continued...

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 5)	Grant funding of activities (see note 6)	Support costs (see note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Core charitable activities	311,893	30,756	3,950	346,599
Grant making	179,696	440,872	-	620,568
	491,589	471,628	3,950	967,167

5. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Core charitable activities	2021 Unrestricted funds	2021 Restricted funds	2021 Total funds	2020 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	187,847	92,744	280,591	198,062
Rent, rates and utilities	13,956	4,210	18,166	20,137
Insurance	1,790	-	1,790	1,368
Telephone	1,346	441	1,787	1,496
Equipment and materials	-	-	-	921
Room hire	252	-	252	6,816
Travel	93	-	93	1,931
Office and admin costs	47	2,631	2,678	2,104
Management recharges	(119,482)	18,132	(101,350)	-
Training	1,600	641	2,241	2,916
Refreshments	88	-	88	780
Other expenses	816	188	1,004	1,317
Freelance workers and consultants	21,111	15,272	36,383	9,219
IT Costs	2,836	481	3,317	993
Partner payments	58,840	-	58,840	61,023
Direct project delivery costs	197	2,578	2,775	3,722
Depreciation	3,238	-	3,238	1,945
	174,575	137,318	311,893	314,750

Grant making activities	2021 Unrestricted funds	2021 Restricted funds	2021 Total funds	2020 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	-	33,889	33,889	22,500
Rent, rates and utilities	-	1,142	1,142	-
Telephone	-	187	187	-
Office and admin costs	-	165	165	-
Management recharges	-	101,350	101,350	
Other expenses	-	176	176	-
Freelance workers and consultants	-	41,253	41,253	1,200
IT Costs	-	506	506	187
Direct project delivery costs	-	391	391	-
Depreciation	-	637	637	-
	-	179,696	179,696	23,887

continued...

6. GRANTS PAYABLE - continued

	2021	2020
	£	£
Core charitable activities	30,756	30,000
Grant making	440,872	172,500
	471,628	202,500

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Community Service Model Delivery	-	30,000
Harnessing the Power of Communities Grant programme	201,300	172,500
Covid 19 Messaging	239,572	-
Wellness Engagement Advocacy Service	25,000	-
Neighbourhood Networks	5,356	-
Training	400	-
	471,628	202,500

-Harnessing the Power of Communities Grant Programme	The grants made to these organisations where to meet the Leeds System Health Care Priorities
-Community Service Model	The grant made was towards supporting the mental health of refugees and asylum seekers in line with the city wide mental health strategy.
-Covid 19 Messaging	The grants made to these organisations was to help fund positive COVID 19 messaging.
-Wellness Engagement Advocacy Scheme	The grant made to Apple Box was to support the set up of the Wellness Engagement Advocacy Service
-Neighbourhood Networks	The grant made was to support Neighbourhood Networks through the Covid 19 crisis
-Training	The grant made was to provide training to member organisations.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Core charitable activities	3,950

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2021 Core charitable activities	2020 Total activities
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	3,950	-
Independent examination	-	1,250
	3,950	1,250

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2021	2020
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	3,950	-
Depreciation - owned assets	3,875	1,945
Rent	19,308	20,137

continued...

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2021 nor for the year ended 31st March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2021 nor for the year ended 31st March 2020.

10. STAFF COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	280,725	194,992
Social security costs	20,222	15,266
Other pension costs	13,533	10,304
	314,480	220,562

The charity considers its key management personnel (in addition to the Board of Trustees) to be the director and operations manager.The total remuneration (including employer pension contributions) of the key management personnel was £83,158 (2020:£34,213).

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

	2021	2020
Staff	10	7

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

The average full time equivalent for the average number of employees is 9 (2020:6).

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	-	-	-
Charitable activities			
Core charitable activities	218,969	75,970	294,939
Grant making	-	325,000	325,000
Other trading activities	41,144	-	41,144
Other income	-	30,452	30,452
Total	260,113	431,422	691,535
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Core charitable activities	216,243	99,757	316,000
Grant making	-	226,387	226,387
Total	216,242	326,144	542,387
NET INCOME	43,870	105,278	149,148

continued...

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	91,692	117,432	209,124
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	135,562	222,710	358,272

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st April 2020	**3,109**	**10,413**	**13,522**
Additions	**-**	**5,733**	**5,733**
At 31st March 2021	**3,109**	**16,146**	**19,255**
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st April 2020	**3,109**	**6,660**	**9,769**
Charge for year	**-**	**3,875**	**3,875**
At 31st March 2021	**3,109**	**10,535**	**13,644**
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st March 2021	**-**	**5,611**	**5,611**
At 31st March 2020	*-*	*3,753*	*3,753*

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	*2020* £
Trade debtors	**47,153**	*80,306*
Prepayments and accrued income	**6,928**	*6,426*
	54,081	*86,732*

continued...

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	6,250	379
VAT	18,631	23,545
Accruals and deferred income	44,729	63,092
	69,610	87,016

15. LEASING AGREEMENTS

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

	2021	2020
	£	£
Within one year	19,820	-
Between one and five years	6,606	-
	26,426	-

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/20	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31/3/21
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	135,562	113,909	2,867	252,338
Restricted funds				
Community Service Model	42,705	(42,705)	-	-
HPoC	128,613	28,744	-	157,357
Mindwell	14,970	(4,948)	-	10,022
LCC Partnership Board	703	-	-	703
LCF Health Grant	5,970	(5,970)	-	-
Tenfold Fund	29,749	(118)	-	29,631
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	-	201,686	-	201,686
CCG Mental Health Collaborative	-	19,518	-	19,518
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	-	59,780	-	59,780
IDPD	-	1,012	-	1,012
LOOP	-	13,109	-	13,109
Mental Health Group Work	-	12,000	-	12,000
Mindwell 2	-	20,000	-	20,000
Strategic Infrastructure Grant	-	2,867	(2,867)	-
	222,710	304,975	(2,867)	524,818
TOTAL FUNDS	358,272	418,884	-	777,156

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**292,832**	**(178,923)**	**113,909**
Restricted funds			
Community Service Model	**(17,081)**	**(25,624)**	**(42,705)**
HPoC	**324,998**	**(296,254)**	**28,744**
Mindwell	**90,000**	**(94,948)**	**(4,948)**
LCF Health Grant	**-**	**(5,970)**	**(5,970)**
Tenfold Fund	**-**	**(118)**	**(118)**
Building Capacity in 3rd Sector	**526,001**	**(324,315)**	**201,686**
CCG Mental Health Collaborative	**25,000**	**(5,482)**	**19,518**
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	**60,000**	**(220)**	**59,780**
IDPD	**3,800**	**(2,788)**	**1,012**
LOOP	**16,500**	**(3,391)**	**13,109**
Mental Health Group Work	**12,000**	**-**	**12,000**
Mindwell 2	**20,000**	**-**	**20,000**
NHS Transformation Project	**7,000**	**(7,000)**	**-**
Strategic Infrastructure Grant	**25,001**	**(22,134)**	**2,867**
	1,093,219	**(788,244)**	**304,975**
TOTAL FUNDS	**1,386,051**	**(967,167)**	**418,884**

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	91,692	43,870	135,562
Restricted funds			
Community Service Model	92,372	(49,667)	42,705
HPoC	-	128,614	128,614
Mindwell	22,401	(7,432)	14,969
Leeds North CCG	2,659	(2,659)	-
LCC Partnership Board	-	703	703
LCF Health Grant	-	5,970	5,970
Tenfold Fund	-	29,749	29,749
	117,432	105,278	222,710
TOTAL FUNDS	209,124	149,148	358,272

continued...

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	260,111	(216,241)	43,870
Restricted funds			
Community Service Model	1	(49,668)	(49,667)
HPoC	325,001	(196,387)	128,614
Mindwell	70,000	(77,432)	(7,432)
Leeds North CCG	-	(2,659)	(2,659)
LCC Partnership Board	703	-	703
LCF Health Grant	5,970	-	5,970
Tenfold Fund	29,749	-	29,749
	431,424	(326,146)	105,278
TOTAL FUNDS	691,535	(542,387)	149,148

Community Service Model	-For the development of personalisation and personal health budget processes within mental health commissioning.
HPoC	-Funding from Leeds CCG towards the costs of the Harnessing the Power of Communities Project.
Mindwell	-Funding from LCC, CCG and community links for the Mindwell project.
LCF Health Grants	-To support and facilitate networking and relationship building between small frontline organisations and local health structures.
Tenfold	-Funds transferred from Tenfold ring-fenced towards improving the health and wellbeing of people with a learning difficulty/autism.
LCC Covid 19 Outbreak Plan	-Funding from Public Health (LCC) to distribute as grants to smaller organisations across Leeds to get the covid 19 messaging out through local trusted organisations.
CCG Mental Health Collaborative	-Funding given to work with partners to improve lives, support inclusion as part of the mental health strategy's model for change.
CYP Ethnic Inequalities	-Funding given to fund a two year post to address mental health inequalities (BAME) across Leeds.
IDPD	-To run the International Day of Physical Disabilities across Leeds through engagement with Leeds partners.
LOOP	-One year funding to support the Leeds Open Online Platform Initiative.
Mental Health Group Work	-Funding to support VCSE organisations in their contribution to work focused around mental health and wellbeing for WY and Harrogate integrated Care system
Mindwell 2	-Funding from LCC, CCG and community links for the Mindwell project.
NHS Transformation Project	-Funding was to enable work to be carried out to understand and identify the potential capability and infrastructure to strengthen collaborative working within the health and care third sector organisations in Leeds
Strategic Infrastructure Grant	-Funding to support Volition to respond to the challenges of Covid, both in terms of supporting members and internal organisation

Transfers between funds

A transfer has been made to the general fund in relation to a grant which was received during the year for capital items which were purchased in the year.

continued...

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st March 2021.

18. CAPITAL

Volition-Leeds is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The members have agreed to contribute £1 each to the Charity's assets in the event of it winding up, if it assets should prove insufficient to cover its liabilities.

19. TAXATION

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities by virtue of section 505 of the income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.