

RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE (RASA) CENTRE LTD

England & Wales · Charity number 1094462

Details

Other names RASA CENTRE

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [04538556](#)

Registered 2002-11-01

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address First Floor
Atlantic House
18-22 Hamilton Street
Birkenhead
Merseyside
CH41 1AL

Phone 07501227736

Email rasa@rasamerseyside.org

Website www.rasamerseyside.org

Activities

Objects: TO PRESERVE AND IMPROVE THE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH OF WOMEN AND GIRLS WHO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY, OR MAY BE AT RISK OF BEING AFFECTED BY SEXUAL ABUSE OR SEXUAL ASSAULT IN ANY MANNER WHICH NOW IS OR HEREINAFTER MAY BE DEEMED BY LAW TO BE CHARITABLE.TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE SUBJECT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT OR SEXUAL ABUSE.

Activities: RASA offers support & counselling anyone who has experienced any form of sexual violence (Rape, CSA, CSE) at any time in their life. We offer support, counselling, advocacy, training, groups,court & CJS support. We work with adults & children - children receiving specialist support in our Sunflowers Children's Service. In the case of very young children, RASA will work with parents or caregivers.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Liverpool City
- Sefton
- Wirral

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,540,950	£1,526,651	£49,830	34
2024-03-31	£1,420,682	£1,578,523	£35,531	38
2023-03-31	£1,376,478	£1,368,239	£193,372	36
2022-03-31	£1,140,903	£1,150,597	£185,133	33
2021-03-31	£1,029,486	£953,860	£194,818	27

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANBER RAZ	Chair	2022-12-18
Erin Victoria Harvey		2025-05-31
Sandra Blower		2022-12-02
Sophie Gunter		2022-12-18
Yvonne Carol Nolan		2025-05-31

Accounts



RASA Merseyside
Annual Report and Financial Review
For the year ended 31 March 2025

About RASA Merseyside

RASA Merseyside provides specialist, trauma-informed support to survivors of rape and sexual abuse across Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral. The organisation works with adults and children of all genders, offering counselling, advocacy, and Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) services designed to support recovery, safety, and survivor choice.

RASA's work is grounded in ethical practice, professional standards, and a commitment to delivering safe, high-quality specialist services to those affected by sexual violence.

Chair of Trustees' Foreword

As Chair of Trustees, I am pleased to present the Annual Report for RASA Merseyside for the year ended 31 March 2025.

This year continued to present significant challenges for specialist sexual violence services. Demand remained high, while the complexity of survivors' needs increased. At the same time, the voluntary sector faced ongoing financial pressures and uncertainty.

Throughout the year, RASA Merseyside continued to deliver high-quality, trauma-informed support to survivors across the region. This work has required professionalism, resilience, and strong governance.

I would like to thank RASA's staff and volunteers for their dedication and commitment, and my fellow Trustees for their continued oversight and support.

Anber Raz – Chair to The Board of Trustees

Statement from the Board of Trustees

This Annual Report covers the year ended 31 March 2025, a period characterised by sustained demand for specialist sexual violence services and increasing complexity in the needs of survivors accessing support.

The Trustees worked closely with the senior management team throughout the year to ensure that RASA Merseyside remained safe, effective, and financially well-governed.

This Year at RASA

This year has been defined not only by volume of demand, but by complexity.

Survivors accessing RASA Merseyside are increasingly presenting with complex trauma and intersecting challenges. Delivering this level of support places ongoing emotional and professional demands on staff and volunteers.

Our Impact

At RASA Merseyside, impact is not measured solely in numbers. The true impact lies in the quality, safety, and consistency of support provided.

“It’s been very validating to understand that what I’ve been through is trauma.”

“I’ve learned healthier ways to deal with my emotions.”



Voices & Reality

“Being in a safe place with a trusted person has helped me feel valid and supported.”

“I would not have continued with the police investigation without this support.”

Our Services

RASA Merseyside provides specialist counselling, advocacy, and ISVA services to survivors of rape and sexual abuse.

Counselling is delivered by trained practitioners with specialist expertise in sexual violence and trauma.

Advocacy and ISVA services provide practical and emotional support to survivors navigating complex systems.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. RASA Merseyside provides specialist services to survivors of rape and sexual abuse, contributing to improved wellbeing and recovery.

Finance Report

During the year ended 31 March 2025, RASA Merseyside managed income of approximately £1.62 million and expenditure of approximately £1.59 million, resulting in a small surplus.

Reserves remain below the level the Trustees would ideally wish to hold due to the restricted nature of most funding. Trustees continue to develop unrestricted income streams to improve resilience.

The Trustees consider the organisation to be a going concern.

Governance and Management

RASA Merseyside is governed by a Board of Trustees responsible for strategic direction, safeguarding, and financial oversight.

Looking Ahead

Demand for specialist sexual violence services continues to exceed funded capacity. Trustees remain focused on maintaining service quality and financial sustainability.

Staff and Volunteers

RASA Merseyside's work is delivered by a skilled and committed team of staff and volunteers working in emotionally demanding roles. Throughout the year, they continued to provide specialist, trauma-informed support to survivors while managing sustained pressure and increasing complexity in the needs of those accessing services.

Alongside frontline delivery, staff and volunteers contributed to supervision, safeguarding activity, partnership working, and service development, often adapting to change while maintaining professional standards and survivor-centred practice.

Trustees are grateful for the professionalism, resilience, and care shown by staff and volunteers throughout the year and recognise the importance of supporting wellbeing and sustainability alongside the delivery of high-quality services.

"This work is challenging, but knowing that survivors feel safe, believed, and supported makes it meaningful." — Staff member



Our Work in Numbers

During the year ended 31 March 2025, RASA Merseyside supported a total of 4,080 survivors, including 2,850 individuals accessing RASA services for the first time during the year.

These figures reflect sustained, specialist support delivered through counselling, advocacy, and ISVA services. Many survivors required ongoing support over extended periods, particularly those experiencing complex trauma or navigating criminal justice processes.

During the year ended 31 March 2025, RASA Merseyside delivered a substantial volume of specialist activity, including:

- 3,909 specialist assessments
- 3,582 ISVA support sessions
- 7,609 counselling sessions
- 7,436 telephone consultations
- 39,084 email enquiries and responses
- 729 pre-trial therapy sessions

These figures reflect the breadth and intensity of support provided, much of it delivered over sustained periods and alongside complex safeguarding, criminal justice, and wellbeing needs.



An Insight into Who We Support

RASA Merseyside supports survivors across the lifespan. During the year, 72 survivors aged over 75 accessed RASA services, highlighting that the impact of sexual violence can surface or be addressed many decades after abuse occurred.

The organisation also supported 466 children and young people under the age of 18 during the year. This underlines the importance of early, specialist intervention and robust safeguarding practice, as well as the need for services that are equipped to respond to trauma at all stages of development.

Many of the survivors aged over 75 were disclosing experiences of childhood sexual abuse for the first time. These individuals often presented with complex and long-standing mental health needs, reflecting the cumulative impact of trauma carried over many decades.

This highlights the critical importance of timely intervention and specialist support following any form of sexual violence. It also reinforces the need not only to listen to children when they speak out, but to truly hear them, believe them, and respond with appropriate care and protection.

Presenting Issues and Gender

Survivors accessing RASA Merseyside rarely present with a single, isolated experience of sexual violence. Many disclose multiple, overlapping forms of abuse, often spanning long periods of time.

For monitoring and reporting purposes, RASA records a primary presenting issue — typically the final or most immediate factor that triggers referral or self-referral. This approach supports consistent reporting while recognising that it does not capture the full extent of harm experienced.

During the year, the most commonly recorded presenting issues included childhood sexual abuse (CSA) and rape.

A total of 1,404 survivors reported CSA, with 1,075 disclosures relating to non-recent or historic abuse. Similarly, 1,367 survivors presented following rape, of whom 502 were reporting non-recent incidents.

These figures highlight the prevalence of delayed disclosure and the long-term impact of sexual violence.

In addition, 993 survivors reported multiple incidents of varied sexual violence, often indicative of prolonged exposure to abuse and the normalisation of harmful behaviour over time.

103 survivors presented following sexual exploitation, including grooming and image-based abuse, and 30 survivors reported stalking or sexual harassment as their primary presenting issue.

RASA also provided support to 151 family members and supporters of survivors. Supporting those around a survivor can be a critical part of recovery, helping to stabilise relationships, improve understanding of trauma, and strengthen informal support networks.

The gender profile of those accessing RASA services reflects a clear gendered pattern in sexual violence.

During the year, 3,425 women and girls accessed support, compared to 542 men, alongside 50 non-binary and 52 trans survivors.

While RASA provides inclusive specialist support to people of all genders, this distribution reinforces the disproportionate impact of sexual violence on women and girls and underlines the continued need for a strong and effective Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy.

Taken together, these patterns emphasise the importance of early, specialist intervention following any form of sexual violence. They also reinforce the need not only to listen when children and young people disclose abuse, but to truly hear them, believe them, and respond in ways that prevent harm from continuing or compounding over time.

"I feel lighter now. I can breathe again."
— Survivor supported by RASA

Looking Ahead: Prevention, Education and Hope

While RASA Merseyside's core work is rooted in responding to sexual violence and supporting survivors, the organisation remains equally committed to prevention.

Reducing the prevalence of sexual violence requires cultural change, informed responses, and the confidence to act appropriately when concerns arise.

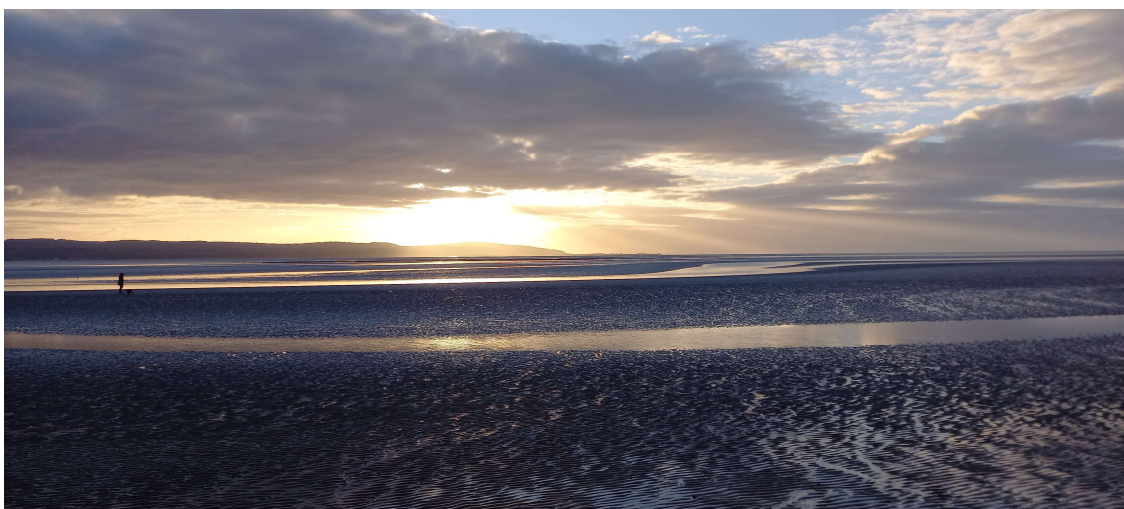
During the year, RASA delivered training to a wide range of organisations and professionals, including programmes on Handling Disclosures of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace.

This training supports safer environments by improving understanding, increasing confidence, and ensuring that disclosures are met with appropriate, trauma-informed responses.

RASA also delivers Bystander Training, equipping individuals and organisations with the skills to recognise concerning behaviour and to take proportionate, safe action where it is indicated. This approach empowers people to challenge harmful norms, support those at risk, and intervene early before harm escalates.

Through education and training, RASA aims to contribute to long-term change by increasing awareness, strengthening community responses, and reducing tolerance for sexual violence in all its forms.

Alongside specialist support for survivors, this preventative work offers a source of hope — that earlier intervention, informed action, and collective responsibility can help create safer communities for the future.



REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04538556 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1094462

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

After the rape and murder of Diane Sindall in August 1986, RASA started out as a small group of concerned women in a small, terraced house in Birkenhead. Word spread that there was help available for women and girls who had experienced sexual violence. Victims and survivors started calling in for support, and sensing a genuine need, the group of women formed themselves in a charity "Wirral Rape Crisis Counselling Service". The charity was launched on 28th September 1987 with the charitable objects: "To relieve the mental and physical distress of women and girls who have suffered rape or sexual assault."

RASA Merseyside provides specialist, trauma-informed support to survivors of rape and sexual abuse across Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral. The organisation works with adults and children of all genders, offering counselling, advocacy, and Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) services designed to support recovery, safety, and survivor choice. RASA's work is grounded in ethical practice, professional standards, and a commitment to delivering safe, high-quality specialist services to those affected by sexual violence.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The full Trustee's Report is filed separately at Charities Commission.

Central to RASA's purpose is the principle of providing a safe, confidential place for survivors of sexual violence to be listened to, believed, and supported, with no pressure put on them. This work encompasses a helpline and email contact service, face-to-face counselling and emotional support, facilitated support groups, advocacy for those dealing with the criminal justice system (ISVA), training for survivors and for the public, family support, mindfulness and meditation, complimentary therapies, and signposting to other services.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are

1. To provide a free, confidential and non-judgemental support service for women and girls who have been victims of sexual violence in Merseyside (under the trading name RASA).
2. To raise public awareness of the damaging and life-changing effects of rape and sexual abuse.

In order to fulfil these aims, the objectives of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are:

- * To provide a sexual violence aftercare service for women and girls, which includes one-to-one and group support, in women only space at the request of the woman or girl.
 - * To provide a telephone support service for supporters of survivors, both male and female.
 - * To provide information and advice to other individuals and agencies to provide training and talks to external agencies in the local community to recruit volunteers.
 - * To provide adequate training, support and supervision for staff and volunteers.
 - * To monitor and evaluate service provision and policies on a continual basis involving staff, volunteers and users.
 - * To work with external individuals and agencies to further the aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre to raise funds to meet the needs of the service, to identify areas of unmet need and take appropriate action.
 - * Since 2008, to provide parity of service for male survivors of sexual violence, noting that such support and counselling will not encroach on the women only space.
- RASA does not employ male staff or volunteers as we are keenly aware that the vast proportion of sexual violence is perpetrated by men against women and it would therefore be inappropriate for male workers to be evident in a professional sexual violence counselling and support service.

Working from a feminist perspective: What it means for RASA

Since it was established in Birkenhead in 1986, RASA Merseyside has always had a feminist ethos, and has aimed to support survivors of sexual violence from a feminist perspective.

People have different understandings of the term 'feminism', and the social and political movements that have been called 'feminist' are diverse, sometimes taking opposing positions on particular issues.

At RASA, we embrace diverse understandings and views, while ensuring that all RASA staff and volunteers share a common set of values on sexual violence through our recruitment and training practices.

Our ethos has been shaped by our experience of working with survivors of sexual violence, and by the lived experience of the women who have volunteered and worked for RASA, over the last 38 years.

This has led to an outward-looking approach, allowing us to respond to the needs of the community we are part of. Over the years, we have moved from being a collective of women offering peer support to other women in their community via a phone line, to the professional organisation we are today, offering counselling and ISVA services to women, children and men across the Merseyside boroughs of Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

While much has changed in the way we work, and the number of survivors we are able to help has grown, our core ethos has changed little.

We continue to describe our ethos as feminist for the following reasons:

- * Gender inequality, specifically discrimination against and oppression of women and girls, persists in our society and around the world.
- * While gender inequality has many consequences and effects, sexual violence is among the most severe and pervasive worldwide. This is evidenced by the fact that the vast majority of incidents of sexual violence are perpetrated by a man against a woman or girl.
- * Sexual violence is a means of exerting power and control over victims, and a means of diminishing the victim's own power and control over their own life. On a societal level, it is a means of enforcing patriarchal power and control through violence against individuals, and through the fear of violence.
- * Without recognising the gendered nature of sexual violence with individual survivors and as an organisation, we cannot help survivors to recover from trauma or find long-term strategies to address sexual violence in our community.
- * Patriarchal violence, perpetrated overwhelmingly by men, affects men and boys, and transgendered/non-binary people, as well as women and girls. Understanding the common pattern of sexual violence as a means of power and control and recognising the specific ways people of different genders are affected, is entirely compatible with a feminist approach to supporting survivors of sexual violence.
- * Maintaining a women-only workforce and providing women-only spaces remains crucial to our ability to support all survivors effectively. The survivors who come to us tell us this consistently.

Our Ethos

- * RASA Merseyside is a women-led, women-run service founded on feminist principles. We believe that by working in an all-women environment, we challenge structures that discriminate against women, providing the opportunity to empower ourselves and claim control of our own lives.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are crimes of violence and abuse of power, not 'unwanted sex'.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are never the fault of the survivor, and we work with all survivors towards this understanding of what happened to them.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are gendered crimes - the majority of victims are women and children, and the majority of perpetrators are men. Sexual violence is both an expression of, and a means of enforcing and increasing, discrimination against women and gender inequality.
- * Because women and girls live with sexism, the degradation of the female body and the threat of sexual violence in society at large, we create and maintain women-only spaces to offer relief and safety for survivors, and for the women who work at RASA. We know that this benefits survivors and helps them to heal.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

* When children have experienced sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, they require specialist support. We strive to develop ways of working that help children recover from this trauma, and live happy and healthy lives. We reach out to families, schools and the wider community to raise awareness and help prevent the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and young people.

* We know that transgender people are at increased risk of sexual violence and abuse, as well as transphobic violence. We aim to welcome all trans and non-binary gender survivors in a safe space for them, and work with other organisations locally to ensure they get the specialist support they need.

* We work with men and boys to the same feminist principles, recognizing the different ways that sexual violence affects them, and offering men-only support groups for survivors facilitated by a RASA worker. At RASA we see all sexual violence as a cause and a consequence of the patriarchal societal structure we live in, acknowledging that almost all men and boys who experience sexual violence are abused by a man. As such, we believe a service working to feminist principles is well placed to help male survivors of sexual violence.

* Recognising the oppression that many groups experience in today's society, we aim to work in a non-oppressive, anti-discriminatory way with people of any race, class, culture, immigration status, nationality, faith, sexuality, gender identity, age, disability, or health status. We work towards making our service accessible and available to all and actively seek to make links with the diverse communities in Merseyside.

Public benefit

RASA offers support & counselling to anyone who has experienced any form of sexual violence (Rape, CSA, CSE) at any time in their life. We offer support, counselling, advocacy, training, groups, court & CJS support. We work with adults & children.

Volunteers

RASA relies on volunteers to support the staff team of counsellors and ISVAs. Volunteers receive excellent training and development opportunities including the opportunity to access greatly reduced accredited training through RASA Education Limited.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

See full report for overview of charitable activities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

During the year ended 31 March 2025, RASA Merseyside managed income of approximately £1.62 million and expenditure of approximately £1.59 million, resulting in a small surplus.

Reserves remain below the level the Trustees would ideally wish to hold due to the restricted nature of most funding. Trustees continue to develop unrestricted income streams to improve resilience.

The Trustees consider the organisation to be a going concern.

RASA has in place a comprehensive Financial Procedure (updated and reviewed annually). It is available upon request.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for five years (April 2022 to March 2027) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs. The service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs. RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for all survivors of sexual violence. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

This fund was rolled forward by MoJ pending new tender process in April 2023. Tendering did not take place, and the funding was further extended to 31-03-2025 at a similar value but with a small uplift to meet the enhanced demand for services.

In December 2024, this funding was further extended to 31-03-26

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ADDITIONAL ISVA FUNDING VIA OPCC - all extended to 2024/25

Ringfenced funding for sexual violence (SV) victim support services, achieved by OPCC and commissioned out to RASA/RASASC partnership.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ISVA FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for additional ISVA funding on behalf of RASA and RASASC to allow us to enhance and improve our response to those individuals who wished to make reports to the police and be supported through the criminal justice system. Throughout this year, it was indeed essential to provide this additional support to such victims as justice systems remain gridlocked and cases are taking longer and longer to get to court. This means ISVAs are carrying bigger and more complex caseloads and are becoming overwhelmed. Some cases in this year are not due to appear in courts for 18 -24 months.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the joint aims of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum - and providing satisfactorily trained volunteer counsellors to assist in reducing waiting times.

In this year the Education Centre contributed £121,364 to RASA with £110,965 being used for funds for trainers and exam registration and fees. We await confirmation of degree course acceptance from Liverpool John Moores University.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

RASA aims to build a reserve fund to cover 3 months running costs of the Charity. Currently such a reserve would be in the region of £500,000. As RASA works to contract budget deadlines, it is unlikely that RASA will achieve full reserve cover without substantial unrestricted donations being received as all available funding is being used to maintain and develop services for clients.

At 31st March 2025 the total funds held are £49,830 made up of Restricted Funds of £27,704 and Unrestricted Funds of £22,126.

Included in restricted funds is the balance of the property owned by the charity at £14,940.

The total reserves not including the property is £34,890.

RASA recognises that this is insufficient reserve to hold and will work in coming years to rebuild the reserve following the relocation of the services into more accessible and modern accommodation that better serves the client base.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the 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 are sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

FUTURE PLANS

Demand for specialist sexual violence services continues to exceed funded capacity. Trustees remain focused on maintaining service quality and financial sustainability.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

RASA is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England / Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 9 of these financial statements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

RASA welcomes individuals who wish to be considered as a potential trustee.

Prospective trustees are recommended, self-refer or respond to advertisements on volunteer websites.

Prospective trustees progress through to appointment via the safer recruitment process under which they are interviewed by two senior staff members and/or an existing trustee.

As an accredited member of Rape Crisis England and Wales, RASA must ensure that the trustee board remains women lead. Men are welcome to apply to be trustees but will be unable to take key board positions.

Following safer recruitment process completion, prospective candidates are forwarded for election at the next AGM. At this point they must present a short biography to allow members to decide who they wish to elect. Existing elected trustees may also decide to recommend individuals to be co-opted onto the Board of Trustees. This must be carried out in line with the RASA Constitution.

Decision making

Day to day decisions are made by the operational management team consisting of Josephine Wood, Vicky Green and Lorraine Wood.

Induction and training of new trustees

Individuals must then successfully complete the RASA training for non-client focused staff. This process is carefully monitored by Education Centre staff for suitability to work with RASA.

Key management remuneration

Trustees have set the remuneration for key management.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04538556 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1094462

Registered office

First Floor
Atlantic House
Hamilton Street
Birkenhead
Wirral
CH41 1AL

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Trustees

A Raz
S Gunter
S Blower
E Harvey (appointed 31.5.25)
Y Nolan (appointed 31.5.25)

Company Secretary

J Wood

Senior Statutory Auditor

Beverley Rice

Auditors

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Limited 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;
- 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, Robinson Rice Associates, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited (Registered number: 04538556)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 29 January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'S Blower', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

S Blower - Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

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

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

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

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation

Our audit response is based on:

- Enquiry of management, those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Enquiry of entity staff in compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators and legal advisors.
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.
- Assessing whether judgements and assumptions made in determining accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias

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
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Rice', with a stylized flourish above the name.

Beverley Rice (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

30 January 2026

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	153,651	1	153,652	80,662
Charitable activities	5				
Provision of services		-	1,379,380	1,379,380	1,328,859
Other trading activities	3	7,650	-	7,650	10,800
Investment income	4	268	-	268	361
Total		<u>161,569</u>	<u>1,379,381</u>	<u>1,540,950</u>	<u>1,420,682</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	6				
Provision of services		<u>139,678</u>	<u>1,386,973</u>	<u>1,526,651</u>	<u>1,578,523</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		21,891	(7,592)	14,299	(157,841)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		235	35,296	35,531	193,372
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>22,126</u>	<u>27,704</u>	<u>49,830</u>	<u>35,531</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited (Registered number: 04538556)

Balance Sheet
31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	13	3,286	15,386	18,672	24,719
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	14	-	10,298	10,298	14,300
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>29,640</u>	<u>2,018</u>	<u>31,658</u>	<u>62,865</u>
		29,640	12,316	41,956	77,165
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(10,800)	2	(10,798)	(66,353)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>18,840</u>	<u>12,318</u>	<u>31,158</u>	<u>10,812</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>22,126</u>	<u>27,704</u>	<u>49,830</u>	<u>35,531</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>22,126</u>	<u>27,704</u>	<u>49,830</u>	<u>35,531</u>
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				22,126	235
Restricted funds				<u>27,704</u>	<u>35,296</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>49,830</u>	<u>35,531</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 29 January 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:



S Blower - Trustee

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>(31,475)</u>	<u>(77,538)</u>
Net cash used in operating activities		<u>(31,475)</u>	<u>(77,538)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(8,400)
Interest received		<u>268</u>	<u>361</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>268</u>	<u>(8,039)</u>
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(31,207)	(85,577)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>62,865</u>	<u>148,442</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>31,658</u></u>	<u><u>62,865</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

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

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	14,299	(157,841)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	6,048	10,597
Interest received	(268)	(361)
Trade and other creditors	3	(1)
Decrease in debtors	4,002	68,966
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>(55,559)</u>	<u>1,102</u>
Net cash used in operations	<u><u>(31,475)</u></u>	<u><u>(77,538)</u></u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.25 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>62,865</u>	<u>(31,207)</u>	<u>31,658</u>
	<u>62,865</u>	<u>(31,207)</u>	<u>31,658</u>
Total	<u><u>62,865</u></u>	<u><u>(31,207)</u></u>	<u><u>31,658</u></u>

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.

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.

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.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

All splits are based on the numbers of clients served by the particular costs - or in the case of supervision - actual costs itemised in invoices. In the case of funds to be split across boroughs, funds are split in accordance with population of the borough in question (%).

Tangible fixed assets

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

Freehold property	- in accordance with the property
Improvements to property	- 33% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost and 25% on cost

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.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Donations	<u>153,652</u>	<u>80,662</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Training courses	<u>7,650</u>	<u>10,800</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>268</u>	<u>361</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Commissioned work	Activity		
	Provision of services	652,099	652,099
Grants	Provision of services	<u>727,281</u>	<u>676,760</u>
		<u>1,379,380</u>	<u>1,328,859</u>

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

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Grant Income	<u>727,281</u>	<u>676,760</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>1,513,949</u>	<u>12,702</u>	<u>1,526,651</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>74</u>	<u>12,628</u>	<u>12,702</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Depreciation - owned assets	6,047	10,600
Other operating leases	<u>7,058</u>	<u>6,725</u>

9. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors for the audit of the charity's financial statements	<u>8,190</u>	<u>7,500</u>

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

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

11. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>961,680</u>	<u>1,023,585</u>
	<u>961,680</u>	<u>1,023,585</u>

Salary costs include amounts paid to subcontracted workers.

They also include:

Employers National Insurance £71,044
Employer Pension Contributions £15,384

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
Management	8	8
Counsellors and support workers	<u>26</u>	<u>30</u>
	<u>34</u>	<u>38</u>

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

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	80,663	(1)	80,662
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	-	1,328,859	1,328,859
Other trading activities	10,800	-	10,800
Investment income	361	-	361
Total	<u>91,824</u>	<u>1,328,858</u>	<u>1,420,682</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	<u>252,398</u>	<u>1,326,125</u>	<u>1,578,523</u>
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(160,574)	2,733	(157,841)
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>160,811</u>	<u>32,561</u>	<u>193,372</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>237</u></u>	<u><u>35,294</u></u>	<u><u>35,531</u></u>

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	<u>41,500</u>	<u>16,920</u>	<u>21,565</u>	<u>67,728</u>	<u>147,713</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2024	25,730	16,920	20,780	59,564	122,994
Charge for year	<u>830</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>237</u>	<u>4,980</u>	<u>6,047</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>26,560</u>	<u>16,920</u>	<u>21,017</u>	<u>64,544</u>	<u>129,041</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2025	<u>14,940</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>548</u>	<u>3,184</u>	<u>18,672</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>15,770</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>785</u>	<u>8,164</u>	<u>24,719</u>

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Other debtors	8,016	8,016
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>2,282</u>	<u>6,284</u>
	<u>10,298</u>	<u>14,300</u>

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Other creditors	-	(1)
Accruals and deferred income	-	56,454
Accrued expenses	<u>10,798</u>	<u>9,900</u>
	<u>10,798</u>	<u>66,353</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	34,385	18,015	52,400
Lime Culture for Truth Project	136	(34)	102
Education Service	<u>(34,286)</u>	<u>3,910</u>	<u>(30,376)</u>
	235	21,891	22,126
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	56	(56)	-
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	15,770	(830)	14,940
Rape Services Funding	8,993	1,621	10,614
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	174	(43)	131
Jill's Fund	2,986	(2,986)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	339	(339)	-
OPCC Contract	1,371	(1,371)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	2,000	-	2,000
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	1,846	(1,846)	-
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,150	(1,131)	19
OPCC Remote Counselling *	<u>611</u>	<u>(611)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>35,296</u>	<u>(7,592)</u>	<u>27,704</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>35,531</u>	<u>14,299</u>	<u>49,830</u>

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	46,489	(28,474)	18,015
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(34)	(34)
Education Service	115,080	(111,170)	3,910
	161,569	(139,678)	21,891
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	-	(56)	(56)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(830)	(830)
Rape Services Funding	495,798	(494,177)	1,621
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	1	(44)	(43)
Jill's Fund	-	(2,986)	(2,986)
MOJ Male	53,974	(53,974)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	-	(339)	(339)
OPCC Contract	652,099	(653,470)	(1,371)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	32,888	(32,888)	-
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	1	(1,847)	(1,846)
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	(1,131)	(1,131)
OPCC Remote Counselling *	-	(611)	(611)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2	27,500	(27,500)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	72,999	(72,999)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	44,121	(44,121)	-
	1,379,381	(1,386,973)	(7,592)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,540,950</u>	<u>(1,526,651)</u>	<u>14,299</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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

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	165,864	(131,479)	34,385
Lime Culture for Truth Project	3,418	(3,282)	136
Education Service	(8,471)	(25,815)	(34,286)
	160,811	(160,576)	235
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	74	(18)	56
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	16,600	(830)	15,770
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	46	(46)	-
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	25	(25)	-
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	262	(262)	-
Liverpool City Safe *	41	(41)	-
Rape Services Funding	2,217	6,776	8,993
SARC Counselling Funding *	19	(19)	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	47	(47)	-
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	530	(530)	-
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	232	(58)	174
Wirral CSP	20	(20)	-
Jill's Fund	3,105	(119)	2,986
MOJ Male	1,109	(1,109)	-
MOJ Additional Funding	403	(403)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	679	(340)	339
OPCC Contract	(9,634)	11,005	1,371
Steve Morgan Foundation	7,311	(7,311)	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	2,059	(2,059)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	1,994	6	2,000
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	(1,154)	1,846
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	(50)	1,150
OPCC Remote Counselling *	1,222	(611)	611
	32,561	2,735	35,296
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>193,372</u>	<u>(157,841)</u>	<u>35,531</u>

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	30,957	(162,436)	(131,479)
Lime Culture for Truth Project	(1)	(3,281)	(3,282)
Education Service	60,868	(86,683)	(25,815)
	91,824	(252,400)	(160,576)
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	1	(19)	(18)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House			
*	-	(830)	(830)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(46)	(46)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(25)	(25)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(262)	(262)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(41)	(41)
Rape Services Funding	442,776	(436,000)	6,776
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(19)	(19)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(47)	(47)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	-	(530)	(530)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	-	(58)	(58)
Wirral CSP	-	(20)	(20)
Jill's Fund	-	(119)	(119)
MOJ Male	53,974	(55,083)	(1,109)
MOJ Additional Funding	-	(403)	(403)
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	(1)	(339)	(340)
OPCC Contract	652,098	(641,093)	11,005
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	(7,311)	(7,311)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	(2,059)	(2,059)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	32,888	(32,888)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	-	6	6
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	-	(1,154)	(1,154)
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	(50)	(50)
OPCC Remote Counselling *	-	(611)	(611)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	27,500	(27,500)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	73,001	(73,001)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	44,121	(44,121)	-
NPT Transatlantic Promotional Material	2,500	(2,500)	-
	1,328,858	(1,326,123)	2,735

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,420,682</u>	<u>(1,578,523)</u>	<u>(157,841)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	165,864	(113,464)	52,400
Lime Culture for Truth Project	3,418	(3,316)	102
Education Service	<u>(8,471)</u>	<u>(21,905)</u>	<u>(30,376)</u>
	160,811	(138,685)	22,126
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	74	(74)	-
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	16,600	(1,660)	14,940
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	46	(46)	-
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	25	(25)	-
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	262	(262)	-
Liverpool City Safe *	41	(41)	-
Rape Services Funding	2,217	8,397	10,614
SARC Counselling Funding *	19	(19)	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	47	(47)	-
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	530	(530)	-
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	232	(101)	131
Wirral CSP	20	(20)	-
Jill's Fund	3,105	(3,105)	-
MOJ Male	1,109	(1,109)	-
MOJ Additional Funding	403	(403)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	679	(679)	-
OPCC Contract	(9,634)	9,634	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	7,311	(7,311)	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	2,059	(2,059)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	1,994	6	2,000
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	(3,000)	-
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	(1,181)	19
OPCC Remote Counselling *	<u>1,222</u>	<u>(1,222)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>32,561</u>	<u>(4,857)</u>	<u>27,704</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>193,372</u>	<u>(143,542)</u>	<u>49,830</u>

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	77,446	(190,910)	(113,464)
Lime Culture for Truth Project	(1)	(3,315)	(3,316)
Education Service	175,948	(197,853)	(21,905)
	253,393	(392,078)	(138,685)
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	1	(75)	(74)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(1,660)	(1,660)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(46)	(46)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(25)	(25)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(262)	(262)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(41)	(41)
Rape Services Funding	938,574	(930,177)	8,397
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(19)	(19)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(47)	(47)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	-	(530)	(530)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	1	(102)	(101)
Wirral CSP	-	(20)	(20)
Jill's Fund	-	(3,105)	(3,105)
MOJ Male	107,948	(109,057)	(1,109)
MOJ Additional Funding	-	(403)	(403)
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	(1)	(678)	(679)
OPCC Contract	1,304,197	(1,294,563)	9,634
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	(7,311)	(7,311)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	(2,059)	(2,059)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	65,776	(65,776)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	-	6	6
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	1	(3,001)	(3,000)
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	(1,181)	(1,181)
OPCC Remote Counselling *	-	(1,222)	(1,222)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	55,000	(55,000)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	146,000	(146,000)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	88,242	(88,242)	-
NPT Transatlantic Promotional Material	2,500	(2,500)	-

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

	<u>2,708,239</u>	<u>(2,713,096)</u>	<u>(4,857)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>2,961,632</u></u>	<u><u>(3,105,174)</u></u>	<u><u>(143,542)</u></u>

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

18. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating Lease Commitments

The total rent due to be paid within one year are £91,806 (2024 £91,806)

There is a photocopier lease and the payments due in the next year are £6,287 (2024 £6,287).

The total of commitments due within one year is £98,093 (2024 £98,093)

The total of commitments due more than one year is £185,032 (2024 £283,125).

Other rents are paid on rolling contracts.

19. FUNDS

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

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MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for all survivors of sexual violence. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

This fund was rolled forward by MoJ pending new tender process in April 2023. Tendering did not take place and the funding was further extended to 31-03-2025 at a similar value but with a small uplift to meet the enhanced demand for services.

In December 2024, this funding was further extended to 31-03-26

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ADDITIONAL ISVA FUNDING VIA OPCC - all extended to 2024/25 Ringfenced funding for sexual violence (SV) victim support services, achieved by OPCC and commissioned out to RASA/RASASC partnership.

19. FUNDS - continued

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ISVA FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for additional ISVA funding on behalf of RASA and RASASC to allow us to enhance and improve our response to those individuals who wished to make reports to the police and be supported through the criminal justice system. Throughout this year, it was indeed essential to provide this additional support to such victims as justice systems remain gridlocked and cases are taking longer and longer to get to court. This means ISVAs are carrying bigger and more complex caseloads and are becoming overwhelmed. Some cases in this year are not due to appear in courts for 18 -24 months.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the joint aims of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum - and providing satisfactorily trained volunteer counsellors to assist in reducing waiting times.

In this year the Education Centre contributed £121,364 to RASA with £110,965 being used for funds for trainers and exam registration and fees. We await confirmation of degree course acceptance from Liverpool John Moores University.

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04538556 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1094462

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

After the rape and murder of Diane Sindall in August 1986, RASA started out as a small group of concerned women in a small, terraced house in Birkenhead. Word spread that there was help available for women and girls who had experienced sexual violence. Victims and survivors started calling in for support, and sensing a genuine need, the group of women formed themselves in a charity "Wirral Rape Crisis Counselling Service". The charity was launched on 28th September 1987 with the charitable objects: "To relieve the mental and physical distress of women and girls who have suffered rape or sexual assault."

RASA Merseyside provides specialist, trauma-informed support to survivors of rape and sexual abuse across Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral. The organisation works with adults and children of all genders, offering counselling, advocacy, and Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) services designed to support recovery, safety, and survivor choice. RASA's work is grounded in ethical practice, professional standards, and a commitment to delivering safe, high-quality specialist services to those affected by sexual violence.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The full Trustee's Report is filed separately at Charities Commission.

Central to RASA's purpose is the principle of providing a safe, confidential place for survivors of sexual violence to be listened to, believed, and supported, with no pressure put on them. This work encompasses a helpline and email contact service, face-to-face counselling and emotional support, facilitated support groups, advocacy for those dealing with the criminal justice system (ISVA), training for survivors and for the public, family support, mindfulness and meditation, complimentary therapies, and signposting to other services.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are

1. To provide a free, confidential and non-judgemental support service for women and girls who have been victims of sexual violence in Merseyside (under the trading name RASA).
2. To raise public awareness of the damaging and life-changing effects of rape and sexual abuse.

In order to fulfil these aims, the objectives of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are:

- * To provide a sexual violence aftercare service for women and girls, which includes one-to-one and group support, in women only space at the request of the woman or girl.
 - * To provide a telephone support service for supporters of survivors, both male and female.
 - * To provide information and advice to other individuals and agencies to provide training and talks to external agencies in the local community to recruit volunteers.
 - * To provide adequate training, support and supervision for staff and volunteers.
 - * To monitor and evaluate service provision and policies on a continual basis involving staff, volunteers and users.
 - * To work with external individuals and agencies to further the aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre to raise funds to meet the needs of the service, to identify areas of unmet need and take appropriate action.
 - * Since 2008, to provide parity of service for male survivors of sexual violence, noting that such support and counselling will not encroach on the women only space.
- RASA does not employ male staff or volunteers as we are keenly aware that the vast proportion of sexual violence is perpetrated by men against women and it would therefore be inappropriate for male workers to be evident in a professional sexual violence counselling and support service.

Working from a feminist perspective: What it means for RASA

Since it was established in Birkenhead in 1986, RASA Merseyside has always had a feminist ethos, and has aimed to support survivors of sexual violence from a feminist perspective.

People have different understandings of the term 'feminism', and the social and political movements that have been called 'feminist' are diverse, sometimes taking opposing positions on particular issues.

At RASA, we embrace diverse understandings and views, while ensuring that all RASA staff and volunteers share a common set of values on sexual violence through our recruitment and training practices.

Our ethos has been shaped by our experience of working with survivors of sexual violence, and by the lived experience of the women who have volunteered and worked for RASA, over the last 38 years.

This has led to an outward-looking approach, allowing us to respond to the needs of the community we are part of. Over the years, we have moved from being a collective of women offering peer support to other women in their community via a phone line, to the professional organisation we are today, offering counselling and ISVA services to women, children and men across the Merseyside boroughs of Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

While much has changed in the way we work, and the number of survivors we are able to help has grown, our core ethos has changed little.

We continue to describe our ethos as feminist for the following reasons:

- * Gender inequality, specifically discrimination against and oppression of women and girls, persists in our society and around the world.
- * While gender inequality has many consequences and effects, sexual violence is among the most severe and pervasive worldwide. This is evidenced by the fact that the vast majority of incidents of sexual violence are perpetrated by a man against a woman or girl.
- * Sexual violence is a means of exerting power and control over victims, and a means of diminishing the victim's own power and control over their own life. On a societal level, it is a means of enforcing patriarchal power and control through violence against individuals, and through the fear of violence.
- * Without recognising the gendered nature of sexual violence with individual survivors and as an organisation, we cannot help survivors to recover from trauma or find long-term strategies to address sexual violence in our community.
- * Patriarchal violence, perpetrated overwhelmingly by men, affects men and boys, and transgendered/non-binary people, as well as women and girls. Understanding the common pattern of sexual violence as a means of power and control and recognising the specific ways people of different genders are affected, is entirely compatible with a feminist approach to supporting survivors of sexual violence.
- * Maintaining a women-only workforce and providing women-only spaces remains crucial to our ability to support all survivors effectively. The survivors who come to us tell us this consistently.

Our Ethos

- * RASA Merseyside is a women-led, women-run service founded on feminist principles. We believe that by working in an all-women environment, we challenge structures that discriminate against women, providing the opportunity to empower ourselves and claim control of our own lives.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are crimes of violence and abuse of power, not 'unwanted sex'.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are never the fault of the survivor, and we work with all survivors towards this understanding of what happened to them.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are gendered crimes - the majority of victims are women and children, and the majority of perpetrators are men. Sexual violence is both an expression of, and a means of enforcing and increasing, discrimination against women and gender inequality.
- * Because women and girls live with sexism, the degradation of the female body and the threat of sexual violence in society at large, we create and maintain women-only spaces to offer relief and safety for survivors, and for the women who work at RASA. We know that this benefits survivors and helps them to heal.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

* When children have experienced sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, they require specialist support. We strive to develop ways of working that help children recover from this trauma, and live happy and healthy lives. We reach out to families, schools and the wider community to raise awareness and help prevent the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and young people.

* We know that transgender people are at increased risk of sexual violence and abuse, as well as transphobic violence. We aim to welcome all trans and non-binary gender survivors in a safe space for them, and work with other organisations locally to ensure they get the specialist support they need.

* We work with men and boys to the same feminist principles, recognizing the different ways that sexual violence affects them, and offering men-only support groups for survivors facilitated by a RASA worker. At RASA we see all sexual violence as a cause and a consequence of the patriarchal societal structure we live in, acknowledging that almost all men and boys who experience sexual violence are abused by a man. As such, we believe a service working to feminist principles is well placed to help male survivors of sexual violence.

* Recognising the oppression that many groups experience in today's society, we aim to work in a non-oppressive, anti-discriminatory way with people of any race, class, culture, immigration status, nationality, faith, sexuality, gender identity, age, disability, or health status. We work towards making our service accessible and available to all and actively seek to make links with the diverse communities in Merseyside.

Public benefit

RASA offers support & counselling to anyone who has experienced any form of sexual violence (Rape, CSA, CSE) at any time in their life. We offer support, counselling, advocacy, training, groups, court & CJS support. We work with adults & children.

Volunteers

RASA relies on volunteers to support the staff team of counsellors and ISVAs. Volunteers receive excellent training and development opportunities including the opportunity to access greatly reduced accredited training through RASA Education Limited.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

See full report for overview of charitable activities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

During the year ended 31 March 2025, RASA Merseyside managed income of approximately £1.62 million and expenditure of approximately £1.59 million, resulting in a small surplus.

Reserves remain below the level the Trustees would ideally wish to hold due to the restricted nature of most funding. Trustees continue to develop unrestricted income streams to improve resilience.

The Trustees consider the organisation to be a going concern.

RASA has in place a comprehensive Financial Procedure (updated and reviewed annually). It is available upon request.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

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FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

RASA aims to build a reserve fund to cover 3 months running costs of the Charity. Currently such a reserve would be in the region of £500,000. As RASA works to contract budget deadlines, it is unlikely that RASA will achieve full reserve cover without substantial unrestricted donations being received as all available funding is being used to maintain and develop services for clients.

At 31st March 2025 the total funds held are £49,830 made up of Restricted Funds of £27,704 and Unrestricted Funds of £22,126.

Included in restricted funds is the balance of the property owned by the charity at £14,940.

The total reserves not including the property is £34,890.

RASA recognises that this is insufficient reserve to hold and will work in coming years to rebuild the reserve following the relocation of the services into more accessible and modern accommodation that better serves the client base.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the 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 are sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

FUTURE PLANS

Demand for specialist sexual violence services continues to exceed funded capacity. Trustees remain focused on maintaining service quality and financial sustainability.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

RASA is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England / Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 9 of these financial statements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

RASA welcomes individuals who wish to be considered as a potential trustee.

Prospective trustees are recommended, self-refer or respond to advertisements on volunteer websites.

Prospective trustees progress through to appointment via the safer recruitment process under which they are interviewed by two senior staff members and/or an existing trustee.

As an accredited member of Rape Crisis England and Wales, RASA must ensure that the trustee board remains women lead. Men are welcome to apply to be trustees but will be unable to take key board positions.

Following safer recruitment process completion, prospective candidates are forwarded for election at the next AGM. At this point they must present a short biography to allow members to decide who they wish to elect. Existing elected trustees may also decide to recommend individuals to be co-opted onto the Board of Trustees. This must be carried out in line with the RASA Constitution.

Decision making

Day to day decisions are made by the operational management team consisting of Josephine Wood, Vicky Green and Lorraine Wood.

Induction and training of new trustees

Individuals must then successfully complete the RASA training for non-client focused staff. This process is carefully monitored by Education Centre staff for suitability to work with RASA.

Key management remuneration

Trustees have set the remuneration for key management.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04538556 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1094462

Registered office

First Floor
Atlantic House
Hamilton Street
Birkenhead
Wirral
CH41 1AL

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Trustees

A Raz
S Gunter
S Blower
E Harvey (appointed 31.5.25)
Y Nolan (appointed 31.5.25)

Company Secretary

J Wood

Senior Statutory Auditor

Beverley Rice

Auditors

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Limited 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;
- 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, Robinson Rice Associates, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited (Registered number: 04538556)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 29 January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'S Blower', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

S Blower - Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

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

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

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

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation

Our audit response is based on:

- Enquiry of management, those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Enquiry of entity staff in compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators and legal advisors.
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.
- Assessing whether judgements and assumptions made in determining accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias

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
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Rice', with a stylized flourish above the name.

Beverley Rice (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

30 January 2026

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	153,651	1	153,652	80,662
Charitable activities	5				
Provision of services		-	1,379,380	1,379,380	1,328,859
Other trading activities	3	7,650	-	7,650	10,800
Investment income	4	268	-	268	361
Total		<u>161,569</u>	<u>1,379,381</u>	<u>1,540,950</u>	<u>1,420,682</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	6				
Provision of services		<u>139,678</u>	<u>1,386,973</u>	<u>1,526,651</u>	<u>1,578,523</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		21,891	(7,592)	14,299	(157,841)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		235	35,296	35,531	193,372
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>22,126</u></u>	<u><u>27,704</u></u>	<u><u>49,830</u></u>	<u><u>35,531</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited (Registered number: 04538556)

Balance Sheet
31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	13	3,286	15,386	18,672	24,719
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	14	-	10,298	10,298	14,300
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>29,640</u>	<u>2,018</u>	<u>31,658</u>	<u>62,865</u>
		29,640	12,316	41,956	77,165
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(10,800)	2	(10,798)	(66,353)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>18,840</u>	<u>12,318</u>	<u>31,158</u>	<u>10,812</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>22,126</u>	<u>27,704</u>	<u>49,830</u>	<u>35,531</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>22,126</u>	<u>27,704</u>	<u>49,830</u>	<u>35,531</u>
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				22,126	235
Restricted funds				<u>27,704</u>	<u>35,296</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>49,830</u>	<u>35,531</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 29 January 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:



S Blower - Trustee

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>(31,475)</u>	<u>(77,538)</u>
Net cash used in operating activities		<u>(31,475)</u>	<u>(77,538)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(8,400)
Interest received		<u>268</u>	<u>361</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>268</u>	<u>(8,039)</u>
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(31,207)	(85,577)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>62,865</u>	<u>148,442</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>31,658</u></u>	<u><u>62,865</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

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

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	14,299	(157,841)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	6,048	10,597
Interest received	(268)	(361)
Trade and other creditors	3	(1)
Decrease in debtors	4,002	68,966
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>(55,559)</u>	<u>1,102</u>
Net cash used in operations	<u><u>(31,475)</u></u>	<u><u>(77,538)</u></u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.25 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>62,865</u>	<u>(31,207)</u>	<u>31,658</u>
	<u>62,865</u>	<u>(31,207)</u>	<u>31,658</u>
Total	<u><u>62,865</u></u>	<u><u>(31,207)</u></u>	<u><u>31,658</u></u>

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.

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.

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.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

All splits are based on the numbers of clients served by the particular costs - or in the case of supervision - actual costs itemised in invoices. In the case of funds to be split across boroughs, funds are split in accordance with population of the borough in question (%).

Tangible fixed assets

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

Freehold property	- in accordance with the property
Improvements to property	- 33% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost and 25% on cost

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.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Donations	<u>153,652</u>	<u>80,662</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Training courses	<u>7,650</u>	<u>10,800</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>268</u>	<u>361</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Commissioned work	Activity		
	Provision of services	652,099	652,099
Grants	Provision of services	<u>727,281</u>	<u>676,760</u>
		<u>1,379,380</u>	<u>1,328,859</u>

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

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Grant Income	<u>727,281</u>	<u>676,760</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>1,513,949</u>	<u>12,702</u>	<u>1,526,651</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>74</u>	<u>12,628</u>	<u>12,702</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Depreciation - owned assets	6,047	10,600
Other operating leases	<u>7,058</u>	<u>6,725</u>

9. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors for the audit of the charity's financial statements	<u>8,190</u>	<u>7,500</u>

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

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

11. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>961,680</u>	<u>1,023,585</u>
	<u>961,680</u>	<u>1,023,585</u>

Salary costs include amounts paid to subcontracted workers.

They also include:

Employers National Insurance £71,044
Employer Pension Contributions £15,384

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
Management	8	8
Counsellors and support workers	<u>26</u>	<u>30</u>
	<u>34</u>	<u>38</u>

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

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	80,663	(1)	80,662
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	-	1,328,859	1,328,859
Other trading activities	10,800	-	10,800
Investment income	361	-	361
Total	<u>91,824</u>	<u>1,328,858</u>	<u>1,420,682</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	<u>252,398</u>	<u>1,326,125</u>	<u>1,578,523</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(160,574)	2,733	(157,841)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>160,811</u>	<u>32,561</u>	<u>193,372</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>237</u>	<u>35,294</u>	<u>35,531</u>

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	<u>41,500</u>	<u>16,920</u>	<u>21,565</u>	<u>67,728</u>	<u>147,713</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2024	25,730	16,920	20,780	59,564	122,994
Charge for year	<u>830</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>237</u>	<u>4,980</u>	<u>6,047</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>26,560</u>	<u>16,920</u>	<u>21,017</u>	<u>64,544</u>	<u>129,041</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2025	<u>14,940</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>548</u>	<u>3,184</u>	<u>18,672</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>15,770</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>785</u>	<u>8,164</u>	<u>24,719</u>

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Other debtors	8,016	8,016
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>2,282</u>	<u>6,284</u>
	<u>10,298</u>	<u>14,300</u>

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Other creditors	-	(1)
Accruals and deferred income	-	56,454
Accrued expenses	<u>10,798</u>	<u>9,900</u>
	<u>10,798</u>	<u>66,353</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	34,385	18,015	52,400
Lime Culture for Truth Project	136	(34)	102
Education Service	<u>(34,286)</u>	<u>3,910</u>	<u>(30,376)</u>
	235	21,891	22,126
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	56	(56)	-
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	15,770	(830)	14,940
Rape Services Funding	8,993	1,621	10,614
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	174	(43)	131
Jill's Fund	2,986	(2,986)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	339	(339)	-
OPCC Contract	1,371	(1,371)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	2,000	-	2,000
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	1,846	(1,846)	-
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,150	(1,131)	19
OPCC Remote Counselling *	<u>611</u>	<u>(611)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>35,296</u>	<u>(7,592)</u>	<u>27,704</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>35,531</u>	<u>14,299</u>	<u>49,830</u>

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	46,489	(28,474)	18,015
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(34)	(34)
Education Service	115,080	(111,170)	3,910
	161,569	(139,678)	21,891
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	-	(56)	(56)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(830)	(830)
Rape Services Funding	495,798	(494,177)	1,621
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	1	(44)	(43)
Jill's Fund	-	(2,986)	(2,986)
MOJ Male	53,974	(53,974)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	-	(339)	(339)
OPCC Contract	652,099	(653,470)	(1,371)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	32,888	(32,888)	-
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	1	(1,847)	(1,846)
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	(1,131)	(1,131)
OPCC Remote Counselling *	-	(611)	(611)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	27,500	(27,500)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	72,999	(72,999)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	44,121	(44,121)	-
	1,379,381	(1,386,973)	(7,592)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,540,950</u>	<u>(1,526,651)</u>	<u>14,299</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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

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	165,864	(131,479)	34,385
Lime Culture for Truth Project	3,418	(3,282)	136
Education Service	(8,471)	(25,815)	(34,286)
	160,811	(160,576)	235
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	74	(18)	56
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	16,600	(830)	15,770
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	46	(46)	-
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	25	(25)	-
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	262	(262)	-
Liverpool City Safe *	41	(41)	-
Rape Services Funding	2,217	6,776	8,993
SARC Counselling Funding *	19	(19)	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	47	(47)	-
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	530	(530)	-
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	232	(58)	174
Wirral CSP	20	(20)	-
Jill's Fund	3,105	(119)	2,986
MOJ Male	1,109	(1,109)	-
MOJ Additional Funding	403	(403)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	679	(340)	339
OPCC Contract	(9,634)	11,005	1,371
Steve Morgan Foundation	7,311	(7,311)	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	2,059	(2,059)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	1,994	6	2,000
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	(1,154)	1,846
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	(50)	1,150
OPCC Remote Counselling *	1,222	(611)	611
	32,561	2,735	35,296
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>193,372</u>	<u>(157,841)</u>	<u>35,531</u>

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	30,957	(162,436)	(131,479)
Lime Culture for Truth Project	(1)	(3,281)	(3,282)
Education Service	60,868	(86,683)	(25,815)
	91,824	(252,400)	(160,576)
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	1	(19)	(18)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House			
*	-	(830)	(830)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(46)	(46)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(25)	(25)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(262)	(262)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(41)	(41)
Rape Services Funding	442,776	(436,000)	6,776
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(19)	(19)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(47)	(47)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	-	(530)	(530)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	-	(58)	(58)
Wirral CSP	-	(20)	(20)
Jill's Fund	-	(119)	(119)
MOJ Male	53,974	(55,083)	(1,109)
MOJ Additional Funding	-	(403)	(403)
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	(1)	(339)	(340)
OPCC Contract	652,098	(641,093)	11,005
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	(7,311)	(7,311)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	(2,059)	(2,059)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	32,888	(32,888)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	-	6	6
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	-	(1,154)	(1,154)
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	(50)	(50)
OPCC Remote Counselling *	-	(611)	(611)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	27,500	(27,500)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	73,001	(73,001)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	44,121	(44,121)	-
NPT Transatlantic Promotional Material	2,500	(2,500)	-
	1,328,858	(1,326,123)	2,735

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,420,682</u>	<u>(1,578,523)</u>	<u>(157,841)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	165,864	(113,464)	52,400
Lime Culture for Truth Project	3,418	(3,316)	102
Education Service	<u>(8,471)</u>	<u>(21,905)</u>	<u>(30,376)</u>
	160,811	(138,685)	22,126
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	74	(74)	-
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	16,600	(1,660)	14,940
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	46	(46)	-
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	25	(25)	-
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	262	(262)	-
Liverpool City Safe *	41	(41)	-
Rape Services Funding	2,217	8,397	10,614
SARC Counselling Funding *	19	(19)	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	47	(47)	-
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	530	(530)	-
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	232	(101)	131
Wirral CSP	20	(20)	-
Jill's Fund	3,105	(3,105)	-
MOJ Male	1,109	(1,109)	-
MOJ Additional Funding	403	(403)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	679	(679)	-
OPCC Contract	(9,634)	9,634	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	7,311	(7,311)	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	2,059	(2,059)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	1,994	6	2,000
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	(3,000)	-
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	(1,181)	19
OPCC Remote Counselling *	<u>1,222</u>	<u>(1,222)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>32,561</u>	<u>(4,857)</u>	<u>27,704</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>193,372</u>	<u>(143,542)</u>	<u>49,830</u>

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	77,446	(190,910)	(113,464)
Lime Culture for Truth Project	(1)	(3,315)	(3,316)
Education Service	175,948	(197,853)	(21,905)
	253,393	(392,078)	(138,685)
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	1	(75)	(74)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(1,660)	(1,660)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(46)	(46)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(25)	(25)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(262)	(262)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(41)	(41)
Rape Services Funding	938,574	(930,177)	8,397
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(19)	(19)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(47)	(47)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	-	(530)	(530)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	1	(102)	(101)
Wirral CSP	-	(20)	(20)
Jill's Fund	-	(3,105)	(3,105)
MOJ Male	107,948	(109,057)	(1,109)
MOJ Additional Funding	-	(403)	(403)
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	(1)	(678)	(679)
OPCC Contract	1,304,197	(1,294,563)	9,634
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	(7,311)	(7,311)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	(2,059)	(2,059)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	65,776	(65,776)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	-	6	6
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	1	(3,001)	(3,000)
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	(1,181)	(1,181)
OPCC Remote Counselling *	-	(1,222)	(1,222)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	55,000	(55,000)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	146,000	(146,000)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	88,242	(88,242)	-
NPT Transatlantic Promotional Material	2,500	(2,500)	-

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

	<u>2,708,239</u>	<u>(2,713,096)</u>	<u>(4,857)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>2,961,632</u></u>	<u><u>(3,105,174)</u></u>	<u><u>(143,542)</u></u>

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

18. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating Lease Commitments

The total rent due to be paid within one year are £91,806 (2024 £91,806)

There is a photocopier lease and the payments due in the next year are £6,287 (2024 £6,287).

The total of commitments due within one year is £98,093 (2024 £98,093)

The total of commitments due more than one year is £185,032 (2024 £283,125).

Other rents are paid on rolling contracts.

19. FUNDS

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for five years (April 2022 to March 2027) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs. The service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs. RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for all survivors of sexual violence. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

This fund was rolled forward by MoJ pending new tender process in April 2023. Tendering did not take place and the funding was further extended to 31-03-2025 at a similar value but with a small uplift to meet the enhanced demand for services.

In December 2024, this funding was further extended to 31-03-26

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ADDITIONAL ISVA FUNDING VIA OPCC - all extended to 2024/25 Ringfenced funding for sexual violence (SV) victim support services, achieved by OPCC and commissioned out to RASA/RASASC partnership.

19. FUNDS - continued

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ISVA FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for additional ISVA funding on behalf of RASA and RASASC to allow us to enhance and improve our response to those individuals who wished to make reports to the police and be supported through the criminal justice system. Throughout this year, it was indeed essential to provide this additional support to such victims as justice systems remain gridlocked and cases are taking longer and longer to get to court. This means ISVAs are carrying bigger and more complex caseloads and are becoming overwhelmed. Some cases in this year are not due to appear in courts for 18 -24 months.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the joint aims of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum - and providing satisfactorily trained volunteer counsellors to assist in reducing waiting times.

In this year the Education Centre contributed £121,364 to RASA with £110,965 being used for funds for trainers and exam registration and fees. We await confirmation of degree course acceptance from Liverpool John Moores University.

Accounts

RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE (RASA) CENTRE LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2024

CARING FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE SINCE 1986

Confidential Counselling Emotion
Confidential At your own pace
Safe space Counselling Respect
Talk Safe space Trust Respect
Be who you are Safe space Trust
Empathy Understanding Talk
Non-Judgemental Talk
Counselling Empathy Connected
Trust Emotion Empathy Emotion
Trust I hear you
Connected Empathy I hear you
Be who you are Understanding
Safe space Confidential Connected
At your own pace

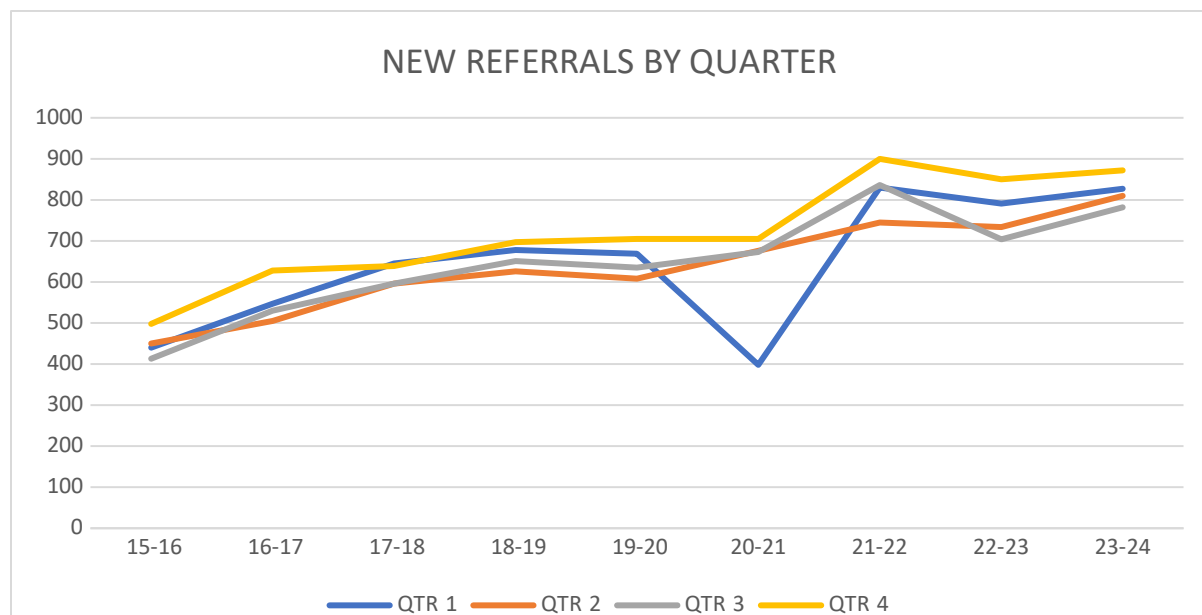




RASA started out in a teeny house in central Birkenhead and for many years, it was all that was required but as demand grew and we started to move into working with Liverpool clients we needed premises to suit our new client base. For many years we rented a small room in WHISC in Bold Street and boy were we grateful for that space – albeit it for just one day per week.

In May 2009 we took on offices in Liverpool City Centre to expand our reach and our availability for clients. Within weeks all the rooms were fully booked, and we were already in danger of outgrowing our new space before we had even finished unpacking. We muddled along with shared office space in Sefton within SWACA and our four counselling spaces in Liverpool until we found our current premises in Bootle where we moved the combined Sefton and Liverpool services in October 2015.

Our service has grown – the types of therapy we can offer have increased, and our client numbers have increased so we have needed to expand further. Our graph shows how, except for the Covid period, new referrals have simply grown every quarter. Add into this, the fact that clients are staying with us for ever longer periods of time – and we were starting to burst at the seams and were watching waiting lists grow, with nowhere for clients to visit to receive face to face support.



We are thrilled to announce that we have now taken over a third unit in Sefton, so we now occupy 2-4 Stella Nova. This has increased our counselling space and given us a larger room for Sunflowers, our children’s service.

We have also relocated our Birkenhead service to Atlantic House adjacent to Hamilton Square Station. The huge space was a blank canvas for us to adapt to suit our needs and we now have 6 counselling rooms, 2 large children’s rooms, space for group work and training and adequate offices and kitchen facilities to suit staff, volunteers, clients and trainees.

This has been an expensive year, and we will be tightening our belts a bit in the coming years as we try and recover our reserve that has been applied to this expansion. We believe it is absolutely the

right thing to do for RASA and the clients we serve, and we are pleased that we can now offer many more counselling and support session in both locations.

AUGUST 2023 – ATLANTIC HOUSE



ATLANTIC HOUSE NOVEMBER 2023

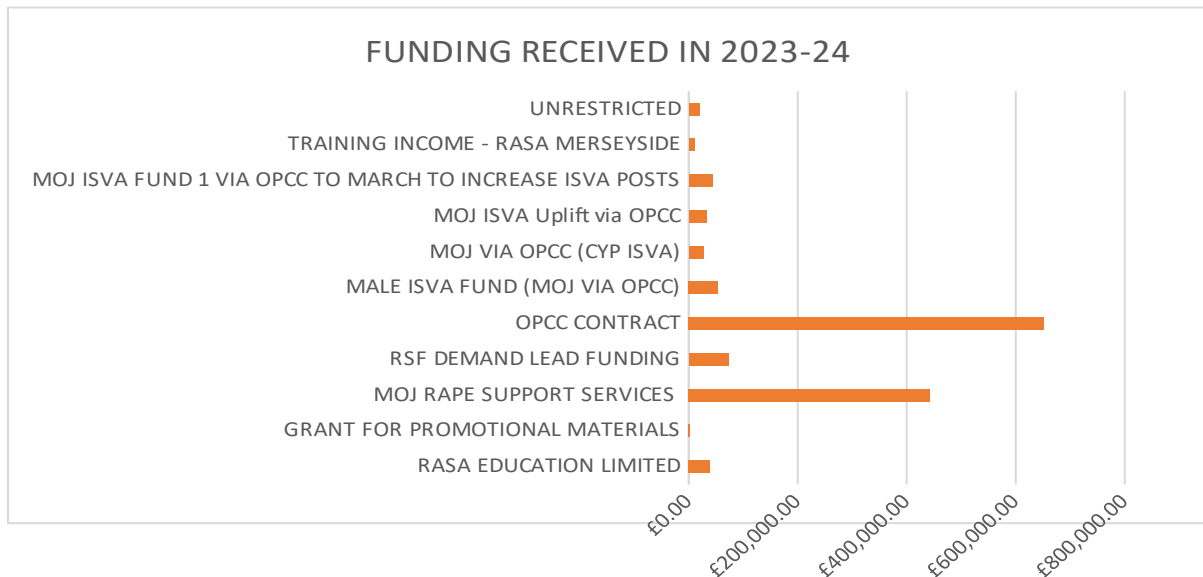


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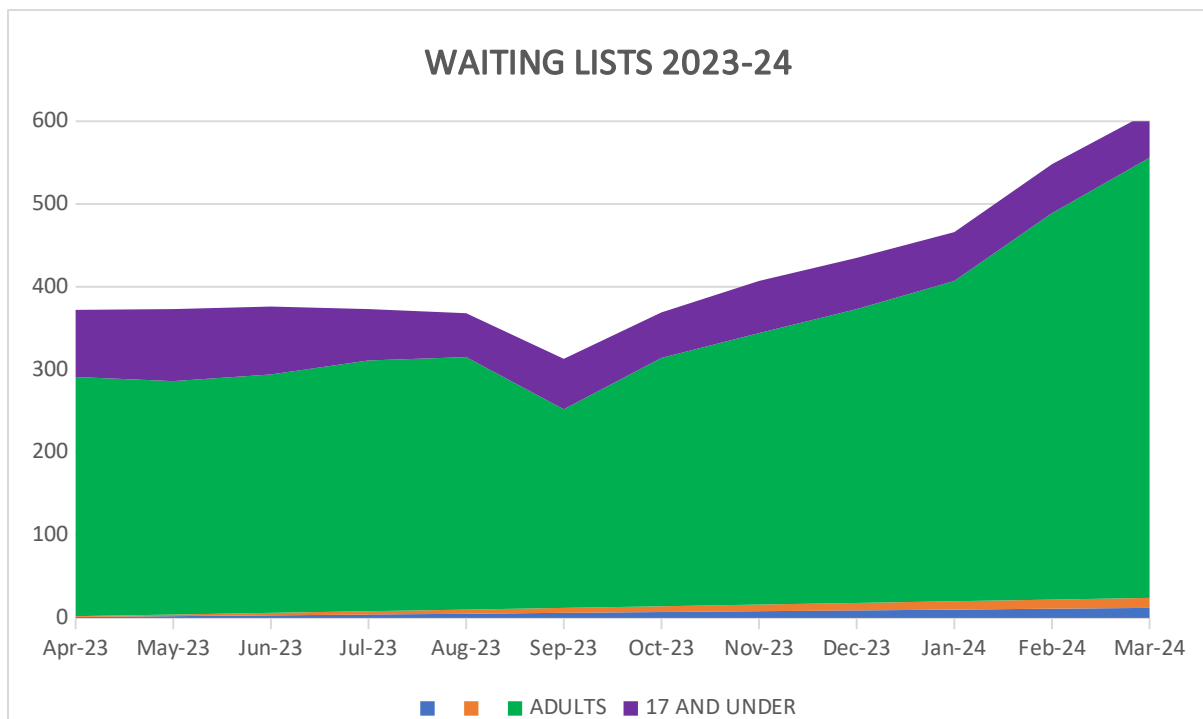


Throughout this report we will share our quarter end stats to demonstrate how we monitor ourselves month on month.

This way we can identify trends, increases in demand, waiting times and staff and volunteer caseloads and abilities to cope. We aim to constantly update and improve our services for clients and are open to learning from our clients and our statistics and reports.



Jo Wood – Finance Manager



Month – June 2023

Total number of NEW CLIENTS referred – 241

Total number of new assessments (these include internal referrals) – 243

Total number of referrals for the same month the previous year – 203

Support started (based on 'receiving service' case group)

- Bootle counselling (ADULTS) – 76
- Birkenhead counselling (ADULTS) –28
- Bootle SINGLE SESSION THERAPY – 0
- Birkenhead SINGLE SESSION THERAPY –1
- Liverpool ISVA (ADULTS) – 17
- Sefton ISVA (ADULTS) -3
- Birkenhead ISVA (ADULTS) –5
- Staged Support - 19
- ISVA listening ear –
- Bootle counselling (SUNFLOWERS) – 9
- Birkenhead counselling (SUNFLOWERS) – 2
- Liverpool CHISVA -8
- Sefton CHISVA - 2
- Birkenhead CHISVA -7
- Parents protect/Protecting our children - 0

Time elapsed before seeking support (FOR NEW DPMS CLIENTS)

- Number of clients who had this section completed - 237
- Recent incident (less than 6 months) – 35
- Percentage (of completed) that are a recent incident –15%
- Non-recent incident (More than 2 years) – 123
- Percentage (of completed) that are non-recent – 52%

Activities

- Number of assessments offered – 250
- Number of completed assessments (face to face or phone) -213

Waiting list

- Birkenhead adult counselling – 13
- Bootle adult counselling - 71
- Birkenhead children's counselling –21
- Bootle children's counselling – 29
- Power project – 0
- Adult ISVA assessment -64
- ISVA listening ear -59
- Birkenhead PP/POC -6
- Bootle PP/POC -3

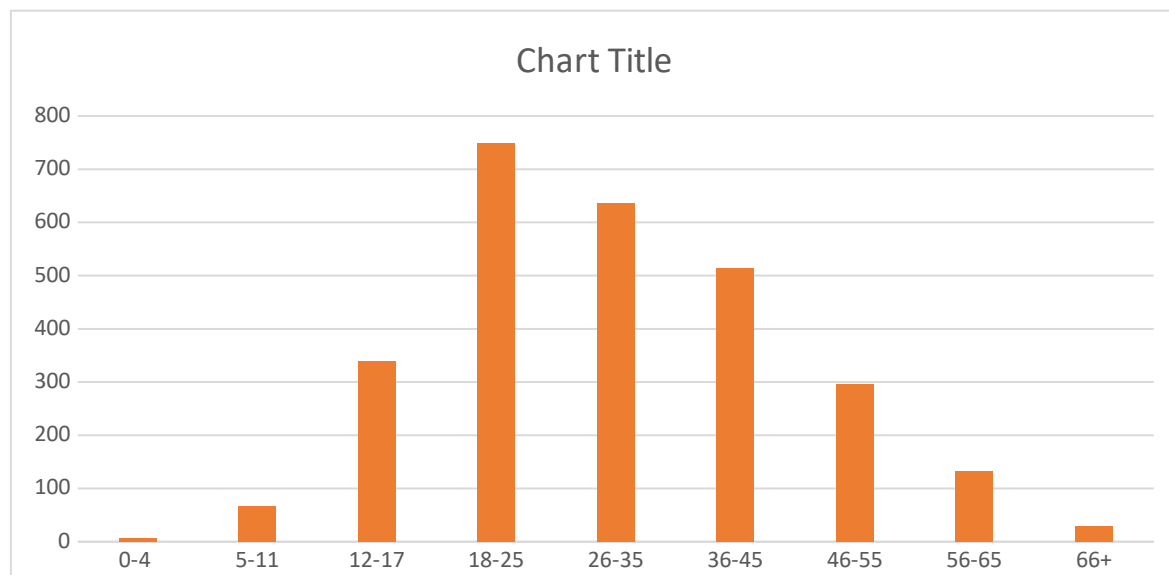
- Birkenhead TBC -4
- Bootle TBC -44

Snapshot of referrals

- Self-referrals – 31%
- Police – 13%
- Adult mental health service – 10%
- SARC –6%

“I just want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart. to be heard and believed is a relief and a weight lifted off my shoulders. I’ll never be able to repay you for the support given.”

AGES OF ALL CLIENTS IN 2023-24



OPERATIONS MANAGER – 2023-24

It has been a busy and varied year with all the excitement of moving into new spaces, alongside the hassle of trying to coordinate builders and workmen around opening times and client need. Now we are successfully moved in, it all seems like a distant nightmare, so we all hope these will be our final moves and we have found our forever homes.

With a small and tight operational management team with very specific skills and roles, I have found that staff management has taken an increasing number of working hours. It is fabulous to see how our teams have grown and developed but with the core management team remaining the same, it has led to increasing pressure on each manager in their own area of work.

All staff and volunteers receive monthly therapeutic supervision sessions with our carefully recruited supervision team and additionally have line management – in the case of the ISVAs – with the ISVA Services Manager and for the counselling teams, with either Wirral Services Manager – or with me.

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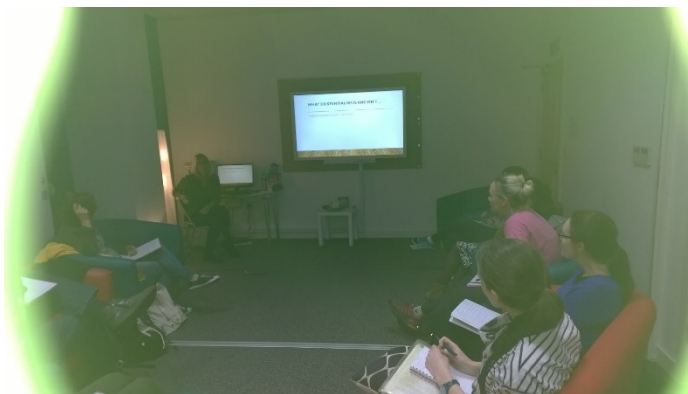
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Line Management involves reviewing current working situation, identifying training or development needs and ensuring that any gaps in knowledge or experience, are met.

While we can address a lot of training needs in house, we also need to employ external training organisations in several areas – for example it is necessary to ensure that both centres have up to date qualified staff for purposes of first aid at work and fire marshalling.

Fortunately, the need to use such training is rare, but it is essential that we have it in place should the need arise. We currently train staff through St John's Ambulance as their training is top class and renews annually.



There is also the need for specific specialist training to inform our key managers and the need to attend role specific conferences and events – these needs are identified by managers during line management sessions. This allows us as a service, to offer highly informed and skilled support for many of the complex issues that are becoming a more common occurrence in our day-to-day work.

All our ISVA Team are trained by Lime Culture, with several proceeding on to complete the more specialist areas of training in working with male clients, children and becoming leads in an ISVA service. Additional training offered this year has included a course around supporting clients with learning difficulties and this has helped inform our work with neurodivergent clients.

The training we can offer is always needs lead, but I am also keenly aware of our tightly stretched budgets and for this reason we do carry out a lot of our training using our internal trainers.

I have represented RASA at several local and regional groups in the year to ensure we stay informed of moves with the region and to add our expertise to groups wishing to include sexual violence awareness in their delivery. Many such groups have then gone on to request and receive, training in such areas as “Responding to Disclosures of Sexual Violence” “Bystander Training” etc.

For several months this year we ran a drop-in service at WHISC in Bold Street in response to requests from WHISC staff. This was very well received.

I attended a course in May this year to become a Domestic Abuse Workplace Champion – the course ran over 5 days. I am now a Domestic abuse workplace champion. The scheme is about supporting staff who may be experiencing or perpetrators of DA. This is now an active part of our support to staff and volunteers and has informed us further on how to support clients experiencing Domestic Abuse.

running Taking Back Control and our Reducing Anxiety and Depression sessions in both centres.

In August we provided support for the Creamfields music festival. We will not be repeating this support due to the way that RASA staff were treated and communicated with. There is a lot of work to be done to enable us to effectively support such events and we would need to be funded for such work as it was quite labour intensive and felt ineffective and unwelcome.

We will aim to achieve funding for RASA to train more businesses/ staff who are working in the nighttime economy. This is likely to be more impactful and sustainable. Our previously delivered training "A Good Night Out" would be most worthwhile if we can achieve funding to deliver it – or be paid by recipients who are interested in supporting their clientele.

The cost-of-living increases hit RASA for the first time this year and we made the decision in September to increase all non-management staff salaries by 8%. This was intended to bring our salary levels in line with other similar organisations, but we still struggle to compete with statutory bodies such as local authorities and NHS Services who can pay higher salaries. Until now, we have been able to retain staff with additional and unique training and work experience opportunities and we are saddened that the dramatic rise in the cost of living has forced staff to look for better paid employment elsewhere.

We're aware this is a sign of the times, and we need to bolster our unrestricted funding pot to be better able to reward staff for the qualified and experienced services they deliver. We are also keenly aware of our extremely poor (statutory pay only) maternity package which we feel is dire in the face of being an all women organisation.

With several staff on maternity leave this year and with comparative maternity packages from corporate and statutory bodies alike, we feel this is an area we need to improve on and be able to offer better conditions to pregnant women within our team.

Along with other team members we interviewed 12 volunteer counsellors for the autumn intake. Our volunteer training takes place over 2 weekends and is mandatory for anyone wishing to join as a volunteer.

In October we purchased a large volume of promotional items to use on our stalls at events. These goods were immediately used for our stalls and presentations for the 15 days of action events across the region.

Women's circle groups held throughout this period yielded many disclosures of sexual violence and these cases were picked up by attending counsellors and support workers. By February our women's circle groups were well established and popular. Women have asked that they be run weekly. We will investigate cost and availability of staff to meet this request.

By December all staff and volunteers had successfully completed the mandatory annual safeguarding updated training and were all set for another 12 months. Staff reported the training as being supportive and engaging which was positive feedback to hear.

We are investigating the possibility of developing a RASA charter for the businesses in the nighttime economy, like the Manchester Charter that we trained. Helen is working on this from a training perspective.

Our waiting lists grew in January following changes in Pre Trial-Therapy guidance. This does not necessarily represent an increase in reported crimes but rather an increase in need for a specific type of therapy which we can deliver.

The trauma and the exercise workshop is now being run in both centres and has received incredible feedback. Following a meeting with Sefton Council and Sefton Active Team we now have an agreement with them in place. People who attend our course can go to Sefton gyms free of charge for 3 months and will be supported by an instructor. I have contacted Wirral and Liverpool contacts to see about setting up the same process and I am waiting for a response. Sefton have also said that we could have access to the running track if we wanted to start a running group.



As we approach year end, we continue to lose staff to better paid jobs elsewhere. We are fighting a battle to retain our highly skilled, well experienced and well qualified workforce. In recent times we have decided against relacing one leaver instead choosing to use the saving in salary to boost the wages of remaining staff in an effort to retain them in service. This will doubtless lead to an increase in waiting times yet again, but we are determined to offer the very best provision for our service users.

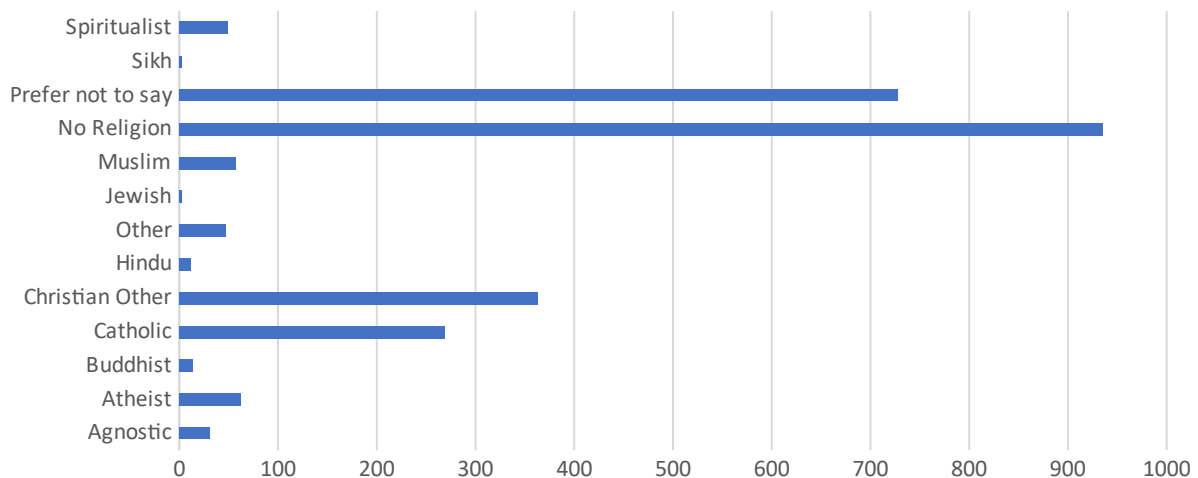
It has been a busy year with great highs and magnificent progress in our service delivery and availability of additional counselling space. We do end on a sad note though as losing long standing colleagues and friends due to our inability to offer better working conditions and reward is simply sad.



We wish them well in their new roles and know that the organisations they have joined have struck gold with acquiring them. Let's hope for an improvement in funding in the years to come – one that reflects the level of expertise of our staff and can offer them long term contracts with a degree of stability and assurance we do not currently have.

Lorraine Wood – Operations Manager

BELIEF SYSTEM - ALL CLIENTS 2023-24



ISVA LEAD – 2023-24 – Sarah Tipton

It has been a busy year in the ISVA department and as we end the year I am moving on from the role. I hope to keep a link with RASA through my work as a therapeutic supervisor but feel I have done all I can in this role for now and need to take some time out to reassess. The ISVA role has grown and developed in the years it has been in existence and I have amplified on this for the benefit of the future of the ISVA service.

All RASA ISVAs are fully and effectively trained to manage the ISVA role, and we provide excellent support in that role providing an open door and open access policy and including self-care and team building days throughout the year. But it is the sheer frustration of the role at times that makes it a difficult role to maintain. With increasing pressure of long waits for court dates and the complex issues this raises for clients, ISVAs have found it a difficult path to tread.

We have taken on a new woman in the role of male ISVA development this year and she has settled in well and started to make progress in that role.

We have been challenged this year by the loss of key contacts in Merseyside Police. It's always a shame to lose good contacts and I hope we can continue to work closely with the new personnel.

A lot of partnership work continues with Merseyside police, recent focus has been on improving officer presence at the ISVA Clinics. From mid-June we accepted a rolling rota of different area officers coming to visit RASA 2-4 officers attending for a few hours. 9 visits were completed.

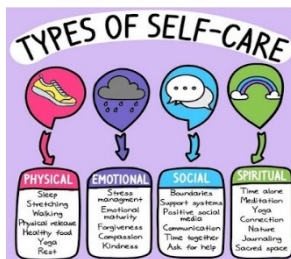
The listening ear group was well received. This group aimed to support the ISVAs by taking and making phone calls to clients engaged in the ISVA process.

This has sadly been put on hold at year end due to staffing issues and lack of funding to employ an additional staff member to run the scheme alongside the ISVA Team.

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In July we instigated a client survey to identify any concerns around contact with Merseyside Police. Improvements have been noted, but there is still further work which needs to be done by the police to improve client experience. The findings of the survey have been shared with senior officers in Merseyside Police.

This is one indication of training need: -

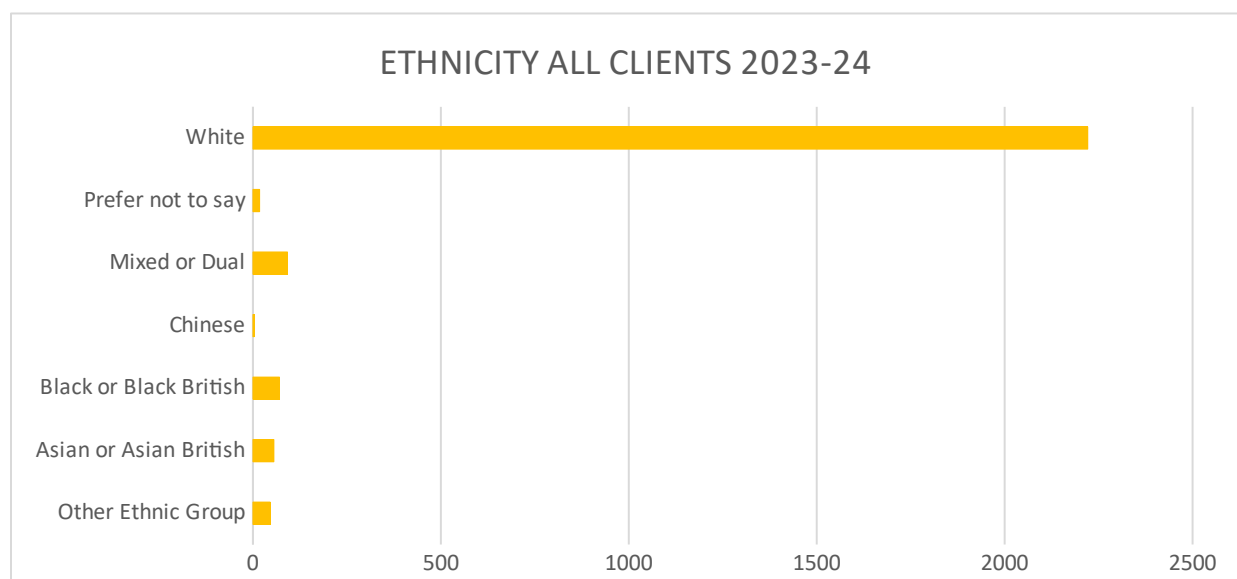
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Between beginning of Oct 2022 to end of March 2023 (QTR3 & QTR4):
RASSO crimes reported to Merseyside Police = **896**

Total referrals to RASA received from Merseyside police = **167**

There is still an ongoing concern re referrals from the police into the ISVA service. It has been explored whether to make this mandatory, however concerns were raised in relation to referrals being made without the client's consent. Therefore, this idea has been put on hold.

I can end the year on a high as we have once again achieved ISVA Service accreditation, and I know I am leaving the ISVA Team in good hands. I wish them well.



My year at RASA – Nikki Vaccarello – Wirral ISVA supporting Females.

Caseload at end of year 57

In the past year I have carried out the role of the Wirral ISVA supporting females, I also support a few female clients in the Liverpool area, but my clients are predominantly in Wirral. My work has consisted of offering emotional and practical support to victims/survivors of any sort of sexual violence, whether this be something that has happened historically or to date.



Other parts of my role have consisted of doing some initial assessments and informed choice sessions with the clients. With regards to providing ISVA support, I have continued to provide a full risk and needs assessment in each session with clients my this be a face to face, zoom or telephone session. Completing internal/ external referral necessary for the client, updating client references on the DPMS as to make sure it is all up to date, liaising with police, CPS and other professional agencies.

In the ISVA role, I provide a voice for those clients who don't feel they are able to communicate their needs to others in the criminal justice system, an explanation in understandable terms for the client with informed choice sessions, regular communication with experience of supporting others through this process and independent advice based on the client's best interest with a person-centred approach.

Throughout the support, I help to manage my client expectations of the criminal justice process and help them to be able to focus on their best coping strategies. I can assist clients in helping other professionals involved and on occasions their employers, to understand the process and to have some concept of what the client is going through.

My counselling skills continue to be of great benefit to carrying out the ISVA role. Empathy, non-judge mentality, and congruent person skills are needed to be transferred into the relationship I build with both ISVA clients and the other ISVA team members. I provide a multi-agency approach by liaising with other ISVAs, by liaising with witness care, the CPS (Crown Prosecution Service), IDVA's, social services, also by seeking advice and support within the RASA team and referring clients to other support when needed.

I support the client from as soon as they are allocated to me right through the investigation may the end result be the reported offender being charged and this going to trial , I will explain to the client regarding special measures that can be applied for , for when they are giving their evidence/ being cross examined by means of section 28, screening in place in the court if they wish to give evidence at trial or apply for a live link to be put in place and with whatever the survivor choose I will also offer to be there with them is they wish.

On the other outcome if an investigation is NFA (no further action) by police or CPS then I will support the client after this and explain their rights if they wish to appeal against this and until any safeguarding has been completed and if required and referrals been done by means of internal or external.

In the last years I have attended:

- **12 section 28's**
- **4 Trials where the survivor stood up and gave evidence at court**
- **1 Live link**
- **4 sentencings attended in person at the client's request**



I participate in a monthly police clinic in Birkenhead police station in person. This is where the officers can come and see me to give me updates for my clients or they can come and ask me questions regarding the ISVA role and how we can work in collaboration with them to keep the client engaged in the criminal proceedings. By doing these monthly clinics it has helped to build up the working relationship/ partnership with the police, as to be able to offer the survivor the best possible support throughout the process of the investigation.

I have also worked alongside our Lead ISVA where we have had officers coming into the Bootle centre for us to deliver training as to what the ISVA service is, what type of support we offer as well as answering any questions regarding the support we offer, how this works, so that they understand the ISVA role, how they can refer victims into our service with their permission etc.

I continue to undergo monthly line management/ external supervision for quality of work and self-care, as well as keeping record of information and activity within my roles. I also continue with my personal development attending training and workshops around the work I carry out and keeping up to date with standards, policies and safeguarding.

I feel that I have developed in my role and as a person, despite having such heavy workload I would like to stress that I feel very empowered to be doing the work that I do, to support the clients to advocate for them where needed and to be working in an organisation that does such vital work for women, children and men that have been through a traumatic experience.

Age: 44 Gender: Female Category: compliment

Message I never felt safe speaking to anyone but in order to move on in life and try and forgive myself, I finally spoke with XXX. She helped me so much and had given me the guidance to allow me to start healing myself. After my 12 sessions with her I'm now on a 6-month break and look forward to working with RASA and XXX again to take the next steps. Cannot thank this service enough for the life you have given me back. Thank you XXX. You listened, never judged me and most importantly, made me feel safe. Thank you, x

WIRRAL SERVICES MANAGER – 2023-24 – Sarah Wood

At the start of the year, Wirral counselling waiting list is currently 8 weeks. I attended the Suicide Prevention Group on 28.04.23 to finalise the action plan regarding the strategy and the first issue we are going to look at is supervision. All partner agencies who currently provide clinical supervision to staff and volunteers will share this information to create a best practice model. All partner agencies using safety plans will share this information to create a best practice model.

We ran a successful course on working with autism and learning difficulty training in May. 25 people took part, and it was well received as an excellent learning experience.



We held a self-care afternoon in May for our Wirral staff and volunteers. We find these away days an important part of staff welfare and find it boosts the team spirit and supports individuals in the service delivery.

I attended the 2-x day Systemic Practice Training course and put together training to share with staff and volunteers.

Waiting list at the end of May was 2 months

Key members of the adult team are attending various local training courses to upskill themselves and to bring back training which can be passed t team members. This is mainly in the arena of mental health awareness.

It was interesting to note that a relatively new member of staff picked up on our long-held belief that juries in rape trails need a better understanding of what is before them. Staff believe that this is where most cases fall down. This is likely because juries are uninformed, and likely carry victim blaming attitudes etc.... We hope to investigate it more thoroughly and contact the organisation Juries for updated and current information.

I attended a conference in Warrington in relation to Domestic Abuse and Suicide. Nothing new was shared, but I felt that a change in practice is needed. I firmly believe that when there has been a death by suicide, services should be notified so that they can do a search to see if that person was known to them. I intend to raise this where appropriate

Wirral continues to have a high DNA rate and am investigating reports to identify commonality. The referrals for Wirral have been the highest ever, but the DNA rate still remains high.

I delivered a short presentation for an event at Hugh Baird University and mentioned the way in which we work with clients- **educate, validate and liberate**.

We received over 40 responses in the first week to the survey which was circulated to clients in relation to juries in sexual violence cases. This has confirmed our belief that trial by jury may not necessarily be the right option for rape cases.

Adult safeguarding week and 16 days of action had a lot of online presentations and were well attended. The adult social care lead for Wirral asked us to be involved every year.

25 people confirmed they are interested in a focus group. We are investigating whether or not they would prefer a mixed or single gender group. 7 people have responded, and all said mixed. The first meeting will be online and then We are hoping to have groups in the centres.



Everyone is happy with the new centre.

We attended the International Women's Day event on the 8th of March at the Adelphi hotel in Liverpool. RASA provided the cakes, juice, and some colouring packs for the children

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RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2024

Waiting list at the end of March in Wirral was 154 as follows

Listening Ear – 20

Initial Assessment - 20

Groups – 14

Pre-Trial Therapy - 11

Counselling – 70

Hypnotherapy – 2

Training - 17



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Month – September 2023

Total number of NEW CLIENTS referred – 217

Total number of new assessments (these include internal referrals) – 225

Total number of referrals for the same month the previous year – 202

Support started (based on 'receiving service' case group)

- Bootle counselling (ADULTS) – 103
- Birkenhead counselling (ADULTS) –31
- Bootle SINGLE SESSION THERAPY – 0
- Birkenhead SINGLE SESSION THERAPY -0
- Liverpool ISVA (ADULTS) –8
- Sefton ISVA (ADULTS) -4
- Birkenhead ISVA (ADULTS) –5
- Liverpool Staged Support -7
- Sefton Staged Support –2
- Birkenhead Staged Support -4
- ISVA listening ear - 11
- Bootle counselling (SUNFLOWERS) – 12
- Birkenhead counselling (SUNFLOWERS) – 2
- Liverpool CHISVA - 4
- Sefton CHISVA - 4
- Birkenhead CHISVA -2
- Parents protect/Protecting our children – 1
- Taking back control – 14

Time elapsed before seeking support (FOR NEW DPMS CLIENTS)

- Number of clients who had this section completed - 225
- Recent incident (less than 6 months) – 43
- Percentage (of completed) that are a recent incident – 19%
- Non-recent incident (More than 2 years) – 129
- Percentage (of completed) that are non-recent – 57%

Activities

17

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- Number of assessments offered – 329
- Number of completed assessments (face to face or phone) -182

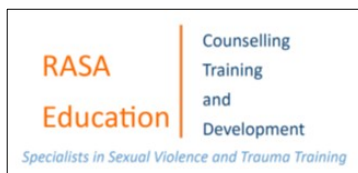
Waiting lists

- Birkenhead adult counselling – 9
- Bootle adult counselling - 77
- Birkenhead children's counselling -7
- Bootle children's counselling – 16
- Power project -0
- Adult ISVA assessment -64
- ISVA listening ear -50
- Birkenhead PP/POC -4
- Bootle PP/POC - 1
- Birkenhead TBC -4
- Bootle TBC -53

Snapshot of referrals

- Self-referrals – 37%
- Police – 8%
- Adult mental health service –7%
- SARC –6%

LOIS ARCH – TRAINING MANAGER RASA EDUCATION LIMITED AND RASA MERSEYSIDE



In early 2016 after several failed attempts at recruiting into trauma focussed counselling roles, senior managers at RASA decided to start our own training school to train counsellors in how to effectively deal with clients who have endured extreme trauma, mainly, but not exclusively through sexual violence.

To facilitate the success, 2 managers trained in their own time in evenings and weekends to gain teaching qualifications, while I worked to write the courses we wished to teach and achieve their accreditation and therefore our credibility.

Our test year 2016-17 saw us advertise and immediately fill, a level 2 course in counselling concepts. This ran from October 2016. Another similar course in January 2017 was also filled on advertising, along with a Level 3 counselling course which started the same month.

Our dream was starting to become reality – the demand was established and clear. Our aim was simply to produce better counsellors while supporting RASA with an additional income strand.

In June 2019 we set up RASA Education Limited to enable us to better develop the training arm of RASA without the complexity of mixing our incomes.

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RASA is a Registered Charity Number 1094462 and a Company Limited by Guarantee 04538556



In 2023 we issued our 850th invoice – that’s 850 learners who have studied and learned across our various courses which now include

- Level 2 Counselling Concepts
- Level 3 Counselling Skills
- Level 4 Counselling Diploma
- QLS Diploma in Counselling Adult Trauma
- QLS Level 5 Diploma in Clinical Hypnotherapy
- Level 5 Cognitive Behavioural Therapeutic Skills and Theory
- Level 6 Certificate in Clinical Supervision

While I now dedicate my full-time hours to working with the training and development, several other RASA staff are also “seconded” to the Training School and split their working weeks between the 2 organisations. In addition, RASA Education Limited employs, a part time student liaison officer and several self-employed assessors, readers, markers as well as the hours devoted by the RASA staff who split themselves between the 2 roles.

It is a full-on job writing, amending and tweaking the courses to meet need and changes in external influences and involves not only the teaching but also the moderation, accreditation updates and development of our soon to become a reality – degree course which has taken many years to develop in line with the requirements of our accrediting university.

Our moderators this year determined that we have” Robust internal moderation” – something we are proud of. In this year that has never been more challenging as we work towards those final hurdles that sometimes seem just a step too far – but we will get there and will soon be able to offer our degree course to all those who wish to take their studies in, and understanding of, counselling and trauma support, that step further.

With the new spaces achieved through moving into new or extended centres, we can extend the courses we can offer those learners still waiting to get a place on our courses. This will be an ongoing situation as we balance need and demand against costs and costings, but we hope at some point to be offering more courses in Birkenhead which will remove the travel aspect that has in many cases been an obstacle to accessing our training.



As a result of training so many new counsellors each year we have been able to offer voluntary placements to counsellors working towards their qualifications, in the safe knowledge that they have been effectively trained in the management of and recovery from, the trauma of sexual violence.

We do not currently take placement counsellors from other learning centres as we seek to retain our quality and control over the support, we offer those survivors who come to us for support.

For further information – look on the RASA website under the section simply headed “Training”

Thank you to all our learners and trainers for the huge amount of time and effort you have put into making RASA Education a success and to making the counselling world a safer place for trauma survivors.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES MANAGER – JANET BUNN – 2023-24

Has it been a good year in our Children's Service? Is there such a thing?

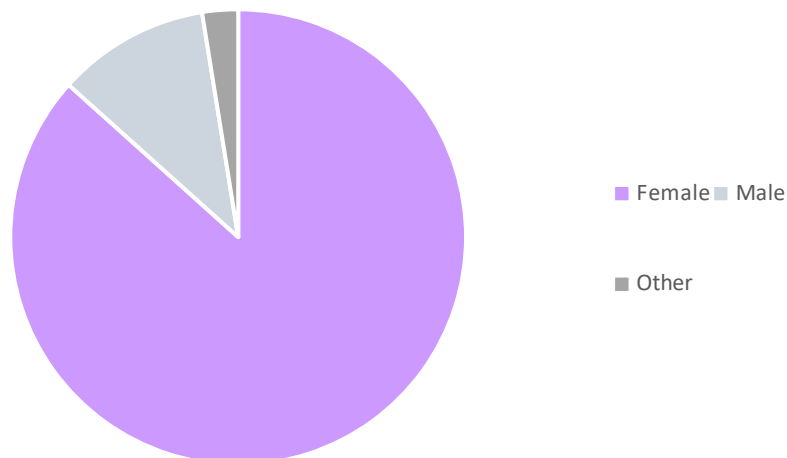
I mean how do we define a good year? Is it a year in which no children at all come into service?

Probably not because it won't mean that there is no child abuse occurring. It would simply mean that the children have not found their way to us.

Is it a success if which we accepted record breaking numbers of new child clients? Also, probably not because we would be horrified at the increase in numbers.

So, let's say – we got through it and let our statistics speak for themselves.

GENDER OF CHILDREN IN SERVICE 23-24

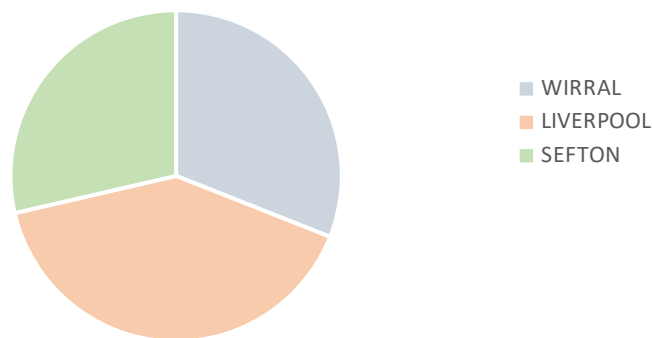


We found it impossible to recruit into the post of Power Project Worker. This post, funded through Steve Morgan Foundation was designed to ensure no child slipped through the net through their inability to articulate what had happened to them. It was a very challenging role with a high failure rate and the individuals who took on the role did not stay long.

For the first time in memory, we spoke to the funder and returned the funds. This gives a clear indication of the complexity of the work we do for and with our young clients.

I have met with the NSPCC this year to discuss referral pathways. This is an ongoing and enduring relationship. In December I delivered a presentation to the Thrive meeting in Sefton.

BOROUGH OF RESIDENCE - CHILDREN IN SERVICE 23-24



I have raised a request for us to hold a discretionary fund for under 25's so they can attend things that they wouldn't be able to, an example may be a drama event in town. I feel this will be a help to clients along with their therapy.

Sunflowers held a stall at Hugh Baird college on the 7th of Feb during sexual violence awareness week. I have created a Sunflowers Hub on Teachable for the team and their volunteers. This has information specifically related to work with children and young people. I will be adding to this resource and updating regularly.

I have been accepted onto the CSA Centre Practice Leads programme. This programme is about support centres to develop their services. This will require me to be away from the office one day a month for 12 months.

230 children were carried forward from the previous year

In the year to 31-03-24, 399 new children's cases were logged

Total children in service in year = 629

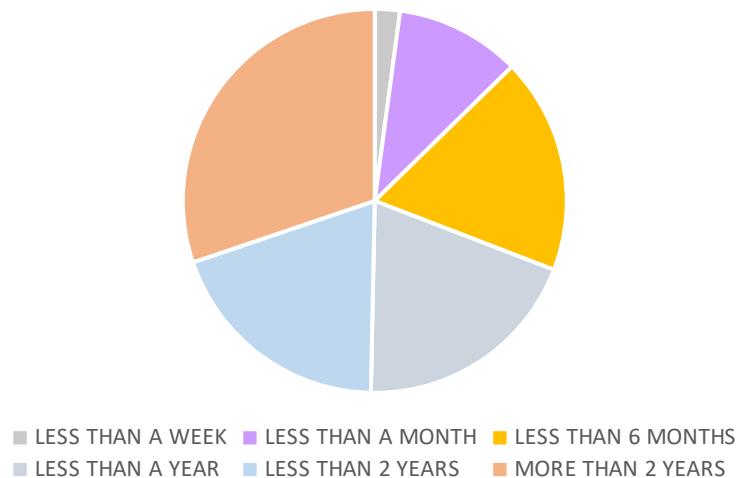
In the year just 14 trials took place for our child clients.

5 cases were proven guilty

So – has it been a good year in children's services?

You decide.

TIME TAKEN TO DISCLOSE



Name: Catherine Markey **Job Title:** ISVA **Centre(s):** Bootle

Summary of day-to-day role: Independent Sexual Violence Advisor. Supporting clients through the criminal justice system who have reported or wish to report to the police. Practical and emotional support for clients either face to face, video calls and phone calls. These may be every two, three or four weeks. Liaising with mostly Merseyside police during investigations but also West Yorkshire, West Midlands, Thames Valley, Notts, Staffs.

I also volunteer in supporting clients with the Listening Ear programme

- Increase/Decrease in clients in last year – At the beginning of the year through to December I had up to 35 clients to support over two days a week. Since then, I have reduced the number of clients to 23 which is much more manageable
- Changes in client engagement/retention – Throughout the year I have supported a few clients who I would class as high need – self harming, suicidal (ideation and intent) or who are coming up to court appearances. These clients need more frequent engagement and have said they benefit from the support.

I have had to do several suicide safety plans and liaise with mental health teams in the case of One safeguarding incident with a client who had indicated she had bought tablets and planned to take an overdose. Some clients are happy with a check in every few weeks while others ask for more frequent support. The most frequent engagement is every two weeks.

- Waiting Lists and how you are providing support for waiting clients – I liaise with the assessment officer to take on new clients as I have availability. When I close cases I let the assessment officers know I can take on the new clients

- Changes in presenting issues – some clients are facing long delays and sometimes not frequent communication from officers. This results in increased frustration and anxiety. This makes our role more difficult in managing expectations and frustrations.

However, there is a new initiative from Merseyside Police whereby high-risk offenders are processed more quickly when they are held on remand. This has obvious benefits in preventing long delays but also risks some clients coming into service with police already organising a S28 date without ISVA support, so the client has not discussed the pros and cons of different ways of giving evidence.

- New Opportunities for development of role – I have done extensive research on supporting survivors of sexual violence to better support clients with coping strategies and grounding techniques, psychoeducation and self-care. The group support programme Coping with Trauma has been very well received and
- New Contacts/Partnerships made – Good relationships developed with officers and Detective inspectors within Merseyside Police, Irish Garda, Witness Care, IDVA services. Had an opportunity to discuss the role of ISVA and when it should be conveyed to victims' officers attending the PCC forum
- Wishes/hopes/dreams/ideas for innovation – I would like to see a huge improvement in reducing the backlog of sexual assault cases in the criminal justice system. The length of time clients are left in limbo severely affects their mental health and leaves them unable to heal and move on. It would be good to recruit more volunteers to offer more group support.
- One exciting thing you want to shout about – I developed a group support course called Coping with Trauma, and the response has been overwhelmingly positive
- One line summary of year– I have learned so much about the criminal justice system (good and bad!) and feel very supported by the ISVA team and appreciated by our clients

Sexual Orientation	Number of People
Queer	~20
Other	~50
Prefer not to say	~60
Heterosexual	~1600
Gay/Lesbian	~130
Bisexual	~230
Asexual	~10

Message: - RASA has helped me so much! I had XXX as my therapist from RASA at Bootle and she has made me feel like I am just important as anyone else. XXX helped me understand my trauma responses as well as helped me understand mindfulness and self-confidence which has helped me heal so much. The RASA team are so lovely and understanding and I am so grateful that places like this exist for survivors. Thank you, Rasa, and Thank you XXX



My role at RASA involves having clinical oversight of all services delivered. In addition to this – or maybe as a way of ensuring best practice, I also manage, run and assist in the development of, internal and external training delivered by RASA to staff, volunteers and external agencies.

Responding to Sexual Violence, Bystander Intervention, Dealing with Disclosures, Introduction to Trauma, Sexual Harassment in The Workplace, to a wide variety of organisations including 4 universities, several NHS services and a major corporate that also requested bespoke training to better equip staff with knowledge and skills to handle sexual violence in various forms.

It is good to see so many external agencies recognising the issue of sexual violence and working towards eliminating it in their workplace – or understanding better how to deal with what they might see – or hear.



This training can be delivered at the external agencies' workplace to enable more of their staff to take part.

We have also developed an online platform via Teachable to allow staff and on occasion, external organisations to access training remotely when it is convenient and appropriate for them to do so.

Early in the year we sold our first pre-recorded training for the Understanding and Responding to Sexual Violence. This was a good start, and we are delighted that a large organisation saw fit to purchase it for their staff. Not all training is suitable for remote learning as much of it requires participation and engagement which would be lost in pre-recorded sessions.

Our own staff and volunteers have access to this platform and can easily access our online training and development courses and sessions. We currently store our complete set of policies and procedures on this platform and staff have as open access to our GDPR training, Understanding and Responding to Sexual Violence, Safeguarding Adults, Responding to Challenging Behaviour, Sexual Harassment in The Workplace, Online Safety – and more. We will continue to develop such pre-recorded sessions to enable staff and volunteers to refer back to them should the occasion arise.

Much of our RASA training for staff and volunteers is either mandatory or highly recommended, so ease of access is paramount. It is not always convenient or cost effective to have staff all taking part in training at the same time. Developing an on-line platform for our training and guidance has been a huge step forward.

Another module we have developed in response to need is “Managing Conflict” this will shortly also be available as a pre-recorded training module. As a result of recent changes The NSPCC has contacted us to ask for up to date training in relation to Pre-Trial therapy.

I completed all the work for the Manchester Night-time Charter. This involved training managers to train their staff, and these trainers are now planning on delivering the training to large numbers of people.

We have added a disclaimer stating that RASA would not recommend delivering this training to large groups of people, and that we feel participant numbers should be kept to a healthy size to ensure emotional safety, and to consolidate learning more effectively.

More bystander training has been completed with Liverpool Hope University, and there is some concerning feedback in relation to the number of students who said they would not report sexual violence to the police. Out of 38 students, only 2 said they would report. There is currently a large consultation happening with students in relation to sexual violence.

I have needed to update the children's contract regarding Pre-Trial Therapy. As a result, in change in CPS guidance in relation to pre-trial therapy we have been trained by Blue Star. It was a difficult document to understand when the guidance came in, so the training was useful.

Our updated pretrial therapy and notetaking training is now complete. I have recorded a session that is now available to staff and volunteers via Teachable. There are continuing issues with clients being told that they are not allowed pre-trial therapy. This will be addressed.

I have met with several taxi companies. It has been found that taxi companies have not been responding to complaints in relation to inappropriate conversations and comments by taxi drivers. A template is being compiled so that if any of our clients have had these issues, we can collect the complaints.

Outside of this RASA Training I have been heavily involved in developing the degree course for RASA Education and lending my experience to this process.

I also teach several courses for RASA Education, mostly in the evenings outside of RASA working time. It makes for a very full-on role, but I feel that extending the knowledge we have ourselves and imparting that knowledge to other counsellors and learners, is the best possible way to ensure continued quality support for clients today and in the future.

Vicky Green

Month – December 2023

Total number of NEW CLIENTS referred – 168

Total number of new assessments (these include internal referrals) – 170

Total number of referrals for the same month the previous year – 152

Support started (based on 'receiving service' case group)

- Bootle counselling (ADULTS) – 40
- Birkenhead counselling (ADULTS) –18
- Bootle SINGLE SESSION THERAPY -0
- Birkenhead SINGLE SESSION THERAPY -0
- Liverpool ISVA (ADULTS) –5
- Sefton ISVA (ADULTS) -1
- Birkenhead ISVA (ADULTS) –2
- Liverpool Staged Support -2
- Sefton Staged Support –2
- Birkenhead Staged Support -0
- ISVA listening ear -
- Bootle counselling (SUNFLOWERS) – 4

- Birkenhead counselling (SUNFLOWERS) – 2
- Liverpool CHISVA -3
- Sefton CHISVA - 5
- Birkenhead CHISVA -3
- Parents protect/Protecting our children –0
- Taking back control – 0

Time elapsed before seeking support (FOR NEW DPMS CLIENTS)

- Number of clients who had this section completed -144
- Recent incident (less than 6 months) – 39
- Percentage (of completed) that are a recent incident – 27%
- Non-recent incident (More than 2 years) – 69
- Percentage (of completed) that are non-recent – 48%

Activities

- Number of assessments offered – 297
- Number of completed assessments (face to face or phone) -129

Waiting lists at end of December

- Birkenhead adult counselling – 22
- Bootle adult counselling - 118
- Birkenhead children's counselling -18
- Bootle children's counselling – 22
- Power project -
- Adult ISVA assessment -58
- ISVA listening ear -55
- Birkenhead PP/POC -3
- Bootle PP/POC - 2
- Birkenhead TBC -4
- Bootle TBC -49

Snapshot of referrals

- Self-referrals – 24%
- Police – 11%
- Adult mental health service – 13%
- SARC – 7%

My year at RASA Merseyside – Josephine Cheeseman

Sefton and Liverpool Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA), and Assessment Officer.

Caseload end of Year – 86

My caseload is currently the highest it has been since I joined RASA, at 86. I believe I currently have the highest caseload since starting due to my role recently changing and taking on more responsibility. I am the ISVA to 51 clients, offering staged support to 22 clients, and am open as the assessment officer to 13 clients. Currently it is the assessment clients that fluctuate the most in my case load, due to arranging assessments on behalf of my colleagues, and then transferring the clients to their caseload.

being such a lengthy process, the needs of each client can vary massively throughout their time with the ISVA service.

Since starting as an ISVA, I have only supported one client in a section 28 (S28) and shadowed a colleague at a trial. I have not had much court experience due to initially being part-time at RASA, and not being flexible changing my working days due to having another part time job. In addition, my client's cases previously have not been receiving charging decisions from CPS.

I had initially planned to support a client in a S28 in December; however, this was rescheduled twice, and then cancelled due to the number of witnesses involved in the case and the lack of notice. This client is now giving evidence at trial in April 2024 with the special measure of a screen, and ISVA support. Many of my clients' cases have recently been accepted by CPS and I have a mix of client's wanting support at S28's and in trials in the next year. Due to the on-going support of my colleagues and being able to shadow a colleague at a trial, I feel confident in providing clients with support at court and providing support following the outcome of a trial.



Leasing with the police is a crucial aspect of the ISVA role. Throughout the Investigation's, I continuously advocate on the client's behalf. This involves regular emails and phone calls with the Officer in Charge (OIC) and Specially Trained Officer (STO). I regularly discuss updates and the individual needs of the client with OIC's and STO's. In addition, The ISVA team runs ISVA clinics with the police to discuss client updates with the OIC's, STO's, and RASSO leader. I have co-run the Sefton PVPU police clinic over the last year.

Although officer engagement with the clinics can vary, I have found them useful for both receiving updates for clients and ensuring the ISVA team and Police continue to engage in a proactive professional relationship that will benefit the clients.

Multi-Agency work is a major part of the ISVA role, which includes liaising with IDVAs, support workers, Mental health workers, and more. In the last 6 months, one of my clients has led me to have a great multi-agency relationship with both their IDVA, at SWACA, and their key worker, at Venus. Throughout my time supporting this client, multi-agency work has allowed us to regularly keep each other up to date on any developments in the need of the client, and to ensure that all safeguarding is completed. Resultantly, the client's individual needs and safety have been fully considered by all agencies involved.

Assessment officer role



The assessment officer role covers Wirral, Liverpool, and Sefton assessments for clients

wanting to engage with the ISVA service. The assessments take roughly an hour and a half, including the paperwork.

Whilst I have been doing the assessments they have all been completed over the phone, however, I have offered office-based assessments to those who may struggle to do it over the phone. The assessment goes over contact details, the ISVA contract, general monitoring questions, the incident, the investigation, and the initial SAS. This allows us to highlight any safeguarding concerns, and the individual needs of the clients.

Since taking on the assessment role in November, I have had to make multiple safeguarding actions and referrals. I feel confident in recognising, and acting on, any safeguarding concerns that arise. In addition, I have great support from managers and colleagues, and therefore have support should I need advice on a safeguarding concern.



Since starting the assessment officer role, I have noticed that the main source of referrals have come from the police and SARC's. Sometimes client's will also be referred by RASA's counselling team, Universities, Mental Health teams, and self-referrals. In the referral we will be provided with the client's basic information, often more detailed depending on the referrer. In addition, I have noticed that the more detailed the referrer is, the easier it is to predict if the client may have more complex needs.

However, during the assessment all the information needed will be collected, and the needs of the client will be assessed.

As a result of the SAS employed throughout both the assessment officer and ISVA role, I believe that I am well equipped to recognize and manage any safeguarding concerns that arise. In addition, the SAS tool is effective at highlighting the individual needs of the clients. For example, the SAS will highlight if a client has specific communication needs. If the client has any financial concerns. If there are any safety concerns, such as a risk of domestic violence. And much more. This enables me to recognise a client's unique needs and refer or signpost them to the relevant support.

Staged support, which is an aspect of the Assessment officer role, involves offering emotional and practical support to client's, liaising with the police, advocating on the client's behalf, referring, and signposting clients to relevant services, and supporting clients at court. Clients are supported on staged support, prior to being assigned a full ISVA, when they are low needs in terms of mental health, safety, and investigation. For example, if a client is at the early stages of the investigation and has no current known risk of domestic violence or suicide, they are appropriate for staged support. Within staged support, I regularly offer sessions every 3-4 weeks for clients. During each session the risk assessment tool (SAS) is utilised in full, allowing me to pick up on any concerns. However, the sessions are typically 15-30 minutes, compared to ISVA sessions which are 60 minutes. If during support the need of the client changes, I assign them to an ISVA.

Overall experience:

In both my ISVA and Assessment officer roles, I am frequently contacting other professionals and working in a multi-agency manner to ensure the client is receiving the best support possible. Commonly, this involves contacting Police officers, witness care officers, GPs, IDVA's, mental health teams/psychologists, housing support, and more. I have found that multi-agency work leads to the client receiving better support in their life overall, engaging better with the ISVA service, and allows for a better relationship with other agencies.

Chasing police for updates has been an on-going issue throughout my time as both and ISVA and assessment officer, due to struggling to get a response to contact attempts from some officers. However, some STO's and OIC's continue to provide regular updates, and offer on-going support to the clients. When the STO's and OIC's engage regularly with the client's and myself, I have noticed that clients feel more supported and informed, and therefore continue to engage well with the investigation and ISVA support.

In addition to my employment at RASA, I have continued my professional development by completing the Level 2 Counselling course offered at RASA, which I found has helped me develop my active listening skills. Due to noticing the benefit Level 2 had on my ISVA role, I am currently waiting to begin the Level 3 Counselling course at RASA.

Thoughts on my role:

Regarding my ISVA and assessment officer role, I continue to find satisfaction and joy in my roles, although my role has changed significantly and there are sometimes challenges. Through the experience I have gained, and the on-going support of my colleagues, I have settled into my new roles well and feel capable at managing any challenges that come my way.

Working alongside a supportive and incredibly experienced and supportive ISVA team has been very beneficial throughout the last year. Furthermore, as a team I believe we are all comfortable in seeking advice, guidance, and emotional support from one another. In addition, having monthly line management and supervision appointments, as well as regular contact with a line manager, allows me to voice any issues or concerns, as well as discussing any positive updates. Resultantly, I believe client's will be receiving better support due to their ISVA having adequate support.

Although my role, and therefore client load, has varied massively since joining RASA a year ago, I have supported some of my clients since the beginning of my time here. Through positive feedback I have seen that they find me a good support, and an empathetic ear to talk too. I believe this has allowed me to build strong and beneficial professional relationships with many of my clients. Being able to build a positive rapport with my clients has meant that I am able to ensure that they continue to engage with our service, as well as the criminal justice process.



Message: - I have used your services twice over the years and each time it has been extremely helpful. I felt very heard by the counsellors and the treatment received has been very useful at the time and throughout my following years without treatment. I found the EMDR treatment to be effective and helped to stop my nightmares. I cannot express how greatly I appreciate all the hard work behind the scenes to provide such wonderful support.

My year at RASA Merseyside – Anna Hatton – Wirral ISVA and ISVA For males



Caseload end of year – 54

I have been with RASA for 10 months and I feel I am really settling into the role, and I am currently in the middle of completing the ISVA qualification.

In the last 10 months there have been many changes within the ISVA team which has meant that we have all had to support each other more as well as take on additional workloads.

I feel I have adapted well to these changes, and I am part of a great team and feel extremely supported within my team and by all staff at RASA. I am one of two Wirral ISVA's I am also the ISVA for males, predominantly my clients are male, but I also support with some female clients providing them with emotional and practical support during the criminal justice process.

Out of the 54 cases I hold 29 are males. I am based mainly in Birkenhead but also work one day in Bootle. Part of my role is to work on male engagement with RASA, I do this around my work with clients. I also complete the male initial assessments which helps build that working relationship. During the year my case load is between 49-60 clients at a time.

My ISVA role

During the last 10 months that I have worked as an ISVA I have found that the majority of my role has been providing emotional support which helps them through the criminal justice process. It is essential that I can build a strong working relationship with my clients, that we establish a good rapport so they can feel they can trust me, especially as the criminal justice process can be extremely lengthy. It is hard at times to manage the client's expectations and being the voice of reason and reality.

Being open and honest I feel as helped me manage my clients' expectations, but I have found my clients appreciate openness and honesty even if it is not what they want to hear. It is extremely important as an ISVA that I ensure my clients are provided with information to make informed choices and that they can access information which may help them understand the Criminal justice process and giving them autonomy to make their decisions.

I also attend Birkenhead police station for a police clinic that myself and my colleague who is the other Wirral ISVA arrange once a month. This enables us to get important updates from OIC as well as meeting the officers face to face.

Male Assessments Role

I am the ISVA for males, and this includes completing the male initial assessments which I will normally complete over the telephone. Completing the assessment highlights any safeguarding concerns and needs the client may have which will then allow me to create a tailored support plan which puts the client at the centre. When completing an assessment, it normally takes 1hr 30min and additional paperwork. I have had to make several safeguarding referrals from completing assessments and I feel confident in making these referrals.

The risk assessment is continually reviewed in every session I have with the client, and this enables me to high and manage any safeguarding concerns. During the assessment I am gathering information regarding the client's monitoring information which includes date of birth, employment status, dependents, risks, impact of the incident etc. I also gather the details of the alleged perpetrator is known and this can help us manage a safeguarding concern and check with OIC that any safeguarding concerns have been raised. Details of the incident, for example if the incident took place in the night-time economy as Rasa works closely with licensing and we can ensure that licensing is aware an incident has happened in a particular club/bar.

I will also gather information regarding health and well-being, mental health, coping strategies whether these are positive or negative as these are the clients' coping strategies. By gathering all this information as well as risk assessing and developing a tailored support plan, I can offer clients referrals to services, for example – Rasa pre-trial therapy and drug and alcohol services if needed and if the client consents. I can also offer the client sign posting. During the assessment I can gain information from the client who the OIC is in their case, and where they are in the criminal justice process. I can then manage their expectations and gain consent from the client to link in with the OIC and inform them the client has an allocated ISVA and provide my contact details, and gain updates from the OIC so I am able to support the client in the best way possible.

Male engagement

Part of my role is to work on male engagement with Rasa, and I have met with varies agencies to introduce myself, and the specialized work that Rasa does. I have discussed my role, and the referral pathways into the Rasa. Agencies have shared with me the services they offer and their referral pathways.

I have also organized Male coffee morning/evenings, updated the male section of the website, I have due to run a Male quiz night in a couple of weeks. I am attending the Launch of the Male Survivorship report, and I am attending an open day at James Place in Liverpool for males who are suicidal. I am also completing a questionnaire for my male clients which will identify what the boundaries are for males attending groups. The male engagement work I do is ongoing and is done around my client work.

Support in court,

Over the last 10 months I have provided emotional support in court for my clients this has included 2 section 28's where the client has pre-recorded their cross-examination. I have supported 2 trials. My support has been in place from the beginning of the criminal justice process, ensuring my client's voice is heard. I have been able to prepare my clients for court, ensuring they are aware of all special measures that are in place and that they can request.

I have managed my client's expectations when requesting special measures that must be agreed to by the judge and CPS. I ensure that as soon as a client has been assigned a Witness Care Officer that I link in with them and submit Pro-forma which requests the special measures the client has requested and provides the court with any needs or risks the client has. I ensure that the client has access to a pre-trial visit if they wish, which can help reduce anxiety they have.

This can help the client mentally prepare the layout of the court room, and what the courts are like and see special measures like a screen and how it works. Unfortunately, in the last 10 months I have had more police or CPS, no further actions and then cases going to trial. It is part of my role to provide both emotional support for the client as well as practical support, ensuring the no further action is delivered in the correct way, received in writing as well and that they OIC also discusses the Victims Right to review.

I have also been present for one NFA at the request of the client and their family due to the poor relationship between the OIC and the family. This was a tense situation to manage as the family had lost faith with the OIC and my client had additional needs, and the family had power of attorney. I arranged for the client, her support worker, parents and the OIC to meet at our Birkenhead office. We do not do lone work and by arranging for everyone to meet at our Birkenhead office I was able to provide emotional support after the meeting.

I asked the client, support worker and parents to arrive before the OIC. This enabled me to get everyone settled, unfortunately the OIC was late, however he did deliver the NFA well in a way the client understood and provided the NFA in writing as well and answered any questions the client and family had.

Further development



I am currently in the middle of completing my ISVA training accredited by Lime Culture. I have also taken part in all mandatory training and additional training by RASA Merseyside for me to excel in my role. This year the ISVA team where

reassessed for accreditation by Lime Culture. I am pleased to say that we have granted reaccréditation.

Message: - RASA has quite literally saved my life. I cannot believe the changes RASA has helped me achieve in just 12 weeks, I really feel blessed that i am able to come out of this stronger than ever, i am so proud of myself and so thankful for the effort and work that the therapist has put into me, i would not be where i am today without her and i cannot thank her enough.

Jess Traverse – Data Manager

My role at RASA is to manage the data filed on our virtual data management system, to check it regularly for accuracy and to file quarterly/bi-annually reports to funders as required. This is hugely challenging as staff are incredibly busy with clients and often find it difficult to find time to fully record everything required. One of the advantages of my role is that it reduces errors made in recording and reporting by ensuring there is one single point of contact for all data queries and that I have the time to check, remind, chase and correct data to ensure the best outcomes for reporting the work that we do.

This was raised in year by Wirral commissioners. We met to discuss the issues with recording information and have updated staff and volunteers accordingly. It is infuriating when compiling reports to find long lists of “not known” when clients have been in service for some time. Staff now understand the need to go back and amend records as further information becomes available. This will hopefully reduce blank data entries and more accurately reflect reality.

I have spent time this year deleting aged files in line with our GDPR policy. This has created considerable space on our server and speeded up response times for reporting.

I undertook training with The Reader and started a reading group at RASA.

I attended a meeting with MerseyCare for adult safeguarding week to talk about RASA and what we offer. They asked questions around our safeguarding procedures as they report every disclosure to the police regardless of the survivor being an adult or a child.

Lorraine and I attended the VAWG march to begin the 16 days of action. There was a vigil afterwards and we had a stand for an hour which a lot of women came up to. Our new promotional items went down well but it was suggested that we add our QR code to them next time. It was not well attended by the public but there were lots of other services there and powerful speeches by SAVERA.

The reading group will continue until the end of March and will not run while I am on maternity leave. I intend to restart it on my return to work.

Hi, I know you are incredibly busy, but I just wanted to pass on my thanks to RASA and specifically to XXX. She supported a friend of mine about 6 months ago, and she has helped her more than anyone else ever has. She still mentions her support to this day and how much she values it. Thanks for everything.

A REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ISVA ROLE OVER RECENT YEARS

Development of the ISVA Role – 2023

Up to approx. 50% of the work ISVAs are doing, won't be seen looking at caseload numbers.

The further integration of the ISVA role into the Criminal Justice System (CJS), is 100% going in the right direction. However, the additional time required for partnership work with other professionals involved in the CJS, educating these professionals with regards to victim needs and safety and supporting clients through a lengthy broken CJS, needs to be considered. The role can no longer be quantified on direct client work/caseload.

Client need has increased, and safety factors need to be considered more frequently. There are huge gaps in the provision of support from other services, particularly mental health services. Resulting in ISVAs being the main professional managing and emotionally supporting clients with their mental health.

Considering the above, the number of ISVA posts we are funded for, is not covering the time that is needed to provide a good enough service to our clients.

We're funded for £27,500 per year for a full-time ISVA, when the overall cost is closer to approx. £40,000 per year.

Overall, the funding we're provided for the ISVA role and number of posts, doesn't allow staff the time needed, and doesn't value the work that's being done and the importance of retaining people in the role.

Context

Reviews, Guidance & Policies:

Appreciating the much-needed reviews and documentation completed/ongoing in relation to victims of sexual abuse and the CJS. (Particularly - Rape Review & Operation Soteria – started 2021, Gov CJS Data Dashboard, National Framework for Working with ISVAs & Support Services - 2021 (for use by the police and CPS across England and Wales), National Operating Model (for the investigation of RASSO cases) – College of Policing.

Most of the focus of these reviews and guidance, is on the work and changes required by police and CPS. However, the changes that police and CPS are making, go hand-in-hand with more partnership work being required from ISVAs. Particularly as making these changes takes time with challenges surfacing along the way. Actions from these reviews and adhering to guidance, requires more time from ISVAs than what was needed before 2021.

The guidance and policies put in place, require improvements to the systems, accountability, increasing the number of adult RASSO cases that reach court, improving timeliness and increasing victim engagement.

To be recognising the independence of accountability for each organisation involved in the CJS, also results in additional time, changes and recording progress, for us as a service as well as others.

Further documentation which recognises the importance of the ISVA role and outlines how it's ideally integrated into the CJS, (Home Office: The Role of the Independent Sexual Violence Adviser: Essential Elements (September 2017). Joint National Action Plan - CPS and National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) – 2021. Ministry of Justice: Achieving best evidence in criminal proceedings; Guidance on interviewing victims and witnesses, and guidance on using special measures (January 2022)).

On top of the core role of providing emotional and practical support to victims. These documents particularly highlighting how ISVAs need to tailor support to individual needs, provide accurate information, act as a single point of contact, ensure the safety of victims and their dependants/others and provide a professional service. While considering needs 'including, but not limited to, race, class, caste, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, disability, nationality, immigration status, geographical location and religion.' (CPS - Rape and Sexual Offences - Chapter 5: Issues relevant to particular groups of people - 21 May 2021).

Also, it gives recognition of the immensely challenging and traumatic experience of going through the CJS, closer working between ISVAs, police and CPS with greater understanding of each other's roles, high quality liaison and communication, ISVAs working closely with statutory organisations as part of a multi-agency team, improving victims' experience and providing professional support to those who may not report/continue with the reporting process.

As you can see, more and more is required from the ISVA role through improving CJS processes.

To accommodate these changes, some of the key things our ISVA service has worked with local police and CPS to put in place are:

- ISVA Clinics at relevant local police stations.
- Police visits to RASA (these are currently happening on average once every 2 weeks, this frequency is needed due to police staff turnover often being high in these departments).
- A quarterly police scrutiny panel (which requires time to review cases, and we also nominate a case for review every other quarter).
- Agreed guidance documents for local police dealing with RASSO clients (such as delivery of NFA case results, including safety considerations).
- A feedback process (including issues, challenges and positive feedback, with a log of actions taken because of feedback).
- Police, CPS and ISVA SPOCs for certain departments.
- Reviewing/changing our provision of service off the back of police feedback if appropriate.
- A client survey to review progress being made by local police.
- Looking to improve police referral processes for victims.
- Service presentations.
- Education around client needs, the ISVA role and having a trauma informed approach.

- Plus, more and there is likely more to be developed as time goes on.

For all of this to be organised and continue to run with reviews being made along the way, again this all takes time and skills in communication, organisation, and navigation. Being involved with services more, ISVAs are frequently needing to challenge myths, stereotypes and negative culture which has been formed within the police and CPS.

On occasions, particularly police officers will be misinforming clients, such as telling them they're not allowed to access therapy while there's an ongoing case. ISVAs are challenging/educating officers and referencing Gov and police guidelines to raise awareness of the misinformation they're giving. Then having to rectify any negative impacts this may have had on the clients and trying to maintain the client's level of trust in the police, while ISVAs are also trying to maintain a positive relationship with officers. (Some don't take kindly to being gently challenged, while we make every effort to communicate this in a supportive and non-confrontational way).

While communication from police, CPS and the courts isn't always consistent or as frequent as it should be. The amount of communication time being spent has increased and is likely to continue increasing.

All the above equates to ISVA availability being less frequent for direct client work and support.

Court:

Where the reviews and improvements are lacking, is in the criminal courts and its processes. Yet this is still a focus for ISVAs with partnership work. Providing service presentations, attending regular operational meetings, developing communication pathways (particularly to communicate ISVA support and client needs at each Section 28 or trial), addressing any challenges that arise with the court staff/volunteers and the time an ISVA spends supporting at court, are all things to take into consideration.

Additionally, the time spent with some of this work has increased since the pandemic, with a lot of court hearings/trials being postponed, often last minute. Then the negative impact on clients being something that falls mainly to the ISVA to provide support with, often facing challenges in gaining clarification as to why the case has been postponed, trying to stabilise the client so they remain in the CJS, considering client safety (with themselves and others) and maintaining support for usually another 9-12+ months if it's the trial that's delayed. We've noticed an increase in clients having suicidal thoughts and intent due to feeling like the case is never ending. Clients having that build up in stress and emotions, for court to be postponed and them knowing they've got that build up again, with a case that's been ongoing for 2+ years for many, it's no wonder clients are suicidal.

From experience of trial postponements, we have good reason to believe, that the push and implementation of more victims completing pre-recorded cross-examinations (Section 28s), has meant that trials aren't prioritised and are more likely to be postponed when a Section 28 has been completed. (If this is what enable a victim to give their best evidence, then it's of benefit, but it certainly doesn't take away the impact of the ongoing case and trial postponements).

The lengthy CJS timeframe and postponements, as mentioned in previous reports, means that clients are needing support from the ISVA service for longer periods of time.

A number of our clients reside in the Merseyside area, but their cases are being investigated and going to court in another area where the incident happened. This provides further time and communication challenges with these out of area police forces, CPS and courts. We've made a lot of effort building relationships with our local police, CPS and courts, and there are inconsistencies locally with the communication/relationship we receive back from individuals. This becomes even more of a challenge with those inconsistencies out of area and again more time needed on being able to provide practical support to clients.

Increased Client Need & Safety

As already mentioned, client safety considerations and needs have increased. Particularly in terms of their mental health.

Where we are referring to other services when needed, ISVAs are often the ones left on a longer-term basis to manage a client's mental health. If other services aren't providing the support needed or the client is on a waiting list, as much as ISVAs will try to remain within the boundaries of their role, they can't turn the other way when a client is in need. ISVAs will do anything they can within their capabilities and time limits to keep a client stable and potentially keep them from harming themselves. If any safeguarding issues arise, this takes time to be addressed promptly.

This is all part of being able to keep victims engaged with the CJS, because if they are struggling too much with their mental health and their basic needs aren't being met, they are more likely to need to withdraw from the process.

It becomes more of a challenge for ISVAs to fit in support for clients as regularly as they may need it. An ISVA may have their diary booked up around 3 weeks in advance, then need to squeeze in any safeguarding or general safety considerations with clients who are reaching out for support that wasn't planned for those days. Plus accommodate support around unplanned timing of case decisions and ensuring a client has been given all the information they need to move forward.

Service Quality Standards:

For best practice and safety, to assure funders and clients, we undergo service quality standards review every 2 years.

This requires updated paperwork, policies and procedures. The team undergoes an interview process, and they check the team are up to date with professional development and training needed.

It takes time to undergo these reviews and to implement updates needed and it costs approx. £2,000 for the re-accreditation process every 2 years.

Part of the standards set, requires ISVAs to have an overview, monitor and review several clients' needs and safety measures, with signposting and referring when needed.

This includes looking at clients: Personal & Individual Requirements, Harm from Other(s), Health & Medical, Mental Health & Psychological Wellbeing, Coping Mechanisms, Social & Cultural Support, if there is/has been any Alcohol & Drug Use, Safeguarding, Criminal Justice, Employment & Education, Finances, Accommodation & Housing, Immigration & Residence, if there is any Risk to Professionals & Services, and Professional Judgment on any information or situations that may not be clear and needs to be accounted for/reviewed.

This is part of what forms best practice and delivering a quality holistic method of support for clients as individuals. Again, this takes time and skills to implement, record and review.

To have a good quality service and standards, time also needs to be invested in maintaining the staff members needs and reviewing their progress. This requires each staff member to have a monthly line management and a separate supervision session. As a team and a service, we also need monthly team meetings, time to review the service and unplanned meetings/calls to work through any presenting challenges.

Cost, Time and Wages

The overall cost per year for a full-time ISVA (approx. £40,000). Includes an average cost of supervision, IT equipment, a percentage of adequate and independent premises costs, training/CPD each year, etc.

Someone can't function in an ISVA role, adequately, abiding by quality standards, GDPR standards and maintaining professional development, without all these aspects.

So, RASA as an organisation has needed to find funding to fill in the approx. £12,500 per year for each full-time ISVA post.

This means when wages are being calculated, RASA struggles to pay each full-time post the £27,500 that's given in funding. Even so, that amount as a wage, for an experienced ISVA, with the responsibilities and challenges faced, does not reflect the role that is being provided.

As a result, the ISVA Manager and the team are regularly investing time in recruiting and training new staff members, partly because we're not retaining staff due to the wage not matching the level of work, challenges and responsibility that comes with the ISVA role. Also, the morale starts to dwindle with the team members who are more experienced in the ISVA role and have been with RASA for a little while, as they start to feel financially undervalued.

Overall

I go back to my initial summarising statement. Overall, the funding we're provided for the ISVA role and number of posts, doesn't allow staff the time needed, and doesn't value the work that's being done and the importance of retaining people in the role.

"I can honestly say that RASA has changed my life, the support I received by Aimee was amazing, she always made me feel listened too, empowered and most importantly believed. She gave me the tools I needed to challenge the negative voices I once used to hear regarding my experience with

sexual abuse. From someone who used to shy away from talking about my feelings and experiences I am now so proud of the challenges I have overcome, and I could not have done it without RASA. “

APRIL 2024 RASA CENTRE EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION POLICY

Introduction

RASA Merseyside is committed to encouraging equity, diversity, and inclusion among our workforce, and eliminating unlawful discrimination. The aim is for our workforce to be truly representative of all sections of society and our clients, and for each employee to feel respected and able to give their best. The organisation -in providing services -is also committed against unlawful discrimination of clients or the public.

Our policy's purpose

This policy's purpose is to:

1. Provide equity, fairness, and respect for all in our service (to include staff, volunteers, and service users)

2. Not unlawfully discriminate because of the Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics of:

- age
- disability
- gender reassignment
- marriage and civil partnership
- pregnancy and maternity
- race (including colour, nationality, and ethnic or national origin)
- religion or belief
- sex
- sexual orientation

3. Oppose and avoid all forms of unlawful discrimination. This includes in:

- pay and benefits
- terms and conditions of employment
- dealing with grievances and discipline
- dismissal
- redundancy

- leave for parents
- requests for flexible working
- selection for employment, promotion, training or other developmental opportunities

Our commitments

The organisation commits to:

1. Encourage equity, diversity and inclusion in the workplace
2. Create a working environment free of bullying, harassment, victimisation, and unlawful discrimination, promoting dignity and respect for all, and where individual differences and the contributions of all are recognised and valued

This commitment includes training managers and all other employees about their rights and responsibilities under the equity, diversity and inclusion policy. Responsibilities include staff conducting themselves to help the organisation provide equal opportunities in employment, and prevent bullying, harassment, victimisation and unlawful discrimination.

All staff and volunteers should understand they, as well as their employer, can be held liable for acts of bullying, harassment, victimisation and unlawful discrimination, in the course of their employment, against fellow employees, service users, and the public.

3. Respond to complaints of bullying, harassment, victimisation and unlawful discrimination by fellow employees, service users, visitors, the public and any others during the organisation's work activities.

Such acts will be dealt with as misconduct under the organisation's grievance and/or disciplinary procedures, and bullying and harassment policy and procedure, and appropriate action will be taken. Particularly serious complaints could amount to gross misconduct and lead to dismissal without notice.

Further, sexual harassment may amount to both an employment rights matter and a criminal matter, such as in sexual assault allegations (see Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedure). In addition, harassment under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997 –which is not limited to circumstances where harassment relates to a protected characteristic –is a criminal offence.

4. Make opportunities for training, and development available to all staff and volunteers, who will be helped and encouraged to develop their full potential, so their talents and resources can be fully utilised to maximise the efficiency of the organisation.
5. Review employment practices and procedures when necessary to ensure fairness and update them and the policy to take account of changes in the law.
6. Monitor the make-up of the workforce regarding information such as age, sex, ethnic background, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and disability in encouraging equity, diversity and inclusion, and in meeting the aims and commitments set out in the equity, diversity and inclusion policy.

Monitoring will also include assessing how the equity, diversity and inclusion policy, and any supporting action plan, are working in practice, reviewing them annually, and considering and taking action to address any issues.

Disciplinary and grievance procedures

Details of RASA Merseyside's grievance and disciplinary policies and procedures can be found on the Teachable platform that all staff and volunteers have access to. This includes with whom an employee or volunteer should raise a grievance –usually their line manager.

Use of the organisation's grievance or disciplinary procedures does not affect an employee's right to make a claim to an employment tribunal within three months of the alleged discrimination.

A review of our year at RASA from 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024.

1 year

52 weeks

2748 (2,514) new clients

630 (594) sexually abused children

1076 (1,449) clients from previous year

3196 (2979) females – 541 (513) males – 87 (76) others

2,835 (2,753) counselling clients – 989 (803) ISVA clients

72,444 (62,946) activities – 1,408,335 (395,247) minutes logged with clients

1005 (897) Wirral clients – 1,972 (1,839) Liverpool clients – 847 (865) Sefton clients

850 (890) multiple sexual violence incidents – 185 (240) affected relatives and friends

1,116 (1,066) rapes as a primary cause for presenting – 51 (47) sexually exploited adults

1,093 (1,051) adult survivors of child sexual abuse

3,194 (3,002) sexually violated adults

23 (19) domestic violence victims

52 weeks

1 year

Contact Us

Get in touch with us using the relevant options below.

Being in contact with people that understand you may help you to feel less isolated and more supported in order to take the first step and recover.

General Enquiries

Units 2 and 3 Stella Nova
Washington Parade
Bootle
L20 4TZ

0151 558 1801

rasa@rasamerseyside.org

If you require support outside of office hours, you can phone the Rape Crisis National Helpline on:

0808 802 9999

Talk to us in confidence.

Open between 12pm-2.30pm and 7pm-9.30pm every day of the year.

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04538556 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1094462

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024
for
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

After the rape and murder of Diane Sindall in August 1986, RASA started out as a small group of concerned women in a small terraced house in Birkenhead. Word spread that there was help available for women and girls who had experienced sexual violence. Victims and survivors started calling in for support, and sensing a genuine need, the group of women formed themselves in a charity "Wirral Rape Crisis Counselling Service,. "The charity was launched on 28th September 1987 with the charitable objects: -"To relieve the mental and physical distress of women and girls who have suffered rape or sexual assault."

As today, demand was far higher than the women could handle and in 1991 the service closed for a few weeks to give the women a break. The first paid worker was recruited in 1992 and the organisation has grown monthly ever since.

A detailed account of this period can be found in the booklet "30 years of RASA"

In 1999 when the organisation officially became the Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) under the charity number 1078638; in the hopes that this could better reflect the geographical remit of clients who often came from outside Wirral

In 2002 the Charity became a Company Limited by Guarantee and re-registered as the Rape and Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre Limited under Charity Number 1094462

In 2009 RASA took over premises in Liverpool to better service clients in the city. We soon outgrew the space and in 2015 the combined services of Sefton and Liverpool moved into the current premises at Stella Nova in Bootle, expanding in 2022 to occupy units 2-4. This has increased counselling space and given RASA more space for the children's service - Sunflowers.

RASA also relocated the Birkenhead service to Atlantic House adjacent to Hamilton Square Station. There are now 6 counselling rooms, 2 large children's rooms, space for group work and training and adequate offices and kitchen facilities to suit staff, volunteers, clients and trainees.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The full Trustee's Report is filed separately at Charities Commission.

Central to RASA's purpose is the principle of providing a safe, confidential place for survivors of sexual violence to be listened to, believed, and supported, with no pressure put on them. This work encompasses a helpline and email contact service, face-to-face counselling and emotional support, facilitated support groups, advocacy for those dealing with the criminal justice system (ISVA), training for survivors and for the public, family support, mindfulness and meditation, complimentary therapies, and signposting to other services.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are

1. To provide a free, confidential and non-judgemental support service for women and girls who have been victims of sexual violence in Merseyside (under the trading name RASA).
2. To raise public awareness of the damaging and life-changing effects of rape and sexual abuse.

In order to fulfil these aims, the objectives of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are:

- * To provide a sexual violence aftercare service for women and girls, which includes one-to-one and group support, in women only space at the request of the woman or girl.
 - * To provide a telephone support service for supporters of survivors, both male and female.
 - * To provide information and advice to other individuals and agencies to provide training and talks to external agencies in the local community to recruit volunteers.
 - * To provide adequate training, support and supervision for staff and volunteers.
 - * To monitor and evaluate service provision and policies on a continual basis involving staff, volunteers and users.
 - * To work with external individuals and agencies to further the aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre to raise funds to meet the needs of the service to identify areas of unmet need and take appropriate action.
 - * Since 2008, to provide parity of service for male survivors of sexual violence, noting that such support and counselling will not encroach on the women only space.
- RASA does not employ male staff or volunteers as we are keenly aware that the vast proportion of sexual violence is perpetrated by men against women and it would therefore be inappropriate for male workers to be evident in a professional sexual violence counselling and support service.

Working from a feminist perspective: What it means for RASA

Since it was established in Birkenhead in 1986, RASA Merseyside has always had a feminist ethos, and has aimed to support survivors of sexual violence from a feminist perspective.

People have different understandings of the term 'feminism', and the social and political movements that have been called 'feminist' are diverse, sometimes taking opposing positions on particular issues.

At RASA, we embrace diverse understandings and views, while ensuring that all RASA staff and volunteers share a common set of values on sexual violence through our recruitment and training practices.

Our ethos has been shaped by our experience of working with survivors of sexual violence, and by the lived experience of the women who have volunteered and worked for RASA, over the last 38 years.

This has led to an outward-looking approach, allowing us to respond to the needs of the community we are part of. Over the years, we have moved from being a collective of women offering peer support to other women in their community via a phone line, to the professional organisation we are today, offering counselling and ISVA services to women, children and men across the Merseyside boroughs of Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

While much has changed in the way we work, and the number of survivors we are able to help has grown, our core ethos has changed little.

We continue to describe our ethos as feminist for the following reasons:

- * Gender inequality, specifically discrimination against and oppression of women and girls, persists in our society and around the world.
- * While gender inequality has many consequences and effects, sexual violence is among the most severe and pervasive worldwide. This is evidenced by the fact that the vast majority of incidents of sexual violence are perpetrated by a man against a woman or girl.
- * Sexual violence is a means of exerting power and control over victims, and a means of diminishing the victim's own power and control over their own life. On a societal level, it is a means of enforcing patriarchal power and control through violence against individuals, and through the fear of violence.
- * Without recognising the gendered nature of sexual violence with individual survivors and as an organisation, we cannot help survivors to recover from trauma, or find long-term strategies to address sexual violence in our community.
- * Patriarchal violence, perpetrated by overwhelmingly by men, affects men and boys, and transgendered/non-binary people, as well as women and girls. Understanding the common pattern of sexual violence as a means of power and control and recognising the specific ways people of different genders are affected, is entirely compatible with a feminist approach to supporting survivors of sexual violence.
- * Maintaining a women-only workforce and providing women-only spaces remains crucial to our ability to support all survivors effectively. The survivors who come to us tell us this consistently.

Our Ethos

- * RASA Merseyside is a women-led, women-run service founded on feminist principles. We believe that by working in an all-women environment, we challenge structures that discriminate against women, providing the opportunity to empower ourselves and claim control of our own lives.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are crimes of violence and abuse of power, not 'unwanted sex'.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are never the fault of the survivor, and we work with all survivors towards this understanding of what happened to them.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are gendered crimes - the majority of victims are women and children, and the majority of perpetrators are men. Sexual violence is both an expression of, and a means of enforcing and increasing, discrimination against women and gender inequality.
- * Because women and girls live with sexism, the degradation of the female body and the threat of sexual violence in society at large, we create and maintain women-only spaces to offer relief and safety for survivors, and for the women who work at RASA. We know that this benefits survivors and helps them to heal.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

* When children have experienced sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, they require specialist support. We strive to develop ways of working that help children recover from this trauma, and live happy and healthy lives. We reach out to families, schools and the wider community to raise awareness and help prevent the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and young people.

* We know that transgender people are at increased risk of sexual violence and abuse, as well as transphobic violence. We aim to welcome all trans and non-binary gender survivors in a safe space for them, and work with other organisations locally to ensure they get the specialist support they need.

* We work with men and boys to the same feminist principles, recognizing the different ways that sexual violence affects them, and offering men-only support groups for survivors facilitated by a RASA worker. At RASA we see all sexual violence as a cause and a consequence of the patriarchal societal structure we live in, acknowledging that almost all men and boys who experience sexual violence are abused by a man. As such, we believe a service working to feminist principles is well placed to help male survivors of sexual violence.

* Recognising the oppression that many groups experience in today's society, we aim to work in a non-oppressive, anti-discriminatory way with people of any race, class, culture, immigration status, nationality, faith, sexuality, gender identity, age, disability, or health status. We work towards making our service accessible and available to all, and actively seek to make links with the diverse communities in Merseyside.

Public benefit

RASA offers support & counselling anyone who has experienced any form of sexual violence (Rape, CSA, CSE) at any time in their life. We offer support, counselling, advocacy, training, groups, court & CJS support. We work with adults & children.

Volunteers

RASA relies on volunteers to support the staff team of counsellors and ISVAs. Volunteers receive excellent training and development opportunities including the opportunity to access greatly reduced accredited training through RASA Education Limited.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

See full report for overview of charitable activities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

At the end of this year RASA holds in the region of £35,531.

The demands of the previous year have left RASA with very little reserve, and we will be working in the coming years to actively achieve funds to replenish our unrestricted funds. We maintain that the relocations were in the absolute best interests of the charity and the clients we seek to serve. We hope that the coming years will bring recommissioning of government funds that will adequately increase to meet the increased costs of running a charity in 2024.

RASA has in place a comprehensive Financial Procedure (updated and reviewed annually). It is available upon request.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for five years (April 2022 to March 2027) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs. The service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs.

RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for all survivors of sexual violence. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

This fund was rolled forward by MoJ pending new tender process in April 2023

The funding was further extended to 31-03-2024 at the same value although with a small pot of uplift to meet the enhanced demand for services.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ADDITIONAL ISVA FUNDING VIA OPCC - all extended to 2024/25

Ringfenced funding for sexual violence (SV) victim support services, achieved by OPCC and commissioned out to RASA/RASASC partnership.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ISVA FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for additional ISVA funding on behalf of RASA and RASASC to allow us to enhance and improve our response to those individuals who wished to make reports to the police and be supported through the criminal justice system. Throughout this year, it was indeed essential to provide this additional support to such victims as justice systems remain gridlocked and cases are taking longer and longer to get to court. This means ISVAs are carrying bigger and more complex caseloads and are becoming overwhelmed. Some cases in this year are not due to appear in courts for 18 -24 months.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the joint aims of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum - and providing satisfactorily trained volunteer counsellors to assist in reducing waiting times.

In this year the Education Centre contributed £40,000 to RASA. This was not as much as expected due to staff being heavily involved in the creation of new courses that will reap long term financial benefits.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

RASA aims to build a reserve fund to cover 3 months running costs of the Charity. Currently such a reserve would be in the region of £500,000. As RASA works to contract budget deadlines, it is unlikely that RASA will achieve full reserve cover without substantial unrestricted donations being received as all available funding is being used to maintain and develop services for clients.

At 31st March 2024 the total funds held are £35,531 made up of Restricted Funds of £35,294 and Unrestricted Funds of £235.

Included in restricted funds is the balance of the property owned by the charity at £15,770.

The total reserves not including the property is £19,761.

RASA recognises that this is insufficient reserve to hold and will work in coming years to rebuild the reserve following the relocation of the services into more accessible and modern accommodation that better serves the client base.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the 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.

FUTURE PLANS

As an organisation we have always been careful to avoid any form of "mission drift" Our aims will always be the same - to support survivors of sexual violence and abuse and to educate the public and individuals about the horrors of such and how to manage it. We want to continue to provide a top class service for those who need it and we want to continue to develop counsellors who understand trauma and how to heal from trauma.

But funds are becoming more difficult to achieve and in the coming months we will be looking at all possibilities for raising funds through sponsorship, donation, income generation activities. This is one of the toughest years we have had to face but we remain determined to survive and grow, remaining true to our mission and fighting for the rights and futures of survivors of this heinous crime.

We are hoping for a miracle but in the absence of such we will continue to work towards achieving supportive partners who want to help us - not because of what they get from giving - but because of what they gain from helping those who have come to us for support.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

RASA is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England / Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 9 of these financial statements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

RASA welcomes individuals who wish to be considered as a potential trustee.

Prospective trustees are recommended, self-refer or respond to advertisements on volunteer websites.

Prospective trustees progress through to appointment via the safer recruitment process under which they are interviewed by two senior staff members and/or an existing trustee.

As an accredited member of Rape Crisis England and Wales, RASA must ensure that the trustee board remains women lead. Men are welcome to apply to be trustees but will be unable to take key board positions.

Following safer recruitment process completion, prospective candidates are forwarded for election at the next AGM. At this point they must present a short biography to allow members to decide who they wish to elect. Existing elected trustees may also decide to recommend individuals to be co-opted onto the Board of Trustees. This must be carried out in line with the RASA Constitution.

Decision making

Day to day decisions are made by the operational management team consisting of Josephine Wood, Vicky Green and Lorraine Wood.

Induction and training of new trustees

Individuals must then successfully complete the RASA training for non-client focused staff. This process is carefully monitored by Education Centre staff for suitability to work with RASA.

Key management remuneration

Trustees have set the remuneration for key management.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04538556 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1094462

Registered office

15 Morpeth Close
Moreton
Wirral
CH46 6HQ

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited (Registered number: 04538556)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Principal address

Units 2 -4 Stella Nova
Washington Parade
Bootle
L20 4TZ

Trustees

P Smith (resigned 28.3.24)
M Wilson (resigned 28.3.24)
J Harris (resigned 28.3.24)
J Murphy (resigned 28.3.24)
A Raz
S Gunter
S Blower

Company Secretary

J Wood

Auditors

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Limited 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;
- 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.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

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, Robinson Rice Associates, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 22 January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'S Blower', written in a cursive style.

S Blower - Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; 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 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:

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation

Our audit response is based on:

- Enquiry of management, those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Enquiry of entity staff in compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators and legal advisors.
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.
- Assessing whether judgements and assumptions made in determining accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias

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 Trustees of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees 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 trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robinson Rice', with a stylized flourish at the end.

for and on behalf of Robinson Rice Associates
Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

22 January 2025

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	80,663	(1)	80,662	112,763
Charitable activities	5				
Provision of services		-	1,328,859	1,328,859	1,239,538
Other trading activities	3	10,800	-	10,800	23,905
Investment income	4	361	-	361	272
Total		<u>91,824</u>	<u>1,328,858</u>	<u>1,420,682</u>	<u>1,376,478</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	-	-	-	8,443
Charitable activities	7				
Provision of services		<u>252,398</u>	<u>1,326,125</u>	<u>1,578,523</u>	<u>1,359,796</u>
Total		<u>252,398</u>	<u>1,326,125</u>	<u>1,578,523</u>	<u>1,368,239</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(160,574)	2,733	(157,841)	8,239
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>160,811</u>	<u>32,561</u>	<u>193,372</u>	<u>185,133</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>237</u></u>	<u><u>35,294</u></u>	<u><u>35,531</u></u>	<u><u>193,372</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	5,420	19,299	24,719	26,919
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	15	6,284	8,016	14,300	83,266
Cash at bank and in hand		54,884	7,981	62,865	148,442
		<u>61,168</u>	<u>15,997</u>	<u>77,165</u>	<u>231,708</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(66,353)	-	(66,353)	(65,255)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>(5,185)</u>	<u>15,997</u>	<u>10,812</u>	<u>166,453</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		235	35,296	35,531	193,372
NET ASSETS		<u>235</u>	<u>35,296</u>	<u>35,531</u>	<u>193,372</u>
FUNDS	17				
Unrestricted funds				235	160,811
Restricted funds				<u>35,296</u>	<u>32,561</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>35,531</u>	<u>193,372</u>

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

The members have not deposited notice, pursuant to Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 requiring an audit of these financial statements.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- 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.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited (Registered number: 04538556)

Balance Sheet - continued
31 March 2024

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22 January 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'S Blower', with a stylized, cursive script.

S Blower - Trustee

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(77,538)	28,179
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(77,538)	28,179
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(8,400)	(6,806)
Interest received		361	272
Net cash used in investing activities		(8,039)	(6,534)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(85,577)	21,645
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		148,442	126,797
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		62,865	148,442

The notes form part of these financial statements

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

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(157,841)	8,239
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	10,597	9,015
Interest received	(361)	(272)
Trade and other creditors	(1)	-
Decrease in debtors	68,966	21,721
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,102	(10,524)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	<u>(77,538)</u>	<u>28,179</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.24 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	148,442	(85,577)	62,865
	<u>148,442</u>	<u>(85,577)</u>	<u>62,865</u>
Total	<u>148,442</u>	<u>(85,577)</u>	<u>62,865</u>

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.

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.

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.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

All splits are based on the numbers of clients served by the particular costs - or in the case of supervision - actual costs itemised in invoices. In the case of funds to be split across boroughs, funds are split in accordance with population of the borough in question (%).

Tangible fixed assets

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

Freehold property	- in accordance with the property
Improvements to property	- 33% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost and 25% on cost

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.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Donations	80,662	112,763
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Training courses	10,800	23,905
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Deposit account interest	361	272
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Commissioned work	Activity Provision of services	652,099	1,058,736
Grants	Provision of services	676,760	180,802
		<u>1,328,859</u>	<u>1,239,538</u>

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

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Grant Income	<u>676,760</u>	<u>180,802</u>

6. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Hire of plant and machinery	<u>-</u>	<u>8,443</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>1,568,127</u>	<u>10,396</u>	<u>1,578,523</u>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>74</u>	<u>10,322</u>	<u>10,396</u>

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	10,600	9,015
Hire of plant and machinery	-	8,443
Other operating leases	6,725	-
	<u>6,725</u>	<u>-</u>

10. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors for the audit of the charity's financial statements	7,500	7,500
	<u>7,500</u>	<u>7,500</u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

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

12. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,023,585	1,004,198
	<u>1,023,585</u>	<u>1,004,198</u>

Salary costs include amounts paid to subcontracted workers.

They also include:

Employers National Insurance £71,044
Employer Pension Contributions £15,384

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

	31.3.24	31.3.23
Management	8	8
Counsellors and support workers	30	28
	<u>38</u>	<u>36</u>

12. STAFF COSTS - continued

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

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	112,760	3	112,763
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	727	1,238,811	1,239,538
Other trading activities	23,905	-	23,905
Investment income	272	-	272
Total	137,664	1,238,814	1,376,478
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	-	8,443	8,443
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	132,486	1,227,310	1,359,796
Total	132,486	1,235,753	1,368,239
NET INCOME	5,178	3,061	8,239
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	155,629	29,504	185,133
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	160,807	32,565	193,372

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 April 2023	41,500	16,920	21,565	59,328	139,313
Additions	-	-	-	8,400	8,400
At 31 March 2024	41,500	16,920	21,565	67,728	147,713
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2023	24,900	16,920	20,055	50,519	112,394
Charge for year	830	-	725	9,045	10,600
At 31 March 2024	25,730	16,920	20,780	59,564	122,994
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2024	15,770	-	785	8,164	24,719
At 31 March 2023	16,600	-	1,510	8,809	26,919

15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Other debtors	8,016	-
Prepayments and accrued income	6,284	83,266
	14,300	83,266

16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Other creditors	(1)	15,394
Accruals and deferred income	56,454	42,361
Accrued expenses	9,900	7,500
	66,353	65,255

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	165,864	(131,479)	34,385
Lime Culture for Truth Project	3,418	(3,282)	136
Education Service	(8,471)	(25,815)	(34,286)
	<u>160,811</u>	<u>(160,576)</u>	<u>235</u>
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	74	(18)	56
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	16,600	(830)	15,770
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	46	(46)	-
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	25	(25)	-
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	262	(262)	-
Liverpool City Safe *	41	(41)	-
Rape Services Funding	2,217	6,776	8,993
SARC Counselling Funding *	19	(19)	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	47	(47)	-
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	530	(530)	-
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	232	(58)	174
Wirral CSP	20	(20)	-
Jill's Fund	3,105	(119)	2,986
MOJ Male	1,109	(1,109)	-
MOJ Additional Funding	403	(403)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	679	(340)	339
OPCC Contract	(9,634)	11,005	1,371
Steve Morgan Foundation	7,311	(7,311)	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	2,059	(2,059)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	1,994	6	2,000
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	(1,154)	1,846
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	(50)	1,150
OPCC Remote Counselling *	1,222	(611)	611
	<u>32,561</u>	<u>2,735</u>	<u>35,296</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>193,372</u>	<u>(157,841)</u>	<u>35,531</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	30,957	(162,436)	(131,479)
Lime Culture for Truth Project	(1)	(3,281)	(3,282)
Education Service	60,868	(86,683)	(25,815)
	91,824	(252,400)	(160,576)
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	1	(19)	(18)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(830)	(830)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(46)	(46)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(25)	(25)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(262)	(262)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(41)	(41)
Rape Services Funding	442,776	(436,000)	6,776
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(19)	(19)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(47)	(47)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	-	(530)	(530)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	-	(58)	(58)
Wirral CSP	-	(20)	(20)
Jill's Fund	-	(119)	(119)
MOJ Male	53,974	(55,083)	(1,109)
MOJ Additional Funding	-	(403)	(403)
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	(1)	(339)	(340)
OPCC Contract	652,098	(641,093)	11,005
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	(7,311)	(7,311)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	(2,059)	(2,059)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	32,888	(32,888)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	-	6	6
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	-	(1,154)	(1,154)
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	(50)	(50)
OPCC Remote Counselling *	-	(611)	(611)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	27,500	(27,500)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	73,001	(73,001)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	44,121	(44,121)	-
NPT Transatlantic Promotional Material	2,500	(2,500)	-
	1,328,858	(1,326,123)	2,735

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

TOTAL FUNDS	1,420,682	(1,578,523)	(157,841)

17. 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	155,036	10,828	165,864
Lime Culture for Truth Project	5,226	(1,808)	3,418
Education Service	(4,633)	(3,838)	(8,471)
	155,629	5,182	160,811
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	99	(25)	74
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	17,437	(837)	16,600
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	61	(15)	46
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	33	(8)	25
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	276	(14)	262
Liverpool City Safe *	55	(14)	41
Rape Services Funding	2,304	(87)	2,217
SARC Counselling Funding *	25	(6)	19
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	63	(16)	47
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	540	(10)	530
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	310	(78)	232
Wirral CSP	27	(7)	20
Jill's Fund	3,105	-	3,105
MOJ Male	1,109	-	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	403	-	403
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	-	679	679
OPCC Contract	(11,760)	2,126	(9,634)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	728	(728)	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	2,543	4,768	7,311
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	4,119	(2,060)	2,059
Thrive Sefton Council	1,994	-	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling *	1,833	(611)	1,222
	29,504	3,057	32,561
TOTAL FUNDS	185,133	8,239	193,372

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	43,175	(32,347)	10,828
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(1,808)	(1,808)
Education Service	94,490	(98,328)	(3,838)
	137,665	(132,483)	5,182
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	-	(25)	(25)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(837)	(837)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(15)	(15)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(8)	(8)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(14)	(14)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(14)	(14)
Rape Services Funding	274,445	(274,532)	(87)
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(6)	(6)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(16)	(16)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	1	(11)	(10)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	(1)	(77)	(78)
Wirral CSP	-	(7)	(7)
MOJ Male	53,974	(53,974)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	73,000	(72,321)	679
OPCC Contract	649,501	(647,375)	2,126
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	(728)	-	(728)
Steve Morgan Foundation	27,800	(23,032)	4,768
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	(1)	(2,059)	(2,060)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	27,407	(27,407)	-
OPCC Remote Counselling *	-	(611)	(611)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	27,500	(27,500)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	61,794	(61,794)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	44,121	(44,121)	-
	1,238,813	(1,235,756)	3,057
TOTAL FUNDS			
	1,376,478	(1,368,239)	8,239

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	155,036	(120,651)	34,385
Lime Culture for Truth Project	5,226	(5,090)	136
Education Service	(4,633)	(29,653)	(34,286)
	<u>155,629</u>	<u>(155,394)</u>	<u>235</u>
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	99	(43)	56
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	17,437	(1,667)	15,770
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	61	(61)	-
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	33	(33)	-
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	276	(276)	-
Liverpool City Safe *	55	(55)	-
Rape Services Funding	2,304	6,689	8,993
SARC Counselling Funding *	25	(25)	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	63	(63)	-
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	540	(540)	-
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	310	(136)	174
Wirral CSP	27	(27)	-
Jill's Fund	3,105	(119)	2,986
MOJ Male	1,109	(1,109)	-
MOJ Additional Funding	403	(403)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	-	339	339
OPCC Contract	(11,760)	13,131	1,371
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	728	(728)	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	2,543	(2,543)	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	4,119	(4,119)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	1,994	6	2,000
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	(1,154)	1,846
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	(50)	1,150
OPCC Remote Counselling *	1,833	(1,222)	611
	<u>29,504</u>	<u>5,792</u>	<u>35,296</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>185,133</u>	<u>(149,602)</u>	<u>35,531</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	74,132	(194,783)	(120,651)
Lime Culture for Truth Project	(1)	(5,089)	(5,090)
Education Service	155,358	(185,011)	(29,653)
	229,489	(384,883)	(155,394)
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	1	(44)	(43)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(1,667)	(1,667)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(61)	(61)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(33)	(33)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(276)	(276)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(55)	(55)
Rape Services Funding	717,221	(710,532)	6,689
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(25)	(25)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(63)	(63)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	1	(541)	(540)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	(1)	(135)	(136)
Wirral CSP	-	(27)	(27)
Jill's Fund	-	(119)	(119)
MOJ Male	107,948	(109,057)	(1,109)
MOJ Additional Funding	-	(403)	(403)
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	72,999	(72,660)	339
OPCC Contract	1,301,599	(1,288,468)	13,131
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	(728)	-	(728)
Steve Morgan Foundation	27,800	(30,343)	(2,543)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	(1)	(4,118)	(4,119)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	60,295	(60,295)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	-	6	6
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	-	(1,154)	(1,154)
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	(50)	(50)
OPCC Remote Counselling *	-	(1,222)	(1,222)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	55,000	(55,000)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	134,795	(134,795)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	88,242	(88,242)	-

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

NPT Transatlantic Promotional
Material

	2,500	(2,500)	-
	2,567,671	(2,561,879)	5,792
TOTAL FUNDS	2,797,160	(2,946,762)	(149,602)

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

19. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating Lease Commitments

A lease for rent for the Unit in Bootle was signed in February 2020 running to 30 September 2025.

A lease was also signed for Atlantic House in August 2023 at £32,062 per annum.

The total rent due to be paid within one year are £91,806 (2023 £55,495)

There is a photocopier lease and the payments due in the next year are £6,287 (2023 £6,287).

The total of commitments due within one year is £98,093 (2023 £83,157)

The rent due more than one year is £283,125 (2023 £381,218).

Other rents are paid on rolling contracts.

20. FUNDS

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for five years (April 2022 to March 2027) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs. The service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs.

RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for all survivors of sexual violence. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

This fund was rolled forward by MoJ pending new tender process in April 2023

The funding was further extended to 31-03-2024 at the same value

The funding was enhanced by a demand lead funding uplift in this year.

20. FUNDS - continued

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ADDITIONAL ISVA FUNDING VIA OPCC - all extended to 2024/25

Ringfenced funding for sexual violence (SV) victim support services, achieved by OPCC and commissioned out to RASA/RASASC partnership.

" MoJ ISVA Uplift (2019/20 bid) To provide additional ISVA services.

" MoJ Uplift (2021/22 bid) - To provide 1 full time ISVA for children.

" MoJ ISVA Uplift (2021 bid / previously notified) To provide additional ISVA cover and supporting staffing.

" SV Uplift Fund (From 22/23) To meet increased demand on services.

" Male Rape ISVA (2021/22 bid) to develop an ISVA service for male survivors seeking to report sexual violence.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ISVA FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for additional ISVA funding on behalf of RASA and RASASC to allow us to enhance and improve our response to those individuals who wished to make reports to the police and be supported through the criminal justice system. Throughout this year, it was indeed essential to provide this additional support to such victims as justice systems remain gridlocked and cases are taking longer and longer to get to court. This means ISVAs are carrying bigger and more complex caseloads and are becoming overwhelmed. Some cases in this year are not due to appear in courts for 18 months.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the joint aims of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum - and providing satisfactorily trained volunteer counsellors to assist in reducing waiting times. In this year the Education Centre did not make a financial contribution to RASA funds as staff were heavily involved in the creation of new courses that will reap long term financial benefits.

JILL'S FUND

This public collection of donations is being held by RASA following the sudden and unexpected death of Jill Saward in January 2017. It has been held by RASA until such time as Jill's family determine it's most beneficial use for continuing the work Jill was unable to complete. Jill was a supported of RASA Merseyside for many years and was closely engaged, right up until the time of her death.

JUSTICE FOR JANE*

These funds are held in trust for the family of Jane Clough. They are donated funds to be used by the family to fund awareness raising and education around rape and domestic violence. The family retired from this role at the end of year to 31-03-2020 and requested that the small remaining balance be donated to RASA to be used as appropriate.

* These funds relate to historic fixed asset capital donations.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	80,662	112,763
Other trading activities		
Training courses	10,800	23,905
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	361	272
Charitable activities		
Commissioned work	652,099	1,058,736
Grants	676,760	180,802
	1,328,859	1,239,538
Total incoming resources		
	1,420,682	1,376,478
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Hire of plant and machinery	-	8,443
Charitable activities		
Wages	1,023,585	1,004,198
Other operating leases	6,725	-
Insurance	14,652	9,889
Light and heat	17,279	12,023
Telephone	29,268	23,395
Postage and stationery	5,096	5,174
Advertising	11,311	6,624
Rent	76,598	63,527
Survivor travel	419	123
Travel and expenses	3,216	4,014
Training	12,263	23,044
Canteen & household costs	30,110	24,717
Repairs and maintenance	62,501	10,787
Software and IT costs	45,513	7,175
Subscriptions	1,091	491
Partner's payments	203,220	139,184
Carried forward	1,542,847	1,334,365

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Charitable activities		
Brought forward	1,542,847	1,334,365
Staff welfare	14,683	-
Freehold property	830	830
Fixtures and fittings	723	510
Computer equipment	9,044	7,675
	1,568,127	1,343,380
 Support costs		
 Finance		
Bank charges	74	72
 Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	7,500	7,500
Accountancy and legal fees	2,822	8,844
	10,322	16,344
Total resources expended	1,578,523	1,368,239
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(157,841)</u>	<u>8,239</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04538556 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1094462

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024
for
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

After the rape and murder of Diane Sindall in August 1986, RASA started out as a small group of concerned women in a small terraced house in Birkenhead. Word spread that there was help available for women and girls who had experienced sexual violence. Victims and survivors started calling in for support, and sensing a genuine need, the group of women formed themselves in a charity "Wirral Rape Crisis Counselling Service,. "The charity was launched on 28th September 1987 with the charitable objects: -"To relieve the mental and physical distress of women and girls who have suffered rape or sexual assault."

As today, demand was far higher than the women could handle and in 1991 the service closed for a few weeks to give the women a break. The first paid worker was recruited in 1992 and the organisation has grown monthly ever since.

A detailed account of this period can be found in the booklet "30 years of RASA"

In 1999 when the organisation officially became the Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) under the charity number 1078638; in the hopes that this could better reflect the geographical remit of clients who often came from outside Wirral

In 2002 the Charity became a Company Limited by Guarantee and re-registered as the Rape and Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre Limited under Charity Number 1094462

In 2009 RASA took over premises in Liverpool to better service clients in the city. We soon outgrew the space and in 2015 the combined services of Sefton and Liverpool moved into the current premises at Stella Nova in Bootle, expanding in 2022 to occupy units 2-4. This has increased counselling space and given RASA more space for the children's service - Sunflowers.

RASA also relocated the Birkenhead service to Atlantic House adjacent to Hamilton Square Station. There are now 6 counselling rooms, 2 large children's rooms, space for group work and training and adequate offices and kitchen facilities to suit staff, volunteers, clients and trainees.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The full Trustee's Report is filed separately at Charities Commission.

Central to RASA's purpose is the principle of providing a safe, confidential place for survivors of sexual violence to be listened to, believed, and supported, with no pressure put on them. This work encompasses a helpline and email contact service, face-to-face counselling and emotional support, facilitated support groups, advocacy for those dealing with the criminal justice system (ISVA), training for survivors and for the public, family support, mindfulness and meditation, complimentary therapies, and signposting to other services.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are

1. To provide a free, confidential and non-judgemental support service for women and girls who have been victims of sexual violence in Merseyside (under the trading name RASA).
2. To raise public awareness of the damaging and life-changing effects of rape and sexual abuse.

In order to fulfil these aims, the objectives of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are:

- * To provide a sexual violence aftercare service for women and girls, which includes one-to-one and group support, in women only space at the request of the woman or girl.
 - * To provide a telephone support service for supporters of survivors, both male and female.
 - * To provide information and advice to other individuals and agencies to provide training and talks to external agencies in the local community to recruit volunteers.
 - * To provide adequate training, support and supervision for staff and volunteers.
 - * To monitor and evaluate service provision and policies on a continual basis involving staff, volunteers and users.
 - * To work with external individuals and agencies to further the aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre to raise funds to meet the needs of the service to identify areas of unmet need and take appropriate action.
 - * Since 2008, to provide parity of service for male survivors of sexual violence, noting that such support and counselling will not encroach on the women only space.
- RASA does not employ male staff or volunteers as we are keenly aware that the vast proportion of sexual violence is perpetrated by men against women and it would therefore be inappropriate for male workers to be evident in a professional sexual violence counselling and support service.

Working from a feminist perspective: What it means for RASA

Since it was established in Birkenhead in 1986, RASA Merseyside has always had a feminist ethos, and has aimed to support survivors of sexual violence from a feminist perspective.

People have different understandings of the term 'feminism', and the social and political movements that have been called 'feminist' are diverse, sometimes taking opposing positions on particular issues.

At RASA, we embrace diverse understandings and views, while ensuring that all RASA staff and volunteers share a common set of values on sexual violence through our recruitment and training practices.

Our ethos has been shaped by our experience of working with survivors of sexual violence, and by the lived experience of the women who have volunteered and worked for RASA, over the last 38 years.

This has led to an outward-looking approach, allowing us to respond to the needs of the community we are part of. Over the years, we have moved from being a collective of women offering peer support to other women in their community via a phone line, to the professional organisation we are today, offering counselling and ISVA services to women, children and men across the Merseyside boroughs of Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

While much has changed in the way we work, and the number of survivors we are able to help has grown, our core ethos has changed little.

We continue to describe our ethos as feminist for the following reasons:

- * Gender inequality, specifically discrimination against and oppression of women and girls, persists in our society and around the world.
- * While gender inequality has many consequences and effects, sexual violence is among the most severe and pervasive worldwide. This is evidenced by the fact that the vast majority of incidents of sexual violence are perpetrated by a man against a woman or girl.
- * Sexual violence is a means of exerting power and control over victims, and a means of diminishing the victim's own power and control over their own life. On a societal level, it is a means of enforcing patriarchal power and control through violence against individuals, and through the fear of violence.
- * Without recognising the gendered nature of sexual violence with individual survivors and as an organisation, we cannot help survivors to recover from trauma, or find long-term strategies to address sexual violence in our community.
- * Patriarchal violence, perpetrated by overwhelmingly by men, affects men and boys, and transgendered/non-binary people, as well as women and girls. Understanding the common pattern of sexual violence as a means of power and control and recognising the specific ways people of different genders are affected, is entirely compatible with a feminist approach to supporting survivors of sexual violence.
- * Maintaining a women-only workforce and providing women-only spaces remains crucial to our ability to support all survivors effectively. The survivors who come to us tell us this consistently.

Our Ethos

- * RASA Merseyside is a women-led, women-run service founded on feminist principles. We believe that by working in an all-women environment, we challenge structures that discriminate against women, providing the opportunity to empower ourselves and claim control of our own lives.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are crimes of violence and abuse of power, not 'unwanted sex'.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are never the fault of the survivor, and we work with all survivors towards this understanding of what happened to them.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are gendered crimes - the majority of victims are women and children, and the majority of perpetrators are men. Sexual violence is both an expression of, and a means of enforcing and increasing, discrimination against women and gender inequality.
- * Because women and girls live with sexism, the degradation of the female body and the threat of sexual violence in society at large, we create and maintain women-only spaces to offer relief and safety for survivors, and for the women who work at RASA. We know that this benefits survivors and helps them to heal.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

* When children have experienced sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, they require specialist support. We strive to develop ways of working that help children recover from this trauma, and live happy and healthy lives. We reach out to families, schools and the wider community to raise awareness and help prevent the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and young people.

* We know that transgender people are at increased risk of sexual violence and abuse, as well as transphobic violence. We aim to welcome all trans and non-binary gender survivors in a safe space for them, and work with other organisations locally to ensure they get the specialist support they need.

* We work with men and boys to the same feminist principles, recognizing the different ways that sexual violence affects them, and offering men-only support groups for survivors facilitated by a RASA worker. At RASA we see all sexual violence as a cause and a consequence of the patriarchal societal structure we live in, acknowledging that almost all men and boys who experience sexual violence are abused by a man. As such, we believe a service working to feminist principles is well placed to help male survivors of sexual violence.

* Recognising the oppression that many groups experience in today's society, we aim to work in a non-oppressive, anti-discriminatory way with people of any race, class, culture, immigration status, nationality, faith, sexuality, gender identity, age, disability, or health status. We work towards making our service accessible and available to all, and actively seek to make links with the diverse communities in Merseyside.

Public benefit

RASA offers support & counselling anyone who has experienced any form of sexual violence (Rape, CSA, CSE) at any time in their life. We offer support, counselling, advocacy, training, groups, court & CJS support. We work with adults & children.

Volunteers

RASA relies on volunteers to support the staff team of counsellors and ISVAs. Volunteers receive excellent training and development opportunities including the opportunity to access greatly reduced accredited training through RASA Education Limited.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

See full report for overview of charitable activities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

At the end of this year RASA holds in the region of £35,531.

The demands of the previous year have left RASA with very little reserve, and we will be working in the coming years to actively achieve funds to replenish our unrestricted funds. We maintain that the relocations were in the absolute best interests of the charity and the clients we seek to serve. We hope that the coming years will bring recommissioning of government funds that will adequately increase to meet the increased costs of running a charity in 2024.

RASA has in place a comprehensive Financial Procedure (updated and reviewed annually). It is available upon request.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for five years (April 2022 to March 2027) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs. The service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs.

RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for all survivors of sexual violence. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

This fund was rolled forward by MoJ pending new tender process in April 2023

The funding was further extended to 31-03-2024 at the same value although with a small pot of uplift to meet the enhanced demand for services.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ADDITIONAL ISVA FUNDING VIA OPCC - all extended to 2024/25

Ringfenced funding for sexual violence (SV) victim support services, achieved by OPCC and commissioned out to RASA/RASASC partnership.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ISVA FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for additional ISVA funding on behalf of RASA and RASASC to allow us to enhance and improve our response to those individuals who wished to make reports to the police and be supported through the criminal justice system. Throughout this year, it was indeed essential to provide this additional support to such victims as justice systems remain gridlocked and cases are taking longer and longer to get to court. This means ISVAs are carrying bigger and more complex caseloads and are becoming overwhelmed. Some cases in this year are not due to appear in courts for 18 -24 months.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the joint aims of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum - and providing satisfactorily trained volunteer counsellors to assist in reducing waiting times.

In this year the Education Centre contributed £40,000 to RASA. This was not as much as expected due to staff being heavily involved in the creation of new courses that will reap long term financial benefits.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

RASA aims to build a reserve fund to cover 3 months running costs of the Charity. Currently such a reserve would be in the region of £500,000. As RASA works to contract budget deadlines, it is unlikely that RASA will achieve full reserve cover without substantial unrestricted donations being received as all available funding is being used to maintain and develop services for clients.

At 31st March 2024 the total funds held are £35,531 made up of Restricted Funds of £35,294 and Unrestricted Funds of £235.

Included in restricted funds is the balance of the property owned by the charity at £15,770.

The total reserves not including the property is £19,761.

RASA recognises that this is insufficient reserve to hold and will work in coming years to rebuild the reserve following the relocation of the services into more accessible and modern accommodation that better serves the client base.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the 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.

FUTURE PLANS

As an organisation we have always been careful to avoid any form of "mission drift" Our aims will always be the same - to support survivors of sexual violence and abuse and to educate the public and individuals about the horrors of such and how to manage it. We want to continue to provide a top class service for those who need it and we want to continue to develop counsellors who understand trauma and how to heal from trauma.

But funds are becoming more difficult to achieve and in the coming months we will be looking at all possibilities for raising funds through sponsorship, donation, income generation activities. This is one of the toughest years we have had to face but we remain determined to survive and grow, remaining true to our mission and fighting for the rights and futures of survivors of this heinous crime.

We are hoping for a miracle but in the absence of such we will continue to work towards achieving supportive partners who want to help us - not because of what they get from giving - but because of what they gain from helping those who have come to us for support.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

RASA is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England / Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 9 of these financial statements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

RASA welcomes individuals who wish to be considered as a potential trustee.

Prospective trustees are recommended, self-refer or respond to advertisements on volunteer websites.

Prospective trustees progress through to appointment via the safer recruitment process under which they are interviewed by two senior staff members and/or an existing trustee.

As an accredited member of Rape Crisis England and Wales, RASA must ensure that the trustee board remains women lead. Men are welcome to apply to be trustees but will be unable to take key board positions.

Following safer recruitment process completion, prospective candidates are forwarded for election at the next AGM. At this point they must present a short biography to allow members to decide who they wish to elect. Existing elected trustees may also decide to recommend individuals to be co-opted onto the Board of Trustees. This must be carried out in line with the RASA Constitution.

Decision making

Day to day decisions are made by the operational management team consisting of Josephine Wood, Vicky Green and Lorraine Wood.

Induction and training of new trustees

Individuals must then successfully complete the RASA training for non-client focused staff. This process is carefully monitored by Education Centre staff for suitability to work with RASA.

Key management remuneration

Trustees have set the remuneration for key management.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04538556 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1094462

Registered office

15 Morpeth Close
Moreton
Wirral
CH46 6HQ

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited (Registered number: 04538556)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Principal address

Units 2 -4 Stella Nova
Washington Parade
Bootle
L20 4TZ

Trustees

P Smith (resigned 28.3.24)
M Wilson (resigned 28.3.24)
J Harris (resigned 28.3.24)
J Murphy (resigned 28.3.24)
A Raz
S Gunter
S Blower

Company Secretary

J Wood

Auditors

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Limited 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;
- 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.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

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, Robinson Rice Associates, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 22 January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'S Blower', with a stylized, flowing script.

S Blower - Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; 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 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:

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation

Our audit response is based on:

- Enquiry of management, those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Enquiry of entity staff in compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators and legal advisors.
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.
- Assessing whether judgements and assumptions made in determining accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias

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 Trustees of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees 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 trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robinson Rice', with a stylized flourish above the name.

for and on behalf of Robinson Rice Associates
Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

22 January 2025

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	80,663	(1)	80,662	112,763
Charitable activities	5				
Provision of services		-	1,328,859	1,328,859	1,239,538
Other trading activities	3	10,800	-	10,800	23,905
Investment income	4	361	-	361	272
Total		<u>91,824</u>	<u>1,328,858</u>	<u>1,420,682</u>	<u>1,376,478</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	-	-	-	8,443
Charitable activities	7				
Provision of services		<u>252,398</u>	<u>1,326,125</u>	<u>1,578,523</u>	<u>1,359,796</u>
Total		<u>252,398</u>	<u>1,326,125</u>	<u>1,578,523</u>	<u>1,368,239</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(160,574)	2,733	(157,841)	8,239
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>160,811</u>	<u>32,561</u>	<u>193,372</u>	<u>185,133</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>237</u></u>	<u><u>35,294</u></u>	<u><u>35,531</u></u>	<u><u>193,372</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	5,420	19,299	24,719	26,919
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	15	6,284	8,016	14,300	83,266
Cash at bank and in hand		54,884	7,981	62,865	148,442
		<u>61,168</u>	<u>15,997</u>	<u>77,165</u>	<u>231,708</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(66,353)	-	(66,353)	(65,255)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>(5,185)</u>	<u>15,997</u>	<u>10,812</u>	<u>166,453</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		235	35,296	35,531	193,372
NET ASSETS		<u>235</u>	<u>35,296</u>	<u>35,531</u>	<u>193,372</u>
FUNDS	17				
Unrestricted funds				235	160,811
Restricted funds				<u>35,296</u>	<u>32,561</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>35,531</u>	<u>193,372</u>

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

The members have not deposited notice, pursuant to Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 requiring an audit of these financial statements.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- 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.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited (Registered number: 04538556)

Balance Sheet - continued
31 March 2024

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22 January 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'S Blower', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

S Blower - Trustee

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(77,538)	28,179
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(77,538)	28,179
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(8,400)	(6,806)
Interest received		361	272
Net cash used in investing activities		(8,039)	(6,534)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(85,577)	21,645
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		148,442	126,797
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		62,865	148,442

The notes form part of these financial statements

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

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(157,841)	8,239
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	10,597	9,015
Interest received	(361)	(272)
Trade and other creditors	(1)	-
Decrease in debtors	68,966	21,721
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,102	(10,524)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	<u>(77,538)</u>	<u>28,179</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.24 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	148,442	(85,577)	62,865
	<u>148,442</u>	<u>(85,577)</u>	<u>62,865</u>
Total	<u>148,442</u>	<u>(85,577)</u>	<u>62,865</u>

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.

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.

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.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

All splits are based on the numbers of clients served by the particular costs - or in the case of supervision - actual costs itemised in invoices. In the case of funds to be split across boroughs, funds are split in accordance with population of the borough in question (%).

Tangible fixed assets

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

Freehold property	- in accordance with the property
Improvements to property	- 33% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost and 25% on cost

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.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Donations	80,662	112,763
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Training courses	10,800	23,905
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Deposit account interest	361	272
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Commissioned work	Activity Provision of services	652,099	1,058,736
Grants	Provision of services	676,760	180,802
		<u>1,328,859</u>	<u>1,239,538</u>

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

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Grant Income	<u>676,760</u>	<u>180,802</u>

6. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Hire of plant and machinery	<u>-</u>	<u>8,443</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>1,568,127</u>	<u>10,396</u>	<u>1,578,523</u>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>74</u>	<u>10,322</u>	<u>10,396</u>

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	10,600	9,015
Hire of plant and machinery	-	8,443
Other operating leases	6,725	-
	<u>6,725</u>	<u>-</u>

10. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors for the audit of the charity's financial statements	7,500	7,500
	<u>7,500</u>	<u>7,500</u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

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

12. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,023,585	1,004,198
	<u>1,023,585</u>	<u>1,004,198</u>

Salary costs include amounts paid to subcontracted workers.

They also include:

Employers National Insurance £71,044
Employer Pension Contributions £15,384

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

	31.3.24	31.3.23
Management	8	8
Counsellors and support workers	30	28
	<u>38</u>	<u>36</u>

12. STAFF COSTS - continued

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

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	112,760	3	112,763
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	727	1,238,811	1,239,538
Other trading activities	23,905	-	23,905
Investment income	272	-	272
Total	137,664	1,238,814	1,376,478
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	-	8,443	8,443
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	132,486	1,227,310	1,359,796
Total	132,486	1,235,753	1,368,239
NET INCOME	5,178	3,061	8,239
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	155,629	29,504	185,133
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	160,807	32,565	193,372

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 April 2023	41,500	16,920	21,565	59,328	139,313
Additions	-	-	-	8,400	8,400
At 31 March 2024	41,500	16,920	21,565	67,728	147,713
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2023	24,900	16,920	20,055	50,519	112,394
Charge for year	830	-	725	9,045	10,600
At 31 March 2024	25,730	16,920	20,780	59,564	122,994
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2024	15,770	-	785	8,164	24,719
At 31 March 2023	16,600	-	1,510	8,809	26,919

15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Other debtors	8,016	-
Prepayments and accrued income	6,284	83,266
	14,300	83,266

16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Other creditors	(1)	15,394
Accruals and deferred income	56,454	42,361
Accrued expenses	9,900	7,500
	66,353	65,255

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	165,864	(131,479)	34,385
Lime Culture for Truth Project	3,418	(3,282)	136
Education Service	(8,471)	(25,815)	(34,286)
	<u>160,811</u>	<u>(160,576)</u>	<u>235</u>
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	74	(18)	56
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	16,600	(830)	15,770
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	46	(46)	-
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	25	(25)	-
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	262	(262)	-
Liverpool City Safe *	41	(41)	-
Rape Services Funding	2,217	6,776	8,993
SARC Counselling Funding *	19	(19)	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	47	(47)	-
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	530	(530)	-
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	232	(58)	174
Wirral CSP	20	(20)	-
Jill's Fund	3,105	(119)	2,986
MOJ Male	1,109	(1,109)	-
MOJ Additional Funding	403	(403)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	679	(340)	339
OPCC Contract	(9,634)	11,005	1,371
Steve Morgan Foundation	7,311	(7,311)	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	2,059	(2,059)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	1,994	6	2,000
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	(1,154)	1,846
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	(50)	1,150
OPCC Remote Counselling *	1,222	(611)	611
	<u>32,561</u>	<u>2,735</u>	<u>35,296</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>193,372</u>	<u>(157,841)</u>	<u>35,531</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	30,957	(162,436)	(131,479)
Lime Culture for Truth Project	(1)	(3,281)	(3,282)
Education Service	60,868	(86,683)	(25,815)
	91,824	(252,400)	(160,576)
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	1	(19)	(18)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(830)	(830)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(46)	(46)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(25)	(25)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(262)	(262)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(41)	(41)
Rape Services Funding	442,776	(436,000)	6,776
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(19)	(19)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(47)	(47)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	-	(530)	(530)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	-	(58)	(58)
Wirral CSP	-	(20)	(20)
Jill's Fund	-	(119)	(119)
MOJ Male	53,974	(55,083)	(1,109)
MOJ Additional Funding	-	(403)	(403)
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	(1)	(339)	(340)
OPCC Contract	652,098	(641,093)	11,005
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	(7,311)	(7,311)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	(2,059)	(2,059)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	32,888	(32,888)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	-	6	6
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	-	(1,154)	(1,154)
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	(50)	(50)
OPCC Remote Counselling *	-	(611)	(611)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	27,500	(27,500)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	73,001	(73,001)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	44,121	(44,121)	-
NPT Transatlantic Promotional Material	2,500	(2,500)	-
	1,328,858	(1,326,123)	2,735

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,420,682</u>	<u>(1,578,523)</u>	<u>(157,841)</u>

17. 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	155,036	10,828	165,864
Lime Culture for Truth Project	5,226	(1,808)	3,418
Education Service	(4,633)	(3,838)	(8,471)
	155,629	5,182	160,811
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	99	(25)	74
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	17,437	(837)	16,600
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	61	(15)	46
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	33	(8)	25
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	276	(14)	262
Liverpool City Safe *	55	(14)	41
Rape Services Funding	2,304	(87)	2,217
SARC Counselling Funding *	25	(6)	19
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	63	(16)	47
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	540	(10)	530
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	310	(78)	232
Wirral CSP	27	(7)	20
Jill's Fund	3,105	-	3,105
MOJ Male	1,109	-	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	403	-	403
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	-	679	679
OPCC Contract	(11,760)	2,126	(9,634)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	728	(728)	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	2,543	4,768	7,311
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	4,119	(2,060)	2,059
Thrive Sefton Council	1,994	-	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling *	1,833	(611)	1,222
	29,504	3,057	32,561
TOTAL FUNDS	185,133	8,239	193,372

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	43,175	(32,347)	10,828
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(1,808)	(1,808)
Education Service	94,490	(98,328)	(3,838)
	137,665	(132,483)	5,182
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	-	(25)	(25)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(837)	(837)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(15)	(15)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(8)	(8)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(14)	(14)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(14)	(14)
Rape Services Funding	274,445	(274,532)	(87)
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(6)	(6)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(16)	(16)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	1	(11)	(10)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	(1)	(77)	(78)
Wirral CSP	-	(7)	(7)
MOJ Male	53,974	(53,974)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	73,000	(72,321)	679
OPCC Contract	649,501	(647,375)	2,126
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	(728)	-	(728)
Steve Morgan Foundation	27,800	(23,032)	4,768
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	(1)	(2,059)	(2,060)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	27,407	(27,407)	-
OPCC Remote Counselling *	-	(611)	(611)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	27,500	(27,500)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	61,794	(61,794)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	44,121	(44,121)	-
	1,238,813	(1,235,756)	3,057
TOTAL FUNDS	1,376,478	(1,368,239)	8,239

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	155,036	(120,651)	34,385
Lime Culture for Truth Project	5,226	(5,090)	136
Education Service	(4,633)	(29,653)	(34,286)
	<u>155,629</u>	<u>(155,394)</u>	<u>235</u>
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	99	(43)	56
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	17,437	(1,667)	15,770
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	61	(61)	-
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	33	(33)	-
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	276	(276)	-
Liverpool City Safe *	55	(55)	-
Rape Services Funding	2,304	6,689	8,993
SARC Counselling Funding *	25	(25)	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	63	(63)	-
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	540	(540)	-
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	310	(136)	174
Wirral CSP	27	(27)	-
Jill's Fund	3,105	(119)	2,986
MOJ Male	1,109	(1,109)	-
MOJ Additional Funding	403	(403)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	-	339	339
OPCC Contract	(11,760)	13,131	1,371
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	728	(728)	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	2,543	(2,543)	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	4,119	(4,119)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	1,994	6	2,000
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	(1,154)	1,846
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	(50)	1,150
OPCC Remote Counselling *	1,833	(1,222)	611
	<u>29,504</u>	<u>5,792</u>	<u>35,296</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>185,133</u>	<u>(149,602)</u>	<u>35,531</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	74,132	(194,783)	(120,651)
Lime Culture for Truth Project	(1)	(5,089)	(5,090)
Education Service	155,358	(185,011)	(29,653)
	229,489	(384,883)	(155,394)
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane *	1	(44)	(43)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(1,667)	(1,667)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(61)	(61)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(33)	(33)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(276)	(276)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(55)	(55)
Rape Services Funding	717,221	(710,532)	6,689
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(25)	(25)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(63)	(63)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	1	(541)	(540)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	(1)	(135)	(136)
Wirral CSP	-	(27)	(27)
Jill's Fund	-	(119)	(119)
MOJ Male	107,948	(109,057)	(1,109)
MOJ Additional Funding	-	(403)	(403)
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	72,999	(72,660)	339
OPCC Contract	1,301,599	(1,288,468)	13,131
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	(728)	-	(728)
Steve Morgan Foundation	27,800	(30,343)	(2,543)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	(1)	(4,118)	(4,119)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	60,295	(60,295)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	-	6	6
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	-	(1,154)	(1,154)
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	(50)	(50)
OPCC Remote Counselling *	-	(1,222)	(1,222)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	55,000	(55,000)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	134,795	(134,795)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	88,242	(88,242)	-

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

NPT Transatlantic Promotional
Material

	2,500	(2,500)	-
	<u>2,567,671</u>	<u>(2,561,879)</u>	<u>5,792</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>2,797,160</u></u>	<u><u>(2,946,762)</u></u>	<u><u>(149,602)</u></u>

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

19. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating Lease Commitments

A lease for rent for the Unit in Bootle was signed in February 2020 running to 30 September 2025.

A lease was also signed for Atlantic House in August 2023 at £32,062 per annum.

The total rent due to be paid within one year are £91,806 (2023 £55,495)

There is a photocopier lease and the payments due in the next year are £6,287 (2023 £6,287).

The total of commitments due within one year is £98,093 (2023 £83,157)

The rent due more than one year is £283,125 (2023 £381,218).

Other rents are paid on rolling contracts.

20. FUNDS

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for five years (April 2022 to March 2027) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs. The service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs.

RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for all survivors of sexual violence. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

This fund was rolled forward by MoJ pending new tender process in April 2023

The funding was further extended to 31-03-2024 at the same value

The funding was enhanced by a demand lead funding uplift in this year.

20. FUNDS - continued

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ADDITIONAL ISVA FUNDING VIA OPCC - all extended to 2024/25

Ringfenced funding for sexual violence (SV) victim support services, achieved by OPCC and commissioned out to RASA/RASASC partnership.

" MoJ ISVA Uplift (2019/20 bid) To provide additional ISVA services.

" MoJ Uplift (2021/22 bid) - To provide 1 full time ISVA for children.

" MoJ ISVA Uplift (2021 bid / previously notified) To provide additional ISVA cover and supporting staffing.

" SV Uplift Fund (From 22/23) To meet increased demand on services.

" Male Rape ISVA (2021/22 bid) to develop an ISVA service for male survivors seeking to report sexual violence.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ISVA FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for additional ISVA funding on behalf of RASA and RASASC to allow us to enhance and improve our response to those individuals who wished to make reports to the police and be supported through the criminal justice system. Throughout this year, it was indeed essential to provide this additional support to such victims as justice systems remain gridlocked and cases are taking longer and longer to get to court. This means ISVAs are carrying bigger and more complex caseloads and are becoming overwhelmed. Some cases in this year are not due to appear in courts for 18 months.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the joint aims of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum - and providing satisfactorily trained volunteer counsellors to assist in reducing waiting times. In this year the Education Centre did not make a financial contribution to RASA funds as staff were heavily involved in the creation of new courses that will reap long term financial benefits.

JILL'S FUND

This public collection of donations is being held by RASA following the sudden and unexpected death of Jill Saward in January 2017. It has been held by RASA until such time as Jill's family determine it's most beneficial use for continuing the work Jill was unable to complete. Jill was a supported of RASA Merseyside for many years and was closely engaged, right up until the time of her death.

JUSTICE FOR JANE*

These funds are held in trust for the family of Jane Clough. They are donated funds to be used by the family to fund awareness raising and education around rape and domestic violence. The family retired from this role at the end of year to 31-03-2020 and requested that the small remaining balance be donated to RASA to be used as appropriate.

* These funds relate to historic fixed asset capital donations.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	80,662	112,763
Other trading activities		
Training courses	10,800	23,905
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	361	272
Charitable activities		
Commissioned work	652,099	1,058,736
Grants	676,760	180,802
	1,328,859	1,239,538
Total incoming resources		
	1,420,682	1,376,478
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Hire of plant and machinery	-	8,443
Charitable activities		
Wages	1,023,585	1,004,198
Other operating leases	6,725	-
Insurance	14,652	9,889
Light and heat	17,279	12,023
Telephone	29,268	23,395
Postage and stationery	5,096	5,174
Advertising	11,311	6,624
Rent	76,598	63,527
Survivor travel	419	123
Travel and expenses	3,216	4,014
Training	12,263	23,044
Canteen & household costs	30,110	24,717
Repairs and maintenance	62,501	10,787
Software and IT costs	45,513	7,175
Subscriptions	1,091	491
Partner's payments	203,220	139,184
Carried forward	1,542,847	1,334,365

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Charitable activities		
Brought forward	1,542,847	1,334,365
Staff welfare	14,683	-
Freehold property	830	830
Fixtures and fittings	723	510
Computer equipment	9,044	7,675
	1,568,127	1,343,380
 Support costs		
 Finance		
Bank charges	74	72
 Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	7,500	7,500
Accountancy and legal fees	2,822	8,844
	10,322	16,344
Total resources expended	1,578,523	1,368,239
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(157,841)</u>	<u>8,239</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Accounts

RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE (RASA) CENTRE LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023

CARING FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE SINCE 1986



RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023



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RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023



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RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023



It is always recommended that one should start at the very beginning – but we are starting at the very end with this report as we are closing the year buzzing with excitement about our intended expansion of services and premises in the coming months. More news to follow but we think we may have finally found solutions to our lack of space and consequent inability to increase counselling and support hours for our clients. This is good news for everyone, and I am putting it right here – at the beginning of our report because so many staff have mentioned it in their personal updates on the year.

We have long been aware of the challenges of our room space and think we have finally found a solution.

It's really challenging, each year to try and write something gripping for an annual report when you are writing about the horrors of sexual violence and its impacts on its victims.

But, like the end of any year it's a time for reflection on how far we have come and where we want to get to.

It's close to 20 years since I first started work with RASA and only by looking back through our early Annual Reports can I see clearly how far we have come. Yes I can remember those early days when we would sit in semi darkness in our little house in Birkenhead, wondering whose idea it had been to paint the walls dark orange - waiting for the phone to ring.

In those days 2004-06 the computer was simply to write letters and play the radio. There were no such things as bank transfers and quick payments. Client records were held in huge fat files, that just grew fatter each year – and all file movements were recorded using a pencil and rubber – when you remembered you had moved a file. Elastic bands pinged at regular intervals as they stretched to breaking point – and then – beyond.

RASA was approaching 20 years old and the good women who had worked tirelessly to get her thus far had dreams of the future – we could all see the future – but we had no idea how we were going to get there.

We were massively excited to welcome 20 new volunteer counsellors that year – we relied heavily on volunteers – mainly because we had no funds to pay anyone. But in that year, we managed to carry out 1224 counselling appointments, 261 support appointments, respond to 2809

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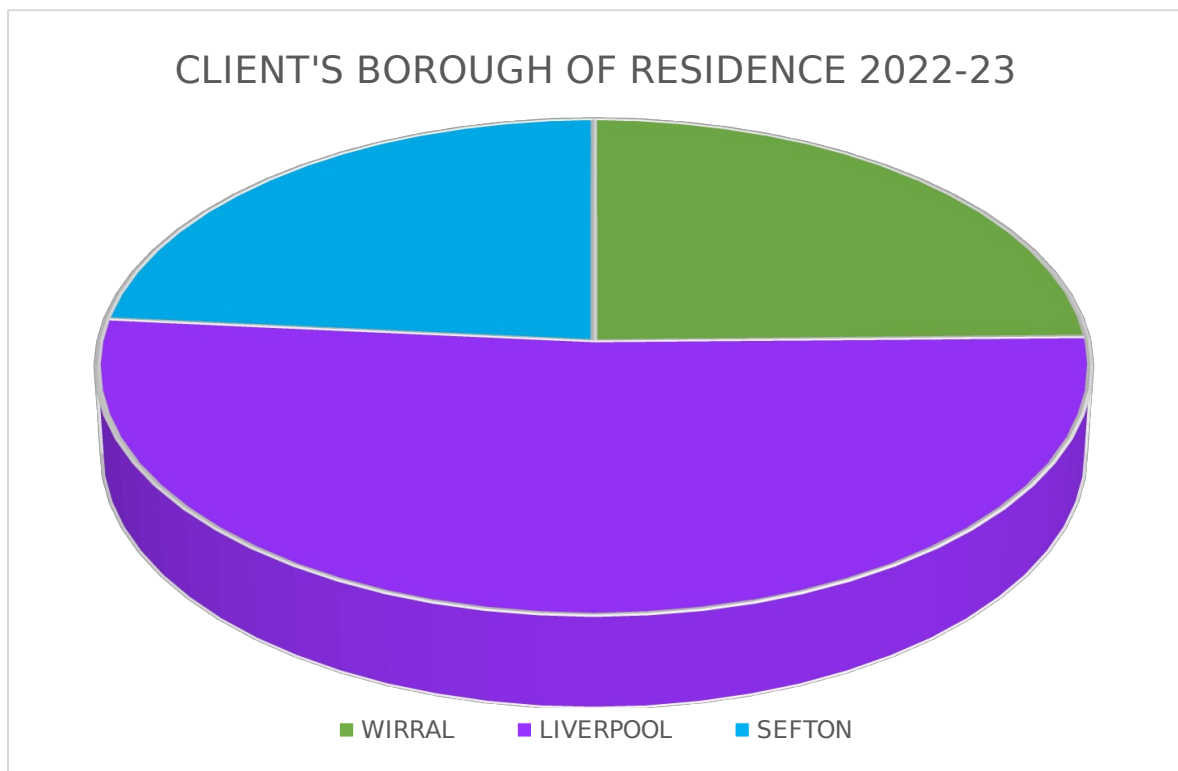


RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023



helpline calls and welcome 364 new women into the service. This indicates the determination and dedication of the RASA Team.

Jump forward to this year and we now have 36 paid staff, including a team of ISVAs, a Children's Section and an Adult Counselling Section. We cover Sefton, Wirral and Liverpool and welcomed 2152 new clients into service. And – we no longer have bulging paper files as all our records are held safely and electronically on a cloud-based server. How times have changed



Our work this year beyond our regular counselling, ISVA and support has been as varied as training tram drivers in Manchester about how to be an effective bystander, running trauma courses for external counsellors, delivering sexual harassment awareness training in the local universities – all while managing to deliver face to face counselling and support to over 3600 people in need of our help.

In April 2022 our waiting list for counselling in Birkenhead was 10 months long. We simply needed more room to be able to hold more sessions and bring down that waiting time. We employ multiple activities and support

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RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023



sessions for clients awaiting counselling and these are helping to fill that gap.

Our Birkenhead Centre was running “Taking Back Control” sessions with amazing results for long term sufferers of the impacts of sexual violence.

Following the sessions

- One client was able to return to work.
- Another client was able to get the bus to university.
- One client saw her perpetrator before a meeting but felt strong enough to attend her meeting despite seeing the perpetrator.
- Two clients have decided that they would like to come off the counselling waiting list.

These are huge advances, and it is great to see the hard work of the client and the session leader, producing such positive outcomes. This carefully developed and innovative programme is showing enormous early success.
Jo Wood Finance Manager

RASA SUNFLOWERS - OUR CHILDREN'S SERVICE

Name: Janet Bunn

It has been another busy year for RASA Sunflowers. I feel lucky to be part of this team. It will be three years this August since I took on the role of team manager. I am grateful for the support of my team and the other managers, including Helen, who set the Sunflowers service up and previously managed it. Helen continues to be an invaluable source of help, support, and wisdom.



Sunflowers continues to grow, having appointed a full-time Children and Young People's Sexual Violence Advisor (CHISVA), to join our two existing part-time CHISVAs across Sefton, Liverpool, and Wirral. We are fortunate that this worker was previously our assessment officer, where she developed a good understanding of the Sunflowers service. She has started her initial ISVA training with Lime Culture and the Level 3 Counselling Skills with RASA Education.

Due to this staff development, we appointed a new part-time assessment officer in December 2022. This worker has previous experience of working

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RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023



with children and young people within a women's refuge. The insight that this experience has provided has proved extremely beneficial in assessment officer role. This worker has also started some training with RASA Education -the Level 2 Counselling Concepts. As staff, we are so lucky to have such fantastic training opportunities within our organisation with RASA Education.

Another example of this is a longstanding member of our team has recently qualified as a counsellor and hypnotherapist with RASA and has started counselling some of our clients on the waiting list in Liverpool and Sefton.

Another exciting area of staff development since December 2022 is that three of our Sunflowers team have completed EMDR Child and Adolescent training. We are also receiving monthly EMDR child and adolescent supervision from this child specialist trainer and consultant which is proving extremely helpful.

We have been fortunate to receive some funding for counselling which we were able to use to reduce the Sunflowers waiting list, however this funding ended at the end of March. We do expect therefore to see the impact of this funding ending on our waiting lists. However, I am grateful that we have some experienced and talented therapists with RASA who are keen to work with the Sunflowers team, both in Wirral and in Liverpool/Sefton, which helps to reach our clients on the waiting list sooner.

To try to improve access to our service, two of our Sunflowers workers (a counsellor and a CHISVA) have started offering our service from a base in Southport once a week, to accommodate Southport clients who would struggle to make it to Bootle, which is proving to be a popular addition to our services.

A memorable event in February was RASA Sunflowers' involvement in NOW Fest - the Young People's Mental Health Festival run by Merseyside Youth Association. The theme this year was Mental Health and Violence Prevention. Two of our Sunflowers clients individually performed speeches at the festival, based on their own lived experience and survival of sexual violence. One piece was entitled 'Wild Animal,' and the other was entitled 'Love, Heartbreak and Post Traumatic Growth.' Their bravery in addressing a huge audience with their personal accounts was very

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moving, they won an award and were described as a standout performance at the festival.

A continuing challenge is the lack of room availability at our base in Sefton, which can restrict the availability that we could otherwise offer for clients and limits our ability to offer group sessions to children and young people and has, in some cases, prevented us from seeing clients for individual face to face sessions. This situation will improve when we are able to expand premises this year, and we look forward to being able to offer face to face groups, for both young people and parents/caregivers.



Another challenge we are facing is the recruitment of suitable staff. There is one vacancy that we are struggling to fill which is our outreach Power Project worker. Some of the roles at RASA are extremely complex and challenging roles and need very skilled women to fill them.

We have reduced our children's counselling waiting list in Wirral to 1 month, from 3-4 months in last year. We achieved this through our use of additional counsellors (both volunteer and funded).

In December, I attended a meeting with the Child Sexual Abuse Centre focused on strengthening services for victims and survivors and the challenges in meeting the demand for services. It was encouraging to reflect on the variety of ways in which RASA Sunflowers is providing services to young people whilst they wait for therapy.

In addition to our managing symptoms booklets, we are continuing to offer caregivers a single session of psychoeducation on helping their child

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to recover from trauma, in addition to two new monthly online live events for young people:

1 To support young people in understanding and managing their trauma symptoms, which includes psychoeducation and grounding techniques.

2 Top tips for young people to improve wellbeing. These sessions are available as soon as their initial assessment has been completed following referral. These are delivered monthly by three members of our team.

In Wirral, during the April/May exam season, we are also offering single sessions for coping with exam stress. The plan is to offer this in Sefton/Liverpool when we can accommodate this space-wise, when we expand our premises this year.

I attend bi-monthly Rainbow management meetings with the Alder Hey SARC. In addition to this, I attend regular meetings with the lead clinical psychologist at the SARC and the child therapy lead at RASASC, to promote collaborative working and share good practice. '

In April 2023, I attended an event run by UNICEF, focusing on furthering understanding of Children's rights. Following on from this, I arranged a meeting with Liverpool child friendly city coordinator to consider how RASA Sunflowers can get involved and promote the voice of children and young people within Liverpool.



Our team regularly attends meetings in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool of voluntary organisations which support children and young people, as well as Every Child Matters forum.

Janet Bunn

Children's Services Manager

Operations Manager - an overview by Sophie Gunter

The Operations Manager at RASA is Lorraine Wood. Her role includes strategic development, monthly line management meetings and holding a counselling caseload. She also teaches in the RASA education centre.

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As part of her role, she has undergone development in strategic projects across Liverpool and Sefton – involving Domestic Violence and Sexual violence reduction strategies. She provides initial assessment for new clients as well as managing the volunteer recruitment and training process. At RASA, currently there are around 30 volunteers and 34 staff members, across Liverpool, Sefton, and Wirral.

Over the last 12 months, there have been numerous developments at RASA. A new building has been secured in Bootle, so the current site will be expanded upon, offering more space for clients, staff, volunteers and also for the RASA education service.

There are plans in place for expansion at Wirral at present too. One big improvement over the last year has been the waiting list at RASA. A year ago, adult clients were waiting around 12-18 months for counselling support. Since February 2023, this waiting list has been dramatically reduced to 8-12 weeks.

The counselling service at RASA consists of very highly skilled and trained counsellors who are trained in EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing) and CBT (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy) amongst other modes of counselling.

The counselling service is also able to offer a limited number of additional sessions for clients with more complex needs who require a longer therapeutic input from the service. The counselling service is very specialised and is streamlined on issues of SV only, to make sure it is reaching and supporting the people it sets out to help.

Over the last 12 months, there have been huge developments in regard to issues with Merseyside Police. 120 out of 280 cases have now been reopened, which is a massive achievement, thanks to the hard work and determination of Lorraine and staff at RASA. She had meetings with Keir Starmer and Police and Crime Commissioner in order to be able to achieve this. Alongside Merseyside Police, there are now ISVA clinics being held as monthly meetings with senior police officers.



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A further development Lorraine has overseen this year means that RASA also provides lived experience workshops for clients.

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Job Title: Liverpool and North Sefton ISVA

Centre(s): Stella Nova Bootle & Southport outreach.

Summary of day-to-day role: Independent Sexual Violence Advisor. Supporting clients through the criminal justice system who have reported or are considering whether to report to the police. Offering impartial practical and emotional support, being client-led, and ensuring clients are aware of their rights and choices within the criminal justice system.

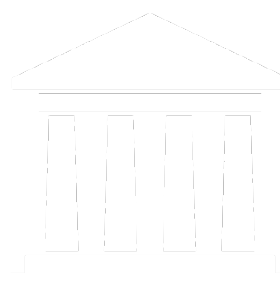


This has been a hugely busy year with an increase in police partnership working and collaboration, as well as additional training responsibilities, including delivering training to the latest cohort of Specially Trained Officers at Merseyside Police Training Academy and the Witness Care Unit.

Being able to advocate effectively for my clients within the criminal justice system and communicate well with the police has always been challenging since starting this role but felt particularly difficult during the past year. As a professional who juggles a busy caseload of clients, often in high-risk or high-need circumstances, I can appreciate how stretched the police are. However, earlier on this year there were some difficult, yet preventable, incidents that arose due to poor communication which have adversely affected my clients.

To address this, the ISVA Service Manager set up a formal feedback form for the ISVA team to complete weekly, highlighting issues to be passed on and fed back to officers. This was facilitated after several meetings set up to discuss how we can effectively work alongside the police and exploring potential barriers to this. The feedback form also offers the opportunity for us to highlight good practice from the police which is a great way to deliver positive feedback to officers who go above and beyond for our clients.

We have set up regular ISVA Clinics across Merseyside in which ISVAs will meet with the officers in charge of their cases to discuss any issues, highlight good practice, and explore difficulties. Since attending these clinics, I have noticed a definite improvement in partnership working between ISVAs and the police which not only creates more open



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working relationships, but also helps improve the client experience of the criminal justice process.

I continue to find that most clients engage well and want to continue receiving support as their case progresses. The majority of my caseload opt for regular sessions, most commonly on a three-weekly basis. The two supplementary support services, our Reducing Anxiety, Depression and Stress support group and Listening Ear Service are hugely beneficial for clients who feel they benefit from more frequent support.

Clients I referred spoke about appreciating additional support as these services are supplementary to my ISVA support, and this has also reduced the pressure my busy caseload. The combination of monthly supervision, line management, and ISVA self-care meetings have been hugely beneficial to me continuing to manage my workload and develop good habits, whilst also providing an opportunity to spend time with my new colleagues and feel anchored in the team.

My hope for the next year is that there will be further improvement in communication with the police to have better outcomes for our clients who have taken on the huge undertaking of supporting a police investigation in the midst of their trauma. I am feeling positive and hopeful about strengthening partnership working between ISVAs and Merseyside Police.

Court

11 of my clients cases have been due for court trial this last year – only 3 opted to do a Section 28 (pre-recorded questioning):

- 2 trials were postponed for covid reasons. (Now due to go ahead April 2023).
- 2 clients trials sadly received a not guilty verdict.
- 5 Guilty Verdicts - 1 - Female client – historic CSA – offender given 15 years prison, Sexual Harm Prevention Order and restraining order, (for offences against my client and her young niece).
- 1 - Female client – historic CSA - offender given 8-year prison sentence with requirement to sign on the Sex Offenders Register.
- 1 – Female Client – historic CSA and physical abuse - offender given 21 years in prison.

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- 1 - Male client - historic CSA - perpetrator found guilty 6 out of 8 charges. Offender given 4 years 9 months in prison and an indefinite restraining order.
- 1 - Male client - historic CSA - perpetrator found guilty 7 out of 9 counts. Offender given 4 years in prison with requirement to sign on the Sex Offenders Register for life.
- 2 Guilty Pleas:
- 1 - Female client - recent assault - received a guilty plea a few days before trial, to SA and ABH but the offender pleaded not guilty to attempted rape. This was accepted by my client and the offender was given 32 months prison, 5-year restraining order and requirement to sign on the Sex Offenders Register.
- 1 - Female client - historic CSA - offender gave guilty plea at trial on 5 out of 6 charges. Offender given 5 years prison and requirement to sign on the Sex Offenders Register.

Rebecca Beresford

FROM OUR CLIENTS - THE PEOPLE WHO REALLY MATTER

*I feel I was never judged with anything I discussed in our sessions which I valued, I felt I was understood and gained a greater understanding of myself, I have been able to put in place measures for myself to look after my own physical and mental well-being. **Male 21***

*I really appreciate all the support provided throughout counselling and making a decision about criminal proceedings. **Female 38***

*I have found loads of ways to help to deal with and calm my anxiety every day. I have also learnt better sleeping habits and have switched my views on my court case. **Female 19***

*You've just been amazing to me and been so patient even when I've been a pain and have struggled to open up. I couldn't have done it without you, I actually feel like I can get better. **Male 31***

Sarah Wood - Wirral Centre Manager - Annual Report 2022/23

It's been another eventful year, and I would like to share a few highlights:

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In April 2022 I completed the Level 2 course for EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing) Therapy. I feel very grateful to have had the opportunity to do this training because it has had such a dramatic impact on clients.

I have attended some really useful training sessions this year including non-fatal strangulation, stalking masterclass, and challenging the far right. All of these have been beneficial to client work.

Challenging the far right was actually a train the trainer course so I will be delivering this to all of our staff and volunteers next year.

I delivered 2 workshops as part of the Liverpool Parenting Network around Understanding Child Sexual Abuse. It was part of a pilot offering evening workshops for parents and carers in Liverpool. Somehow the details were circulated far and wide and we had participants from the USA and Australia which enriched the sessions.

I delivered 4 workshops as part of the training offer for the Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership in relation to understanding child sexual abuse and there was a total of 56 participants. The feedback was positive, and many people commented that they felt more confident about the subject.



The helpline ended in May 2022, which was sad but also the right decision. I had started volunteering on the helpline 17 yrs ago and it was quite remarkable to reflect on how much we have grown as an organisation. The fact that we have been able to signpost clients to the National helpline has helped and it's open 24hrs a day, 7 days a week.

It's been nice to attend some face-to-face meetings this year even though the online meetings are more time efficient. One interesting example is

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the training in relation to suicide prevention. It appears that there are more of our clients disclosing risk of suicide but there is lots of support available now and this is something that we continue to monitor.

We have developed sound working relationships with many of our partner agencies, particularly with Campaneros crisis café and Spider project. They have been such an invaluable resource for our clients. We have developed a wide range of therapeutic support for clients and have confidence that if people are ready to work through their trauma, we are ready to support them.



I continue to feel very blessed to be a part of RASA and gain so much working with such an eclectic mix of woman with a wealth of experience, passion for the work and who are good fun too!

Sarah Wood - Wirral Services Manager

SOME MORE CLIENT COMMENTS

I feel like I have been able to explore my feelings in a very safe environment and I feel like I have really been heard, not just listened to.

Female 37

I feel that I am no longer surviving but not living for the first time in many years, I know that I have the ability to overcome any obstacles that I may come across and have strategies in place to help me to continue to move forward with my life.

Female 33

I have valued the input from the other members of the group which has been very supportive, any queries I had I felt comfortable asking helped to open up a conversation with the others in the group which gave different perspectives.

Female 27

Having the opportunity to talk about what happened has felt like a release of pressure. The counselling has alleviated my anxiety symptoms.

Male 34

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*There are loads of positive differences since I started. It has felt like I haven't had to deal with it all alone. It has been powerful to validate my feelings. I have gained insight into what was blocking me, the sessions have cleared the path for me to have a greater understanding of myself moving forward. **Female 28***

End of Year Report - Ally Cavanagh

Liverpool ISVA

Case load: 53

This year at RASA has been another one of big changes and adjustments. As a part of the ISVA team, which is still expanding and adapting to new challenges, we haven't been short of work. We have welcomed again new staff members, including new volunteers for the listening ear service and two new part time assessment officers and staged support workers to help with our ever-growing workloads. I am excited to see how these new team members continue to develop in their roles and as a part of this wonderful team!

Going into my third year as Liverpool ISVA, I can say with confidence that my experience and ability is ever growing and changing. I am proud of what I have been able to achieve on behalf of my clients this year. This



has included keeping clients engaged through some extremely difficult and lengthy investigations as well as exceedingly tough court proceedings. Requests for appointments are more frequent than ever, meaning that most clients will opt in for the fortnightly appointments where available; compared to initially when a good number of clients would be using monthly plus check ins etc.

Intensity of workload has reflected this as appointments are crammed in amongst additional duties such as multi agency meetings, numerous emails, supporting letters, police meetings and safeguarding, to name a few.

On a positive note, an important change has been taking place in both police forces and CPS where open communication between myself and other professionals is becoming easier and easier, making this role more effective.

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In relation to the above, I'd first like to talk about the court process. Coming away from the COVID 19 pandemic, many of my clients have been long-term and suffering through long waits to have investigations completed and receive a court date. At one stage it was becoming clear that the client experience at court was suffering, and court dates were being postponed and adjourned without prior assessment of the seriousness of the crime and vulnerability of the victim. We now have a solid pathway for addressing issues, utilising a new relationship with Senior Prosecutor for RASSO cases Josephine Lazzari. I myself have linked in with Jo on a number of occasions, and she has been instrumental in addressing a number of issues experienced at court.



In one particularly complex case, where a defendant was attempting to evade court consistently, I was able to arrange a meeting between the client and Jo to raise concerns and give the client a voice.

This led a chain of events where the defendant was taken into custody prior to the third court date to ensure his attendance.

Ultimately, this defendant was sentenced to 21 years which may not have happened without both my and Jo's intervention.

This was a high point in my career, and I have been extremely proud of myself and my client. This has also needed strenuous linking in with Witness Care, who have also been instrumental. At this stage, going to court is mostly seamless. As an ISVA I feel my role is fully understood by most court staff, and my engagement with the process alongside the client is often encouraged and supported; this includes within Section 28 hearings which used to be difficult to have access to as an ISVA.

Second to this, our relationships with Merseyside Police have also improved. An important element of this has been with new police clinics which ISVAs attend on a 6-weekly basis. These clinics allow us to send our caseloads over in advance and get face to face updates from the officers in charge of our cases. Aside from allowing more thorough updates, I feel this has helped to bridge gaps in relationships by allowing us to connect on a better level with police rather than over email. The clinics are still in their early stages, and we have had to make some tweaks, however response has been generally positive and helpful.

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Aside from the listening ear service, we have also been able to restart our ISVA RADS (Reducing Anxiety) groups. I had my colleague, Nadia, shadow me in the last round of groups. This will hopefully allow more groups to take place as it will not be relying solely on my availability (which dwindles quickly!). The last round of groups took place in March, and response was very positive. Clients gave feedback that the groups had generated positive changes that they hadn't previously experience, and all members enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and ability to switch off for six hours over three weeks. Im hopeful that these groups continue well into the coming years.

Another additional role I continue to enjoy is the Nighttime Economy training. We have trained a number of new venues in the city centre and have also begun some police training seminars around the same issue. This training focuses on officers identifying victims and potential perpetrators in the city centre and dealing appropriately with disclosures. The response has been very positive. As an exciting development, we have also been asked to provide this training to staff working the upcoming Eurovision event, which is fantastic!

Going into the next year, I know the team will continue to grow in experience and ability and meet all of the upcoming challenges. With the support of the team, management, and colleagues, I am extremely excited for what is to come for RASA in coming months.

Alex Cavanagh - Liverpool ISVA

ISVA Service at RASA - a summary by Sophie Gunter



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The ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Advisor) service at RASA, supports anyone age 18+ who are survivors of sexual violence, who are/are considering going through the criminal justice system (CJS). The service is managed and run by Sarah Tipton.

Clients are supported from their initial assessment through to the end of the CJS process. ISVAs have regular contact and sessions with the people accessing this service, to offer ongoing support through a very difficult and stressful time.

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Alongside the ISVA service is a Listening Ear service, which supplements the support given by ISVAs for those clients who may require a bit of extra support. Currently, the Listening Ear service is provided to clients by 3 volunteers (soon to be 4) and offers 8 consecutive week sessions focusing on the client's individual needs for emotional support and/or coping strategies.

This can be delivered 1-2-1 but there is also a Listening Ear group run by one of the volunteers, which offers psychoeducation and an opportunity for survivors to connect with other people going through similar challenges. This is run in a 6-week block and is offered in person or online depending on client availability and preference.



The ISVA service also offers a RADS (Reducing Anxiety Depression & Stress) group, which provides similar coping strategies but uses relaxation techniques at the same time. This group is not counselling, but it is delivered by staff members who are qualified counsellors, so they have the right skills to deliver the relaxation techniques used.

Currently, the ISVA service has 2 ISVA Assessment Officers in place. These staff members deal with the incoming referrals, assessing the clients in terms of their needs and safety, then they provide the initial stages of support for clients before passing them on to an ISVA. If there are any high needs or high risks for the client, they are prioritised for assessment as soon as possible, then passed straight to an ISVA so as the service can address those needs.



The ISVA team work alongside other agencies and individuals, such as Police, CPS (Crown Prosecution Service), Witness Care, Witness Service and any other service involved with the CJS.

Over the past 12-18 months, there has been a particular focus from government on issues regarding the CJS and sexual violence cases.

Ongoing research projects have assisted with developing new guidance and consequent procedures being put in place. In Merseyside Police, we now have more established SPOCs (Single Points of Contact) who we can communicate with and develop our partnership work.

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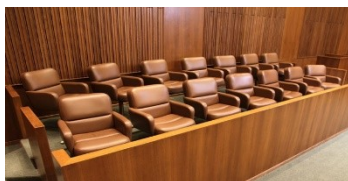
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Amongst other things, one of the issues raised with Merseyside Police was about RASA receiving reports from clients about police officers being judgmental and that they have been discouraged from reporting or continuing to report the abuse they've suffered. This is still a problem we occasionally hear about and there are ongoing challenges for Merseyside Police in developing their practice. Hopefully with time and the new procedures and guidance in place, this will not continue to be a presenting issue.

After conducting a recent survey with clients, currently around 50% of those reporting sexual violence offences to Merseyside Police, feel their overall experience has been positive. The ISVAs are optimistic this percentage will continue to increase.

RASA provides support to people living across Liverpool, Sefton, and Wirral. In relation to the ISVA support, if a client's case is approved for court, a large percentage of these will be heard at Liverpool Crown Court.



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Before the pandemic, Liverpool Crown Court was one of the pilot courts to have already been using the special measure of a Section 28, which is a pre-recorded cross examination. This has now been rolled out nationally and has helped many survivors going through the CJS, as they do not have to be questioned at the court trial.

This can help to lessen anxiety and usually survivors can do this a number of months before a trial, so their part in giving the rest of their evidence is completed sooner.

The ISVA team are very supportive towards one another and work well collaboratively. Their passion and commitment to their role in supporting survivors, is key to the service running at optimal levels with the number of staff and volunteers they have. They have high service standards and regularly review how they can continue to deliver this level of service with any challenges they face and any presenting client needs.





Year End Report April 2022- April 2023

Vicky Mountcastle Children's Services

New skills/qualifications I have acquired this year: -

- Have completed my Level4 Diploma - including my 100 hours placement. Awaiting qualification
- Have accessed Clinical Hypnotherapy Course - due to complete on 02/04/23.
- Online course - The last taboo in safeguarding and child protection
- Completed internal training - GDPR.
- Online course - Identifying and Responding to intra-familial child sexual abuse.
- Knowledge development e.g. attending Rainbow centre for tour/meeting.

Multi-agency networking events I have attended.

- Sefton Local Offer Live Event
- Liverpool John Moors University - advice and support fair.

Things that I feel have gone well this year: -

There have been a number of CHISVA clients that I have worked with that I have referred to RASA counselling, where there has been a great

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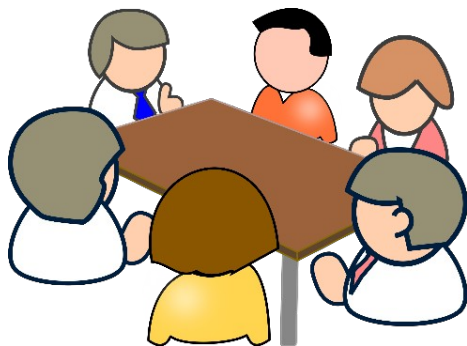
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transition into the next support. The work completed during CHISVA support sessions has provided the safe space for clients to feel comfortable to be able to share their thoughts and feelings. They have felt listened to and that their feelings have been validated. This has laid the foundations for clients to move on to counselling – after establishing trust and feeling ready to engage in this therapeutic process.

I feel that a calm, supportive approach, and respect given to clients and allowing for them to go at their own pace has allowed some clients who have really struggled to engage due to lack of trust in other services, to start to feel that they are supported and are able to break down some of those barriers to communication.



A number of conversations I had with the safeguarding lead at a primary school of a client I am supporting – gave me feedback to say that the conversations we had and the information I provided were invaluable to him and he was extremely grateful of my knowledge that I was able to share to better equipped him to carry out his role.

He was due to have a meeting with some parents from school and informed me that he would not have been able to do so, so effectively without my input. This highlights the huge benefits of working with other professionals- and how, not only is our work vital with our clients- but also to the other professionals that are working with them.

A multi-professional approach – helping to support and safeguard the children that we are working with.

Challenges I have found within my role this year: -

Room availability has been difficult at times – as I have found it frustrating if I have had availability to book a client in – but there are no rooms available. This has led me to changing my booking appts process- as I now book a number of sessions in advance for CHISVA clients – rather than booking one at a time – so this has worked much better. I have found ways to adapt to the challenges to reduce impact to clients.

Vicky Mountcastle - Children's Services

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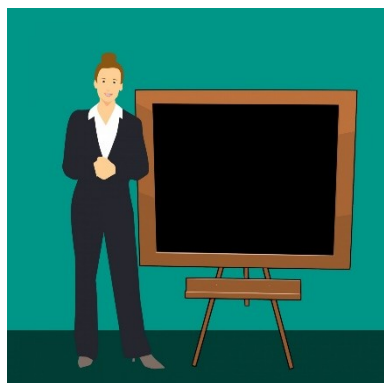
RASA Project Development Manager - by Sophie Gunter

Helen Leach is RASA's Project Development Manager. As part of her role, she writes training for RASA staff and volunteers and for RASA education. She also creates bespoke training for other organisations. This content is created via an online platform called Teachable.

Another part of her role is to work alongside other managers at RASA to tackle issues and write new policies and procedures. These can be across a wide range of areas, such as HR and education. She also interviews and trains new staff, volunteers, and trustees. New volunteers are recruited and trained each year at RASA. Helen is also a point of contact for other staff at RASA.

For her work for teachable and RASA education, Helen has developed various training programs which are delivered by Victoria Green, who is the Clinical Lead and Training and Development Manager at RASA. Helen writes the content and Victoria, who is clinical work based, delivers the content to clients.

Recent projects, that have been worked on include a Train the Trainer package, which is a package for school teachers to deliver to students after they have been trained themselves on this. There is also a bystander intervention training programme, a sexual harassment in the workplace programme and a bespoke women's nighttime safety charter for Manchester, which includes bystander training within it.



On teachable, there are various detailed and very informative and engaging resources on areas such as coping skills after trauma, self-help techniques, information on anxiety, depression, and relationships after sexual violence to name a few. The resources walk you through the content in an interactive and informative way, explaining and giving great examples so individuals can fully understand the content being taught and discussed. There are also printable resources and worksheets covering many aspects of supporting

yourself or others after sexual violence.

FROM OUR CLIENTS

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*Using the service and therapy has contributed to my thoughts feelings and ability to cope with everyday life. **Male 33***

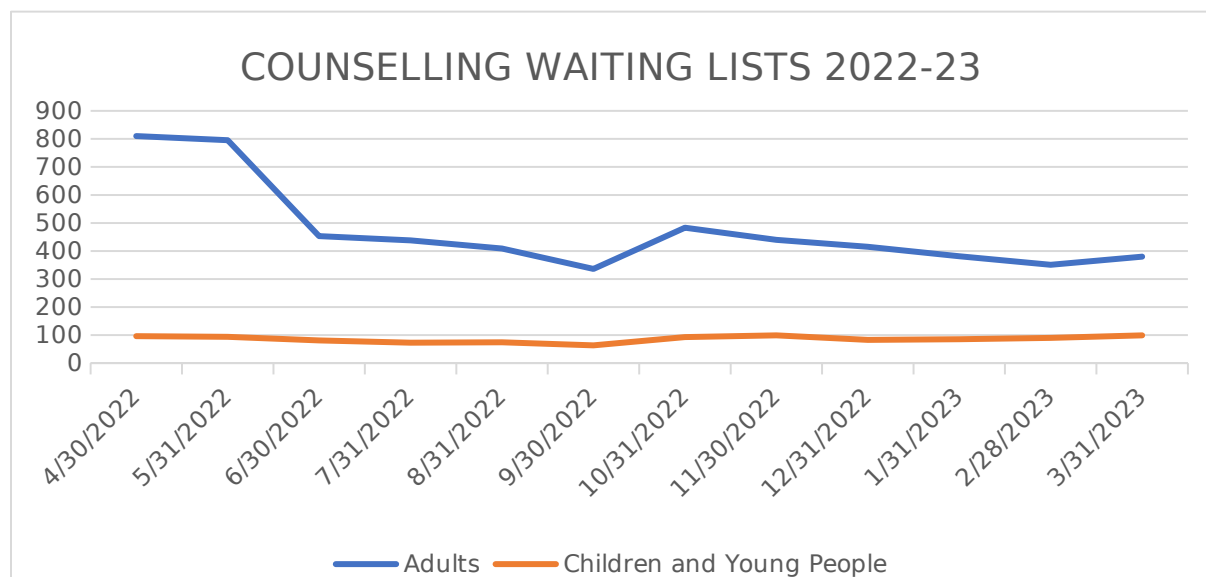
*The EMDR has helped me to process more than I thought was possible. **Female 31***

*I felt heard and comforted. it was good to talk and not feel shame or feel judged. **Male 32***

*I've really been able to acknowledge my feelings now. Rather than just getting on with things or thinking it's just me being sensitive or daft, I've finally learned to validate my own feelings and know that I do deserve to take up space in this world. I'll never forget that. **Female 60***

*im learning to create my own boundaries and limitations on any given day. so were as before, I would have pushed myself or just 'got on with it', now I pace myself. I am able to listen to my own needs and put myself first. **Female 55***

*I think I can see more now how talking to myself negatively has become a habit and I want to break that and become a better me. I also feel I need to be kinder to me and that I am worthy of love. **Female 49***



Sunflowers Service - Children and young people's service at RASA - Sophie Gunter

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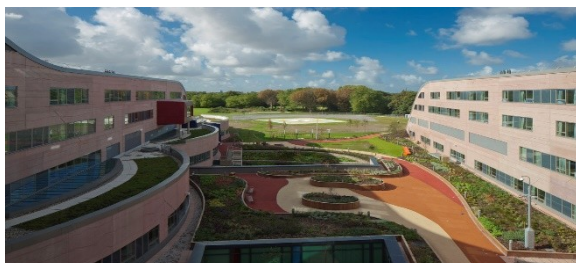
The sunflower children's and young people's service provides a wide range of support for young survivors of sexual abuse/violence and their families/ carers. The sunflowers service is run and managed by Janet Bunn and is supported by other staff members. There are currently 3 CHISVAs – 1 full time and 2 part time, covering Liverpool, Sefton, and Wirral.

CHISVAs are Children's Independent Sexual Violence Advisors and help and support young people and their families/carers to navigate the CJS (Criminal Justice System).

They support from the initial assessment right through to the end of the CJS process. They are also able to offer counselling and further sessions afterwards as well. The CHISVA service does not have a waiting list, meaning children and young people can get support from the service straight away, without delay.

In the last 12 months, the number of support sessions for children and young people has been increased. There are now 3 live sessions a month which last an hour each and bookings are made in advance for these. In addition, there are once monthly sessions run by the sunflowers manager for caregivers to help them to support their child / young person.

There is also a psychoeducation session run once a month by one of the team members to support young people and also there is a "life hacks for wellbeing" session run once monthly to support and provide self-care tips for teenagers who have gone through sexual violence/abuse.



There is also an online self -study course for caregivers to enable them to have better skills and strategies to support the young person and this is a multi-agency approach, with input from RASA staff, RASASC staff and clinical psychology from the Rainbow Centre at Alder Hey Children's

Hospital.

The sunflower service offers counselling for children from age 6 up to age 18 years. It also offers support for children under 6 years old but in this case the work is done with the caregiver for them to then support the child, due to the very young age of the child. The therapy is tailored to the child's needs and follows a trauma-informed care approach.

Recruitment is in place for a power project worker. This is an outreach role where children and young people are supported who are finding it difficult to engage in services. Psychoeducation, as well as emotional support and

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RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023



therapy is offered, and this service is delivered across Liverpool, Sefton, and Wirral. The sunflower service also links in with the Parents Protect service run by RASA.



Year End Report April 2022- April 2023 Rachael Crowder **Children's ISVA**

New skills/qualifications I have acquired in this year.

I have completed my level 2 in counselling within RASA Education and have recently started my ISVA development course -training with Lime culture which is online every month and runs up until the end of July 2023.

I also have started to fully immerse myself into the children's ISVA role supporting my colleague with having face to face clients and also telephone sessions. I have built up a case load of 30 clients and have maintained clients for a number of sessions in Sefton and Liverpool area.

I have attended my first TAF (Team around the Family) meetings in schools with other agencies which has improved my communication skills and general team working abilities.

In addition to this having regular contact with other agencies day to day as part of the new ISVA role I am currently in has triggered lots of progression personally and professionally.

My knowledge and development this year

When I first started at RASA I attended the Rainbow centre at Alder Hey. I was not aware of its existence so having that opportunity has been very

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RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023



insightful and helps me transfer that knowledge when supporting ISVA clients/ assessment.

I have completed a lot of zoom training for specific areas such as suicide prevention, mental health, domestic violence, graded care profile 2 to name a few. In person we had cyber awareness demonstrated by Merseyside police which was very helpful to have the information given in person.

Multi-agency networking events I have attended in this year.

I attended a TAF meeting on behalf of an ISVA client within her high school- this was very insightful and helped me gather information around the client from other agencies- it was helpful to have the first experience so that I now have that to prepare me for future meetings and how best to prepare.

I have attended team meetings online with social worker, parent and other agencies that are working with the family as part of child protection.

Again, this is brilliant to enable me to build up my professional confidence and also have the valuable experience to put into practice in future multi agency meetings.



Things that have gone well this year

I have had the pleasure of supporting a young person make his report to the police over the phone which was very much a new experience for myself and opened my eyes up to my own areas needed for development but also instilled more self confidence that I have had a positive impact on the client and gave them a safe supported environment to enable them to make that decision and make that first step.

I have attended a number of events outside of RASA building on my own whereby other agencies are there – this has helped me feel more empowered within my role and I have gained a number of transferrable skills.

I have seen a shift in clients who have consistently come back to sessions which is rewarding to see them engaging and also noticing a change in themselves.

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RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023



Being able to have a room in Southport on a Wednesday has been brilliant so that I can see Sefton based clients with a guaranteed free day to book them in there consistently.

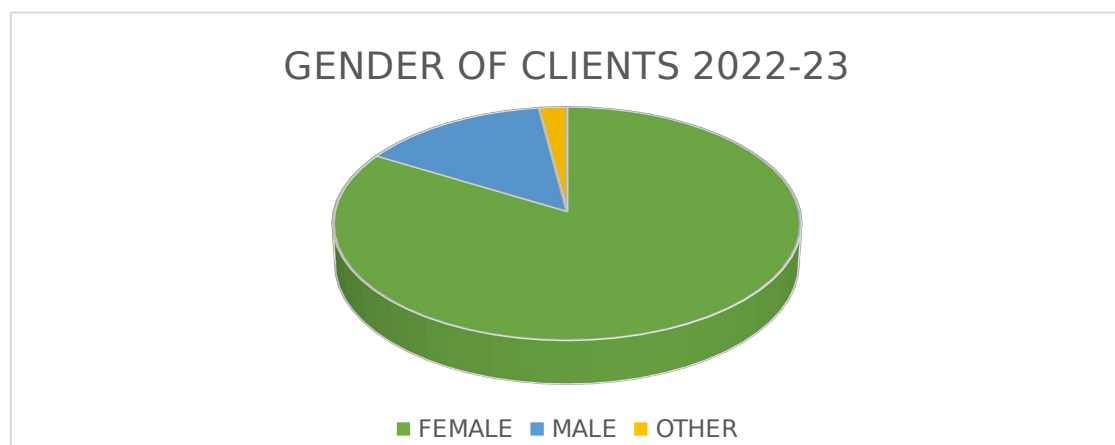
Overall creating that first sense of safety and support for the survivor or the relative whom I am on the telephone assessment with as it is sometimes their first time they have spoken to someone and are feeling very vulnerable. I like to think I am building up a good rapport to start the process of the support and help the parent or guardian or client all feel listened to and valued.

Challenges this year.

Self- confidence- as this can hinder a number of things; especially given I transferred over to the ISVA role without the initial training which was a great way to learn.

Maintaining the organisation from being assessment officer to ISVA and ensuring everyone is contacted in time and booked in – especially given that everyone will respond at different times and there is a constant limit on room bookings in Bootle.

Rachael Crowder Children's Assessment and ISVA



Year End Report April 2022- April 2023 Katie Hawke Children's Services

New skills/qualifications acquired.

During the course of the last year, I undertook my CBT Level 5 training and have secured this qualification. Being able to integrate these skills into my counselling practice with Sunflowers clients has been beneficial to my practice. I also completed Helen Millar's Counselling Children and

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Young People course, which was very useful in consolidating the experience I have already gained and provide me with some new knowledge and skills.

Knowledge development

Both training courses mentioned above have been invaluable in the development of my knowledge and I have also continued to attend training for professionals provided by the local council safeguarding teams, such as LSCP (Liverpool), SSCP (Sefton) and WSCP (Wirral).

Multi-agency networking events attended.

One of the highlights of the last year for me was attending “The Big Learn”, hosted by the Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership, at the Flora Pavilion in New Brighton. This was a two-day event wherein any and all services that work with children and young people on the Wirral had stalls and were able to network with each other, as well as attending talks provided by different professionals.

Things that have gone well

I have continued to see positive outcomes with clients who have provided lovely feedback at times, which has boosted my confidence further in my practice. Particularly rewarding has been some outcomes with clients with whom I felt unsure as to whether they were feeling any benefit from the sessions, to then find at their conclusion that they had been.

“RASA has helped me with my anxiety about going places and has made me less fearful to open up about the incident. The support has also helped me to understand my feelings are valid too.”

“Katie was amazing and always listened to me and helped me through my struggles and she does an amazing job.”

One of the best pieces of feedback I received this year has been from a parent, after their daughters’ sessions concluded:

“I just want to thank you so much for your genuine care and the invaluable support that you have given to [client]. We both know that this has helped her in so many ways to be more aware with increased self-confidence and self-esteem. Thank you so much.”

RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023



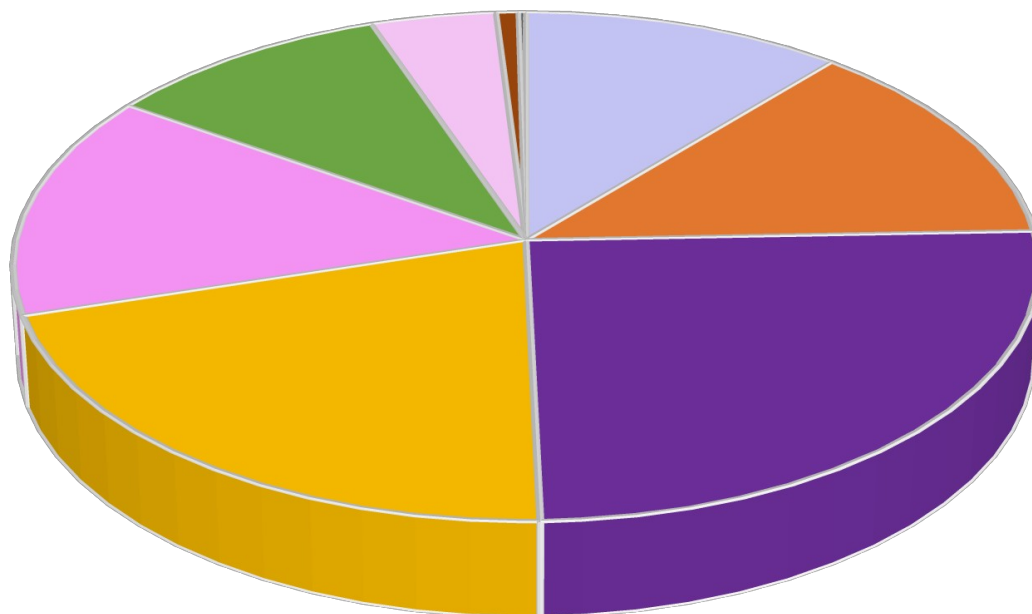
I have really appreciated again the opportunities provided for gaining knowledge and qualifications, and the increased number of self-care occasions.

Challenges within your role

In recent months there has been an increase in the number of clients and professionals asking or hoping for EMDR therapy to be part of their treatment at RASA. Whilst I am confident in the sufficiency of person-centred counselling to be of service to clients at RASA, my being unable to deliver EMDR has felt like a deficiency at times. I intend to seek accreditation with the BACP so that I may then be able to acquire qualification in this technique.



AGES OF CLIENTS AT REFERRAL 2022-23



■ UNDER 10
 ■ AGED 10-17
 ■ AGED 18-24
 ■ AGED 25-34
 ■ AGED 35-44
■ AGED 45-54
■ AGED 55-64
■ AGED 65-74
■ 75 AND OLDER

RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023



A review of our year at RASA from 1st April 2022 - 31st March 2023.

1 year

52 weeks

2,514 (2,057) new clients

594 (643) sexually abused children

1,449 (1,213) clients from previous year

2979 (3,342) females - 513 (590) males - 76 (65) others

62,946 (61,221) activities - 1,395,247 (1,139,486) minutes logged with clients

897 (981) Wirral clients - 1,839 (1,819) Liverpool clients - 865 (862) Sefton clients

2,753 (2,949) counselling clients - 803 (993) ISVA clients - 12 (55) other activities clients

890 (940) multiple sexual violence incidents - 240 (267) affected relatives and friends

1,066 (905) rapes as a primary cause for presenting - 47 (36) sexually exploited adults

1,051 (1,094) adult survivors of child sexual abuse

3,002 (2,578) sexually violated adults

19 (16) domestic violence victims

52 weeks

1 year

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RASA MERSEYSIDE ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2023



Contact Us

Get in touch with us using the relevant options below.

Being in contact with people that understand you may help you to feel less isolated and more supported in order to take the first step and recover.

General Enquiries

Units 2 and 3 Stella Nova
Washington Parade
Bootle
L20 4TZ

0151 558 1801

rasa@rasamerseyside.org

If you require support outside of office hours, you can phone the Rape Crisis National Helpline on:

0808 802 9999

Talk to us in confidence.

Open between 12pm-2.30pm and 7pm-9.30pm every day of the year.

RASA is a Registered Charity Number 1094462 and a Company Limited by Guarantee 04538556



REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04538556 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1094462

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023
for
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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Cash Flow Statement	17
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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	35 to 36

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The full Trustee's Report is at the end of these accounts.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Central to RASA's purpose is the principle of providing a safe, confidential place for survivors of sexual violence to be listened to, believed, and supported, with no pressure put on them. This work encompasses a helpline and email contact service, face-to-face counselling and emotional support, facilitated support groups, advocacy for those dealing with the criminal justice system (ISVA), training for survivors and for the public, family support, mindfulness and meditation, complimentary therapies, and signposting to other services.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are

1. To provide a free, confidential and non-judgemental support service for women and girls who have been victims of sexual violence in Merseyside (under the trading name RASA).
2. To raise public awareness of the damaging and life-changing effects of rape and sexual abuse.

In order to fulfil these aims, the objectives of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are:

- * To provide a service for women and girls, which includes telephone, one-to-one and group support, in women only space at designated times and at the request of the woman or girl.
- * To provide a telephone support service for supporters of survivors, both male and female.
- * To provide information and advice to other individuals and agencies to provide training and talks to external agencies in the local community to recruit volunteers.
- * To provide adequate training, support and supervision for staff and volunteers.
- * To monitor and evaluate service provision and policies on a continual basis involving staff, volunteers and women who use the service.
- * To work with other individuals and agencies to further the aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre to raise funds to meet the needs of the service to identify areas of unmet need and take appropriate action.
- * To provide parity of service for male survivors of sexual violence, noting that such support and counselling will not encroach on the women only space of the RASA Safe House or any of the centres where RASA works in a face to face capacity with victims of sexual violence.

RASA does not employ male staff or volunteers as we are keenly aware that the vast proportion of sexual violence is perpetrated by men against women and it would therefore be inappropriate for male workers to be evident in a professional sexual violence counselling and support service

Working from a feminist perspective: What it means for RASA

Since it was established in Birkenhead in 1986, RASA Merseyside has always had a feminist ethos, and has aimed to support survivors of sexual violence from a feminist perspective.

People have different understandings of the term 'feminism', and the social and political movements that have been called 'feminist' are diverse, sometimes taking opposing positions on particular issues.

At RASA, we embrace diverse understandings and views, while ensuring that all RASA staff and volunteers share a common set of values on sexual violence through our recruitment and training practices.

Our ethos has been shaped by our experience of working with survivors of sexual violence, and by the lived experience of the women who have volunteered and worked for RASA, over the last 33 years.

This has led to an outward-looking approach, allowing us to respond to the needs of the community we are part of. Over the years, we have moved from being a collective of women offering peer support to other women in their community via a phone line, to the professional organisation we are today, offering counselling and ISVA services to women, children and men across Merseyside.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

While much has changed in the way we work, and the number of survivors we are able to help has grown, our core ethos has changed little.

We continue to describe our ethos as feminist for the following reasons:

- * Gender inequality, specifically discrimination against and oppression of women and girls, persists in our society and around the world.
- * While gender inequality has many consequences and effects, sexual violence is among the most severe and pervasive worldwide. This is evidenced by the fact that the vast majority of incidents of sexual violence are perpetrated by a man against a woman or girl.
- * Sexual violence is a means of exerting power and control over victims, and a means of diminishing the victim's own power and control over their own life. On a societal level, it is a means of enforcing patriarchal power and control through violence against individuals, and through the fear of violence.
- * Without recognising the gendered nature of sexual violence with individual survivors and as an organisation, we cannot help survivors to recover from trauma, or find long-term strategies to address sexual violence in our community.
- * Patriarchal violence, perpetrated by overwhelmingly be men, affects men and boys, and transgendered/non-binary people, as well as women and girls. Understanding the common pattern of sexual violence as a means of power and control and recognising the specific ways people of different genders are affected, is entirely compatible with a feminist approach to supporting survivors of sexual violence.
- * Maintaining a women-only workforce and providing women-only spaces remains crucial to our ability to support all survivors effectively. The survivors who come to us tell us this consistently.

Our Ethos

- * RASA Merseyside is a women-led, women-run service founded on feminist principles. We believe that by working in an all-women environment, we challenge structures that discriminate against women, providing the opportunity to empower ourselves and claim control of our own lives.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are crimes of violence and abuse of power, not 'unwanted sex'.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are never the fault of the survivor, and we work with all survivors towards this understanding of what happened to them.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are gendered crimes - the majority of victims are women and children, and the majority of perpetrators are men. Sexual violence is both an expression of, and a means of enforcing and increasing, discrimination against women and gender inequality.
- * Because women and girls live with sexism, the degradation of the female body and the threat of sexual violence in society at large, we create and maintain women-only spaces to offer relief and safety for survivors, and for the women who work at RASA. We know that this benefits survivors and helps them to heal.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

* When children have experienced sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, they require specialist support. We strive to develop ways of working that help children recover from this trauma, and live happy and healthy lives. We reach out to families, schools and the wider community to raise awareness and help prevent the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and young people.

* We know that transgender people are at increased risk of sexual violence and abuse, as well as transphobic violence. We aim to welcome all trans and non-binary gender survivors in a safe space for them, and work with other organisations locally to ensure they get the specialist support they need.

* We work with men and boys to the same feminist principles, recognizing the different ways that sexual violence affects them, and offering men-only support groups for survivors facilitated by a RASA worker. At RASA we see all sexual violence as a cause and a consequence of the patriarchal societal structure we live in, acknowledging that almost all men and boys who experience sexual violence are abused by a man. As such, we believe a service working to feminist principles is well placed to help male survivors of sexual violence.

* Recognising the oppression that many groups experience in today's society, we aim to work in a non-oppressive, anti-discriminatory way with people of any race, class, culture, immigration status, nationality, faith, sexuality, gender identity, age, disability, or health status. We work towards making our service accessible and available to all, and actively seek to make links with the diverse communities in Merseyside.

Public benefit

Our work this year beyond our regular counselling, ISVA and support has been as varied as training tram drivers in Manchester about how to be an effective bystander, running trauma courses for external counsellors, delivering sexual harassment awareness training in the local universities - all while managing to deliver face to face counselling and support to over 3600 people in need of our help.

In April 2022 our waiting list for counselling in Birkenhead was 10 months long. We simply needed more room to be able to hold more sessions and bring down that waiting time. We employ multiple activities and support sessions for clients awaiting counselling and these are helping to fill that gap. Our Birkenhead Centre was running "Taking Back Control" sessions with amazing results for long term sufferers of the impacts of sexual violence.

Following the sessions

" One client was able to return to work.

" Another client was able to get the bus to university.

" One client saw her perpetrator before a meeting but felt strong enough to attend her meeting despite seeing the perpetrator.

" Two clients have decided that they would like to come off the counselling waiting list.

These are huge advances, and it is great to see the hard work of the client and the session leader, producing such positive outcomes. This carefully developed and innovative programme is showing enormous early success.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Volunteers

RASA retains volunteers very effectively, because RASA is a great place to work but it is also due largely, we believe, to the support and development opportunities afforded within the organisation.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities

The counselling service at RASA consists of very highly skilled and trained counsellors who are trained in EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing) and CBT (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy) amongst other modes of counselling.

The counselling service is also able to offer a limited number of additional sessions for clients with more complex needs who require a longer therapeutic input from the service. The counselling service is very specialised and is streamlined on issues of SV only, to make sure it is reaching and supporting the people it sets out to help.

Financial review

Financial position

At the end of this year RASA holds in the bank in the region of £148,000, which is sufficient to pay necessary redundancy and to enable key members of staff to wind down the Charity and to dissolve and disperse assets and clients as appropriate.

RASA has in place a comprehensive Financial Procedure (updated and reviewed in January 2020). It is available upon request.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Principal funding sources

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for five years (April 2022 to March 2027) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs. The service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs.

RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

2152 new clients were welcomed into RASA service in this year - 1449 client cases were carried forward from the previous year - 3601 unique individuals in total were therefore seen in service in the year.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for all survivors of sexual violence. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

This fund was rolled forward by MoJ pending new tender process in April 2023

The funding was enhanced by a demand lead funding uplift in this year.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ADDITIONAL ISVA FUNDING VIA OPCC - all extended to 2024/25

Ringfenced funding for sexual violence (SV) victim support services, achieved by OPCC and commissioned out to RASA/RASASC partnership.

" MoJ ISVA Uplift (2019/20 bid) To provide additional ISVA services.

" MoJ Uplift (2021/22 bid) - To provide 1 full time ISVA for children.

" MoJ ISVA Uplift (2021 bid / previously notified) To provide additional ISVA cover and supporting staffing.

" SV Uplift Fund (From 22/23) To meet increased demand on services.

" Male Rape ISVA (2021/22 bid) to develop an ISVA service for male survivors seeking to report sexual violence.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE CSE FUNDING UPLIFT

As recipients of the Rape Support Fund, RASA was pleased to accept an uplift in funding to enable us to meet the challenges of increasing numbers of adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Exploitation as a result of high-profile national media and the promotion of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

This allows us to provide additional support to adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Rape.

A decision was made to extend this grant fund, for an additional 12 months to 31-03-2023.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the sole aim of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum. In this year the training contributed 7% of RASA Income.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Reserves policy

RASA aims to build a reserve fund to cover 3 months running costs of the Charity. Currently such a reserve would be in the region of £250,000. As RASA works to contract budget deadlines, it is unlikely that RASA will achieve full reserve cover without substantial unrestricted donations being received as all available funding is being used to maintain and develop services for clients.

At 31st March 2023 the total funds held are £193,372 made up of Restricted Funds of £32,565 and Unrestricted Funds of £160,807.

Included in unrestricted funds is the balance of the property owned by the charity held at a value of £16,600

The total reserves not including the property is £176,772.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the 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.

Future plans

It is always recommended that one should start at the very beginning - but we are starting at the very end with this report as we are closing the year buzzing with excitement about our intended expansion of services and premises in the coming months. More news to follow but we think we may have finally found solutions to our lack of space and consequent inability to increase counselling and support hours for our clients. This is good news for everyone, and I am putting it right here - at the beginning of our report because so many staff have mentioned it in their personal updates on the year.

We have long been aware of the challenges of our room space and think we have finally found a solution.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

RASA is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England / Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 9 of these financial statements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

RASA welcomes individuals who wish to be considered as a potential trustee.

Prospective trustees are recommended, self-refer or respond to advertisements on volunteer websites.

Prospective trustees progress through to appointment via the safer recruitment process under which they are interviewed by two senior staff members and/or an existing trustee.

As an accredited member of Rape Crisis England and Wales, RASA must ensure that the trustee board remains women lead. Men are welcome to apply to be trustees but will be unable to take key board positions.

Following safer recruitment process completion, prospective candidates are forwarded for election at the next AGM. At this point they must present a short biography to allow members to decide who they wish to elect. Existing elected trustees may also decide to recommend individuals to be co-opted onto the Board of Trustees. This must be carried out in line with the RASA Constitution.

Decision making

Day to day decisions are made by the operational management team consisting of Josephine Wood, Vicky Green and Lorraine Wood.

Induction and training of new trustees

Individuals must then successfully complete the RASA training for non-client focused staff. This process is carefully monitored by Education Centre staff for suitability to work with RASA.

Key management remuneration

Trustees have set the remuneration for key management.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04538556 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1094462

Registered office

15 Morpeth Close
Moreton
Wirral
CH46 6HQ

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trustees

L Pilling (resigned 18.12.22)
P Smith
D Blaylock (resigned 18.12.22)
J Smith (resigned 12.9.22)
M Wilson (appointed 2.12.22)
J Harris (appointed 18.12.22)
J Murphy (appointed 18.12.22)
A Raz (appointed 18.12.22)
S Gunter (appointed 18.12.22)
S Blower (appointed 18.12.22)

Company Secretary

J Wood

Senior Statutory Auditor

Beverley Rice

Auditors

ICAEW
Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Limited 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) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"

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.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

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, Robinson Rice Associates, 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 31 January 2024 and signed on the board's behalf by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'S Blower', written in a cursive style.

S Blower - Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; 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:

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation

Our audit response is based on:

- Enquiry of management, those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Enquiry of entity staff in compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators and legal advisors.
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.
- Assessing whether judgements and assumptions made in determining accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias

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
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Rice', with a stylized flourish above the name.

Beverley Rice (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

31 January 2024

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	18,270	3	18,273	23,085
Charitable activities	5				
Provision of services		727	1,238,811	1,239,538	1,117,818
Other trading activities	3	118,395	-	118,395	-
Investment income	4	272	-	272	-
Total		137,664	1,238,814	1,376,478	1,140,903
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	-	8,443	8,443	4,803
Charitable activities	7				
Provision of services		132,486	1,227,310	1,359,796	1,145,794
Total		132,486	1,235,753	1,368,239	1,150,597
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		5,178	3,061	8,239	(9,694)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		155,629	29,504	185,133	194,827
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>160,807</u>	<u>32,565</u>	<u>193,372</u>	<u>185,133</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Balance Sheet
31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	287	26,632	26,919	29,128
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	15	25,010	58,256	83,266	104,987
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>172,549</u>	<u>(24,107)</u>	<u>148,442</u>	<u>126,797</u>
		197,559	34,149	231,708	231,784
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(37,035)	(28,220)	(65,255)	(75,779)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>160,524</u>	<u>5,929</u>	<u>166,453</u>	<u>156,005</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>160,811</u>	<u>32,561</u>	<u>193,372</u>	<u>185,133</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>160,811</u>	<u>32,561</u>	<u>193,372</u>	<u>185,133</u>
FUNDS	17				
Unrestricted funds				160,811	155,629
Restricted funds				<u>32,561</u>	<u>29,504</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>193,372</u>	<u>185,133</u>

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

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 31 January 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



S Blower - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>28,179</u>	<u>46,877</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>28,179</u>	<u>46,877</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(6,806)	(2,444)
Interest received		<u>272</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(6,534)</u>	<u>(2,444)</u>
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		21,645	44,433
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>126,797</u>	<u>82,364</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>148,442</u></u>	<u><u>126,797</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

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

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	8,239	(9,694)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	9,015	7,101
Interest received	(272)	-
Decrease in debtors	21,721	8,863
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>(10,524)</u>	<u>40,607</u>
Net cash provided by operations	<u>28,179</u>	<u>46,877</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.23 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>126,797</u>	<u>21,645</u>	<u>148,442</u>
	<u>126,797</u>	<u>21,645</u>	<u>148,442</u>
Total	<u>126,797</u>	<u>21,645</u>	<u>148,442</u>

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.

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.

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.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

All splits are based on the numbers of clients served by the particular costs - or in the case of supervision - actual costs itemised in invoices. In the case of funds to be split across boroughs, funds are split in accordance with population of the borough in question (%).

Tangible fixed assets

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

Freehold property	- in accordance with the property
Improvements to property	- 33% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

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.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Donations	<u>18,273</u>	<u>23,085</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Training courses	<u>118,395</u>	<u>-</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>272</u>	<u>-</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		31.3.23	31.3.22
	Activity	£	£
Commissioned work	Provision of services	1,058,736	783,473
Grants	Provision of services	<u>180,802</u>	<u>334,345</u>
		<u>1,239,538</u>	<u>1,117,818</u>

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Grant Income	<u>180,802</u>	<u>334,345</u>

6. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Hire of plant and machinery	<u>8,443</u>	<u>4,803</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 8)	Totals
	£	£	£
Provision of services	<u>1,343,380</u>	<u>16,416</u>	<u>1,359,796</u>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Provision of services	<u>72</u>	<u>16,344</u>	<u>16,416</u>

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	9,015	7,101
Hire of plant and machinery	<u>8,443</u>	<u>4,803</u>

10. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors and their associates for the audit of the charity's financial statements	<u>7,500</u>	<u>6,000</u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

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

12. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>1,004,198</u>	<u>811,979</u>
	<u>1,004,198</u>	<u>811,979</u>

Salary costs include amounts paid to subcontracted workers.

They also include:

Employers National Insurance £69,468
Employer Pension Contributions £14,148

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
Management	8	8
Counsellors and support workers	<u>28</u>	<u>25</u>
	<u>36</u>	<u>33</u>

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

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	23,085	-	23,085
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	20,000	1,097,818	1,117,818
Total	43,085	1,097,818	1,140,903
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	-	4,803	4,803
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	33,820	1,111,974	1,145,794
Total	33,820	1,116,777	1,150,597
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	9,265	(18,959)	(9,694)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	146,363	48,464	194,827
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>155,628</u>	<u>29,505</u>	<u>185,133</u>

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 April 2022	41,500	16,920	21,565	52,522	132,507
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,806</u>	<u>6,806</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>41,500</u>	<u>16,920</u>	<u>21,565</u>	<u>59,328</u>	<u>139,313</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2022	24,070	16,920	19,546	42,843	103,379
Charge for year	<u>830</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>509</u>	<u>7,676</u>	<u>9,015</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>24,900</u>	<u>16,920</u>	<u>20,055</u>	<u>50,519</u>	<u>112,394</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2023	<u>16,600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,510</u>	<u>8,809</u>	<u>26,919</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>17,430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,019</u>	<u>9,679</u>	<u>29,128</u>

15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>83,266</u>	<u>104,987</u>

16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Other creditors	15,394	6,382
Accruals and deferred income	42,361	69,397
Accrued expenses	<u>7,500</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>65,255</u>	<u>75,779</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	155,036	10,828	165,864
Lime Culture for Truth Project	5,226	(1,808)	3,418
Education Service	(4,633)	(3,838)	(8,471)
	155,629	5,182	160,811
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	99	(25)	74
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	17,437	(837)	16,600
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	61	(15)	46
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	33	(8)	25
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	276	(14)	262
Liverpool City Safe *	55	(14)	41
Rape Services Funding	2,304	(87)	2,217
SARC Counselling Funding *	25	(6)	19
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	63	(16)	47
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	540	(10)	530
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	310	(78)	232
Wirral CSP	27	(7)	20
Jill's Fund	3,105	-	3,105
MOJ Male	1,109	-	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	403	-	403
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	-	679	679
OPCC Contract	(11,760)	2,126	(9,634)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	728	(728)	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	2,543	4,768	7,311
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	4,119	(2,060)	2,059
Thrive Sefton Council	1,994	-	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling	1,833	(611)	1,222
	29,504	3,057	32,561
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>185,133</u>	<u>8,239</u>	<u>193,372</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	43,175	(32,347)	10,828
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(1,808)	(1,808)
Education Service	94,490	(98,328)	(3,838)
	137,665	(132,483)	5,182
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(25)	(25)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House	-	(837)	(837)
* Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(15)	(15)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(8)	(8)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(14)	(14)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(14)	(14)
Rape Services Funding	274,445	(274,532)	(87)
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(6)	(6)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(16)	(16)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	1	(11)	(10)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	(1)	(77)	(78)
Wirral CSP	-	(7)	(7)
MOJ Male	53,974	(53,974)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	73,000	(72,321)	679
OPCC Contract	649,501	(647,375)	2,126
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	(728)	-	(728)
Steve Morgan Foundation	27,800	(23,032)	4,768
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	(1)	(2,059)	(2,060)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	27,407	(27,407)	-
OPCC Remote Counselling	-	(611)	(611)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	27,500	(27,500)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	61,794	(61,794)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	44,121	(44,121)	-
	1,238,813	(1,235,756)	3,057
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,376,478</u>	<u>(1,368,239)</u>	<u>8,239</u>

17. 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	143,942	11,094	-	155,036
Lime Culture for Truth Project	7,054	(1,828)	-	5,226
Education Service	(4,633)	-	-	(4,633)
	146,363	9,266	-	155,629
Restricted funds				
Justice for Jane	132	(33)	-	99
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	18,289	(852)	-	17,437
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	82	(21)	-	61
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	45	(12)	-	33
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	295	(19)	-	276
Liverpool City Safe *	73	(18)	-	55
Rape Services Funding	3,574	(1,270)	-	2,304
SARC Counselling Funding *	34	(9)	-	25
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	83	(20)	-	63
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	744	(204)	-	540
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	431	(121)	-	310
Wirral CSP	35	(8)	-	27
Jill's Fund	3,105	-	-	3,105
MOJ Male	-	1,109	-	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	403	-	-	403
OPCC Contract	321	17,919	(30,000)	(11,760)
Proceeds of Crime Fund	1,838	(1,838)	-	-
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	152	576	-	728
NHS Funding for Counselling	-	(30,000)	30,000	-
Community Foundations for RADS	7,533	(7,533)	-	-
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	4,811	(4,811)	-	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	2,543	-	2,543
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	306	(306)	-	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	6,178	(2,059)	-	4,119
Thrive Sefton Council	-	1,994	-	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	-	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling	-	1,833	-	1,833
	48,464	(18,960)	-	29,504

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

TOTAL FUNDS	<u>194,827</u>	<u>(9,694)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>185,133</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	23,085	(11,991)	11,094
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(1,828)	(1,828)
Merseycare	20,000	(20,000)	-
	43,085	(33,819)	9,266
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(33)	(33)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House			
*	(1)	(851)	(852)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	(1)	(20)	(21)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	(1)	(11)	(12)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(19)	(19)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(18)	(18)
Rape Services Funding	136,539	(137,809)	(1,270)
SARC Counselling Funding *	(1)	(8)	(9)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	1	(21)	(20)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	26,007	(26,211)	(204)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	49,920	(50,041)	(121)
Wirral CSP	1	(9)	(8)
MOJ Male	27,438	(26,329)	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	91,481	(91,481)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	44,566	(44,566)	-
OPCC Contract	502,500	(484,581)	17,919
Proceeds of Crime Fund	-	(1,838)	(1,838)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	728	(152)	576
NHS Funding for Counselling	29,220	(59,220)	(30,000)
Community Foundations for RADS	-	(7,533)	(7,533)
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	(4,811)	(4,811)
Steve Morgan Foundation	10,426	(7,883)	2,543
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	-	(306)	(306)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	(2,059)	(2,059)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	44,121	(44,121)	-
MOJ CSA Uplift	46,423	(46,423)	-
Safer Streets	10,001	(10,001)	-
Liverpool City for Promotion	5,000	(5,000)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	2,000	(6)	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	-	1,200

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

OPCC Remote Counselling	40,000	(38,167)	1,833
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	<u>27,250</u>	<u>(27,250)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>1,097,818</u>	<u>(1,116,778)</u>	<u>(18,960)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>1,140,903</u></u>	<u><u>(1,150,597)</u></u>	<u><u>(9,694)</u></u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	143,942	21,922	-	165,864
Lime Culture for Truth Project	7,054	(3,636)	-	3,418
Education Service	(4,633)	(3,838)	-	(8,471)
	146,363	14,448	-	160,811
Restricted funds				
Justice for Jane	132	(58)	-	74
Wirral Borough Council Safe House				
*	18,289	(1,689)	-	16,600
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	82	(36)	-	46
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from				
1/10/14) *	45	(20)	-	25
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	295	(33)	-	262
Liverpool City Safe *	73	(32)	-	41
Rape Services Funding	3,574	(1,357)	-	2,217
SARC Counselling Funding *	34	(15)	-	19
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	83	(36)	-	47
Children In Need for CHISVA				
Service	744	(214)	-	530
Wirral Borough Council Public				
Health	431	(199)	-	232
Wirral CSP	35	(15)	-	20
Jill's Fund	3,105	-	-	3,105
MOJ Male	-	1,109	-	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	403	-	-	403
OPCC Additional Funding for				
Counselling	-	679	-	679
OPCC Contract	321	20,045	(30,000)	(9,634)
Proceeds of Crime Fund	1,838	(1,838)	-	-
RCEEW Digital Transformation				
Fund	152	(152)	-	-
NHS Funding for Counselling	-	(30,000)	30,000	-
Community Foundations for RADS	7,533	(7,533)	-	-
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	4,811	(4,811)	-	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	7,311	-	7,311
Merseyside Violence Reduction				
Partnership	306	(306)	-	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	6,178	(4,119)	-	2,059
Thrive Sefton Council	-	1,994	-	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	-	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling	-	1,222	-	1,222

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

	<u>48,464</u>	<u>(15,903)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,561</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>194,827</u></u>	<u><u>(1,455)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>193,372</u></u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	66,260	(44,338)	21,922
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(3,636)	(3,636)
Merseycare	20,000	(20,000)	-
Education Service	94,490	(98,328)	(3,838)
	180,750	(166,302)	14,448
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(58)	(58)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	(1)	(1,688)	(1,689)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	(1)	(35)	(36)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	(1)	(19)	(20)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(33)	(33)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(32)	(32)
Rape Services Funding	410,984	(412,341)	(1,357)
SARC Counselling Funding *	(1)	(14)	(15)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	1	(37)	(36)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	26,008	(26,222)	(214)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	49,919	(50,118)	(199)
Wirral CSP	1	(16)	(15)
MOJ Male	81,412	(80,303)	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	91,481	(91,481)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	117,566	(116,887)	679
OPCC Contract	1,152,001	(1,131,956)	20,045
Proceeds of Crime Fund	-	(1,838)	(1,838)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	-	(152)	(152)
NHS Funding for Counselling	29,220	(59,220)	(30,000)
Community Foundations for RADS	-	(7,533)	(7,533)
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	(4,811)	(4,811)
Steve Morgan Foundation	38,226	(30,915)	7,311
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	-	(306)	(306)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	(1)	(4,118)	(4,119)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	71,528	(71,528)	-
MOJ CSA Uplift	46,423	(46,423)	-
Safer Streets	10,001	(10,001)	-
Liverpool City for Promotion	5,000	(5,000)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	2,000	(6)	1,994

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling	40,000	(38,778)	1,222
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	54,750	(54,750)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	61,794	(61,794)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	44,121	(44,121)	-
	<u>2,336,631</u>	<u>(2,352,534)</u>	<u>(15,903)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>2,517,381</u>	<u>(2,518,836)</u>	<u>(1,455)</u>

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

19. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating Lease Commitments

A new lease for rent for the Unit in Bootle was signed in July 2023 which runs to August 2033.

A new lease for premises was signed in August 2023 which runs to August 2033 with a break clause in August 2027..

The total rent due to be paid within one year are £76,870 (2022 £42,751)

There is a photocopier lease and the payments due in the next year are £6,287 (2022 £6,287).

The total of commitments due within one year is £83,157 (2022 £49,038).

The total of commitments due more than one year is £381,218 (2022 £127,310).

Other rents are paid on rolling contracts.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	18,273	23,085
Other trading activities		
Training courses	118,395	-
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	272	-
Charitable activities		
Commissioned work	1,058,736	783,473
Grants	<u>180,802</u>	<u>334,345</u>
	<u>1,239,538</u>	<u>1,117,818</u>
Total incoming resources	1,376,478	1,140,903
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Hire of plant and machinery	8,443	4,803
Charitable activities		
Wages	1,004,198	811,979
Insurance	9,889	10,397
Light and heat	12,023	9,222
Telephone	23,395	28,347
Postage and stationery	5,174	5,926
Advertising	6,624	12,081
Sundries	-	(181)
Rent	63,527	70,856
Survivor travel	123	236
Travel and expenses	4,014	1,453
Training	23,044	22,226
Canteen & household costs	24,717	22,787
Repairs and maintenance	10,787	7,466
Software and IT costs	7,175	7,694
Subscriptions	491	1,552
Partner's payments	139,184	118,326
Carried forward	1,334,365	1,130,367

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Charitable activities		
Brought forward	1,334,365	1,130,367
Freehold property	830	830
Fixtures and fittings	510	666
Computer equipment	<u>7,675</u>	<u>5,602</u>
	1,343,380	1,137,465
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	72	88
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	7,500	6,000
Accountancy and legal fees	<u>8,844</u>	<u>2,241</u>
	<u>16,344</u>	<u>8,241</u>
Total resources expended	<u>1,368,239</u>	<u>1,150,597</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u><u>8,239</u></u>	<u><u>(9,694)</u></u>

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04538556 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1094462

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023
for
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The full Trustee's Report is at the end of these accounts.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Central to RASA's purpose is the principle of providing a safe, confidential place for survivors of sexual violence to be listened to, believed, and supported, with no pressure put on them. This work encompasses a helpline and email contact service, face-to-face counselling and emotional support, facilitated support groups, advocacy for those dealing with the criminal justice system (ISVA), training for survivors and for the public, family support, mindfulness and meditation, complimentary therapies, and signposting to other services.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are

1. To provide a free, confidential and non-judgemental support service for women and girls who have been victims of sexual violence in Merseyside (under the trading name RASA).
2. To raise public awareness of the damaging and life-changing effects of rape and sexual abuse.

In order to fulfil these aims, the objectives of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are:

- * To provide a service for women and girls, which includes telephone, one-to-one and group support, in women only space at designated times and at the request of the woman or girl.
- * To provide a telephone support service for supporters of survivors, both male and female.
- * To provide information and advice to other individuals and agencies to provide training and talks to external agencies in the local community to recruit volunteers.
- * To provide adequate training, support and supervision for staff and volunteers.
- * To monitor and evaluate service provision and policies on a continual basis involving staff, volunteers and women who use the service.
- * To work with other individuals and agencies to further the aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre to raise funds to meet the needs of the service to identify areas of unmet need and take appropriate action.
- * To provide parity of service for male survivors of sexual violence, noting that such support and counselling will not encroach on the women only space of the RASA Safe House or any of the centres where RASA works in a face to face capacity with victims of sexual violence.

RASA does not employ male staff or volunteers as we are keenly aware that the vast proportion of sexual violence is perpetrated by men against women and it would therefore be inappropriate for male workers to be evident in a professional sexual violence counselling and support service

Working from a feminist perspective: What it means for RASA

Since it was established in Birkenhead in 1986, RASA Merseyside has always had a feminist ethos, and has aimed to support survivors of sexual violence from a feminist perspective.

People have different understandings of the term 'feminism', and the social and political movements that have been called 'feminist' are diverse, sometimes taking opposing positions on particular issues.

At RASA, we embrace diverse understandings and views, while ensuring that all RASA staff and volunteers share a common set of values on sexual violence through our recruitment and training practices.

Our ethos has been shaped by our experience of working with survivors of sexual violence, and by the lived experience of the women who have volunteered and worked for RASA, over the last 33 years.

This has led to an outward-looking approach, allowing us to respond to the needs of the community we are part of. Over the years, we have moved from being a collective of women offering peer support to other women in their community via a phone line, to the professional organisation we are today, offering counselling and ISVA services to women, children and men across Merseyside.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

While much has changed in the way we work, and the number of survivors we are able to help has grown, our core ethos has changed little.

We continue to describe our ethos as feminist for the following reasons:

- * Gender inequality, specifically discrimination against and oppression of women and girls, persists in our society and around the world.
- * While gender inequality has many consequences and effects, sexual violence is among the most severe and pervasive worldwide. This is evidenced by the fact that the vast majority of incidents of sexual violence are perpetrated by a man against a woman or girl.
- * Sexual violence is a means of exerting power and control over victims, and a means of diminishing the victim's own power and control over their own life. On a societal level, it is a means of enforcing patriarchal power and control through violence against individuals, and through the fear of violence.
- * Without recognising the gendered nature of sexual violence with individual survivors and as an organisation, we cannot help survivors to recover from trauma, or find long-term strategies to address sexual violence in our community.
- * Patriarchal violence, perpetrated by overwhelmingly be men, affects men and boys, and transgendered/non-binary people, as well as women and girls. Understanding the common pattern of sexual violence as a means of power and control and recognising the specific ways people of different genders are affected, is entirely compatible with a feminist approach to supporting survivors of sexual violence.
- * Maintaining a women-only workforce and providing women-only spaces remains crucial to our ability to support all survivors effectively. The survivors who come to us tell us this consistently.

Our Ethos

- * RASA Merseyside is a women-led, women-run service founded on feminist principles. We believe that by working in an all-women environment, we challenge structures that discriminate against women, providing the opportunity to empower ourselves and claim control of our own lives.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are crimes of violence and abuse of power, not 'unwanted sex'.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are never the fault of the survivor, and we work with all survivors towards this understanding of what happened to them.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are gendered crimes - the majority of victims are women and children, and the majority of perpetrators are men. Sexual violence is both an expression of, and a means of enforcing and increasing, discrimination against women and gender inequality.
- * Because women and girls live with sexism, the degradation of the female body and the threat of sexual violence in society at large, we create and maintain women-only spaces to offer relief and safety for survivors, and for the women who work at RASA. We know that this benefits survivors and helps them to heal.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

* When children have experienced sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, they require specialist support. We strive to develop ways of working that help children recover from this trauma, and live happy and healthy lives. We reach out to families, schools and the wider community to raise awareness and help prevent the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and young people.

* We know that transgender people are at increased risk of sexual violence and abuse, as well as transphobic violence. We aim to welcome all trans and non-binary gender survivors in a safe space for them, and work with other organisations locally to ensure they get the specialist support they need.

* We work with men and boys to the same feminist principles, recognizing the different ways that sexual violence affects them, and offering men-only support groups for survivors facilitated by a RASA worker. At RASA we see all sexual violence as a cause and a consequence of the patriarchal societal structure we live in, acknowledging that almost all men and boys who experience sexual violence are abused by a man. As such, we believe a service working to feminist principles is well placed to help male survivors of sexual violence.

* Recognising the oppression that many groups experience in today's society, we aim to work in a non-oppressive, anti-discriminatory way with people of any race, class, culture, immigration status, nationality, faith, sexuality, gender identity, age, disability, or health status. We work towards making our service accessible and available to all, and actively seek to make links with the diverse communities in Merseyside.

Public benefit

Our work this year beyond our regular counselling, ISVA and support has been as varied as training tram drivers in Manchester about how to be an effective bystander, running trauma courses for external counsellors, delivering sexual harassment awareness training in the local universities - all while managing to deliver face to face counselling and support to over 3600 people in need of our help.

In April 2022 our waiting list for counselling in Birkenhead was 10 months long. We simply needed more room to be able to hold more sessions and bring down that waiting time. We employ multiple activities and support sessions for clients awaiting counselling and these are helping to fill that gap. Our Birkenhead Centre was running "Taking Back Control" sessions with amazing results for long term sufferers of the impacts of sexual violence.

Following the sessions

" One client was able to return to work.

" Another client was able to get the bus to university.

" One client saw her perpetrator before a meeting but felt strong enough to attend her meeting despite seeing the perpetrator.

" Two clients have decided that they would like to come off the counselling waiting list.

These are huge advances, and it is great to see the hard work of the client and the session leader, producing such positive outcomes. This carefully developed and innovative programme is showing enormous early success.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Volunteers

RASA retains volunteers very effectively, because RASA is a great place to work but it is also due largely, we believe, to the support and development opportunities afforded within the organisation.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities

The counselling service at RASA consists of very highly skilled and trained counsellors who are trained in EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing) and CBT (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy) amongst other modes of counselling.

The counselling service is also able to offer a limited number of additional sessions for clients with more complex needs who require a longer therapeutic input from the service. The counselling service is very specialised and is streamlined on issues of SV only, to make sure it is reaching and supporting the people it sets out to help.

Financial review

Financial position

At the end of this year RASA holds in the bank in the region of £148,000, which is sufficient to pay necessary redundancy and to enable key members of staff to wind down the Charity and to dissolve and disperse assets and clients as appropriate.

RASA has in place a comprehensive Financial Procedure (updated and reviewed in January 2020. It is available upon request.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Principal funding sources

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for five years (April 2022 to March 2027) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs. The service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs.

RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

2152 new clients were welcomed into RASA service in this year - 1449 client cases were carried forward from the previous year - 3601 unique individuals in total were therefore seen in service in the year.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for all survivors of sexual violence. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

This fund was rolled forward by MoJ pending new tender process in April 2023

The funding was enhanced by a demand lead funding uplift in this year.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ADDITIONAL ISVA FUNDING VIA OPCC - all extended to 2024/25

Ringfenced funding for sexual violence (SV) victim support services, achieved by OPCC and commissioned out to RASA/RASASC partnership.

" MoJ ISVA Uplift (2019/20 bid) To provide additional ISVA services.

" MoJ Uplift (2021/22 bid) - To provide 1 full time ISVA for children.

" MoJ ISVA Uplift (2021 bid / previously notified) To provide additional ISVA cover and supporting staffing.

" SV Uplift Fund (From 22/23) To meet increased demand on services.

" Male Rape ISVA (2021/22 bid) to develop an ISVA service for male survivors seeking to report sexual violence.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE CSE FUNDING UPLIFT

As recipients of the Rape Support Fund, RASA was pleased to accept an uplift in funding to enable us to meet the challenges of increasing numbers of adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Exploitation as a result of high-profile national media and the promotion of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

This allows us to provide additional support to adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Rape.

A decision was made to extend this grant fund, for an additional 12 months to 31-03-2023.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the sole aim of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum. In this year the training contributed 7% of RASA Income.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Reserves policy

RASA aims to build a reserve fund to cover 3 months running costs of the Charity. Currently such a reserve would be in the region of £250,000. As RASA works to contract budget deadlines, it is unlikely that RASA will achieve full reserve cover without substantial unrestricted donations being received as all available funding is being used to maintain and develop services for clients.

At 31st March 2023 the total funds held are £193,372 made up of Restricted Funds of £32,565 and Unrestricted Funds of £160,807.

Included in unrestricted funds is the balance of the property owned by the charity held at a value of £16,600

The total reserves not including the property is £176,772.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the 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.

Future plans

It is always recommended that one should start at the very beginning - but we are starting at the very end with this report as we are closing the year buzzing with excitement about our intended expansion of services and premises in the coming months. More news to follow but we think we may have finally found solutions to our lack of space and consequent inability to increase counselling and support hours for our clients. This is good news for everyone, and I am putting it right here - at the beginning of our report because so many staff have mentioned it in their personal updates on the year.

We have long been aware of the challenges of our room space and think we have finally found a solution.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

RASA is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England / Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 9 of these financial statements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

RASA welcomes individuals who wish to be considered as a potential trustee.

Prospective trustees are recommended, self-refer or respond to advertisements on volunteer websites.

Prospective trustees progress through to appointment via the safer recruitment process under which they are interviewed by two senior staff members and/or an existing trustee.

As an accredited member of Rape Crisis England and Wales, RASA must ensure that the trustee board remains women lead. Men are welcome to apply to be trustees but will be unable to take key board positions.

Following safer recruitment process completion, prospective candidates are forwarded for election at the next AGM. At this point they must present a short biography to allow members to decide who they wish to elect. Existing elected trustees may also decide to recommend individuals to be co-opted onto the Board of Trustees. This must be carried out in line with the RASA Constitution.

Decision making

Day to day decisions are made by the operational management team consisting of Josephine Wood, Vicky Green and Lorraine Wood.

Induction and training of new trustees

Individuals must then successfully complete the RASA training for non-client focused staff. This process is carefully monitored by Education Centre staff for suitability to work with RASA.

Key management remuneration

Trustees have set the remuneration for key management.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04538556 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1094462

Registered office

15 Morpeth Close
Moreton
Wirral
CH46 6HQ

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trustees

L Pilling (resigned 18.12.22)
P Smith
D Blaylock (resigned 18.12.22)
J Smith (resigned 12.9.22)
M Wilson (appointed 2.12.22)
J Harris (appointed 18.12.22)
J Murphy (appointed 18.12.22)
A Raz (appointed 18.12.22)
S Gunter (appointed 18.12.22)
S Blower (appointed 18.12.22)

Company Secretary

J Wood

Senior Statutory Auditor

Beverley Rice

Auditors

ICAEW
Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Limited 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) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"

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.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

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, Robinson Rice Associates, 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 31 January 2024 and signed on the board's behalf by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'S Blower', written in a cursive style.

S Blower - Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; 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:

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation

Our audit response is based on:

- Enquiry of management, those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Enquiry of entity staff in compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators and legal advisors.
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.
- Assessing whether judgements and assumptions made in determining accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias

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
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'B Rice', with a stylized flourish above the name.

Beverley Rice (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

31 January 2024

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	18,270	3	18,273	23,085
Charitable activities	5				
Provision of services		727	1,238,811	1,239,538	1,117,818
Other trading activities	3	118,395	-	118,395	-
Investment income	4	272	-	272	-
Total		137,664	1,238,814	1,376,478	1,140,903
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	-	8,443	8,443	4,803
Charitable activities	7				
Provision of services		132,486	1,227,310	1,359,796	1,145,794
Total		132,486	1,235,753	1,368,239	1,150,597
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		5,178	3,061	8,239	(9,694)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		155,629	29,504	185,133	194,827
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>160,807</u>	<u>32,565</u>	<u>193,372</u>	<u>185,133</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Balance Sheet
31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	287	26,632	26,919	29,128
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	15	25,010	58,256	83,266	104,987
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>172,549</u>	<u>(24,107)</u>	<u>148,442</u>	<u>126,797</u>
		197,559	34,149	231,708	231,784
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(37,035)	(28,220)	(65,255)	(75,779)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>160,524</u>	<u>5,929</u>	<u>166,453</u>	<u>156,005</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>160,811</u>	<u>32,561</u>	<u>193,372</u>	<u>185,133</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>160,811</u>	<u>32,561</u>	<u>193,372</u>	<u>185,133</u>
FUNDS	17				
Unrestricted funds				160,811	155,629
Restricted funds				<u>32,561</u>	<u>29,504</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>193,372</u>	<u>185,133</u>

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

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 31 January 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



S Blower - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>28,179</u>	<u>46,877</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>28,179</u>	<u>46,877</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(6,806)	(2,444)
Interest received		<u>272</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(6,534)</u>	<u>(2,444)</u>
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		21,645	44,433
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>126,797</u>	<u>82,364</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>148,442</u></u>	<u><u>126,797</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

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

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	8,239	(9,694)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	9,015	7,101
Interest received	(272)	-
Decrease in debtors	21,721	8,863
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>(10,524)</u>	<u>40,607</u>
Net cash provided by operations	<u>28,179</u>	<u>46,877</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.23 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>126,797</u>	<u>21,645</u>	<u>148,442</u>
	<u>126,797</u>	<u>21,645</u>	<u>148,442</u>
Total	<u>126,797</u>	<u>21,645</u>	<u>148,442</u>

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.

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.

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.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

All splits are based on the numbers of clients served by the particular costs - or in the case of supervision - actual costs itemised in invoices. In the case of funds to be split across boroughs, funds are split in accordance with population of the borough in question (%).

Tangible fixed assets

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

Freehold property	- in accordance with the property
Improvements to property	- 33% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

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.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Donations	<u>18,273</u>	<u>23,085</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Training courses	<u>118,395</u>	<u>-</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>272</u>	<u>-</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		31.3.23	31.3.22
	Activity	£	£
Commissioned work	Provision of services	1,058,736	783,473
Grants	Provision of services	<u>180,802</u>	<u>334,345</u>
		<u>1,239,538</u>	<u>1,117,818</u>

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Grant Income	<u>180,802</u>	<u>334,345</u>

6. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Hire of plant and machinery	<u>8,443</u>	<u>4,803</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>1,343,380</u>	<u>16,416</u>	<u>1,359,796</u>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>72</u>	<u>16,344</u>	<u>16,416</u>

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	9,015	7,101
Hire of plant and machinery	<u>8,443</u>	<u>4,803</u>

10. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors and their associates for the audit of the charity's financial statements	<u>7,500</u>	<u>6,000</u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

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

12. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>1,004,198</u>	<u>811,979</u>
	<u>1,004,198</u>	<u>811,979</u>

Salary costs include amounts paid to subcontracted workers.

They also include:

Employers National Insurance £69,468
Employer Pension Contributions £14,148

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
Management	8	8
Counsellors and support workers	<u>28</u>	<u>25</u>
	<u>36</u>	<u>33</u>

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

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	23,085	-	23,085
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	20,000	1,097,818	1,117,818
Total	43,085	1,097,818	1,140,903
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	-	4,803	4,803
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	33,820	1,111,974	1,145,794
Total	33,820	1,116,777	1,150,597
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	9,265	(18,959)	(9,694)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	146,363	48,464	194,827
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>155,628</u>	<u>29,505</u>	<u>185,133</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 April 2022	41,500	16,920	21,565	52,522	132,507
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,806</u>	<u>6,806</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>41,500</u>	<u>16,920</u>	<u>21,565</u>	<u>59,328</u>	<u>139,313</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2022	24,070	16,920	19,546	42,843	103,379
Charge for year	<u>830</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>509</u>	<u>7,676</u>	<u>9,015</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>24,900</u>	<u>16,920</u>	<u>20,055</u>	<u>50,519</u>	<u>112,394</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2023	<u>16,600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,510</u>	<u>8,809</u>	<u>26,919</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>17,430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,019</u>	<u>9,679</u>	<u>29,128</u>

15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>83,266</u>	<u>104,987</u>

16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Other creditors	15,394	6,382
Accruals and deferred income	42,361	69,397
Accrued expenses	<u>7,500</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>65,255</u>	<u>75,779</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	155,036	10,828	165,864
Lime Culture for Truth Project	5,226	(1,808)	3,418
Education Service	(4,633)	(3,838)	(8,471)
	155,629	5,182	160,811
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	99	(25)	74
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	17,437	(837)	16,600
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	61	(15)	46
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	33	(8)	25
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	276	(14)	262
Liverpool City Safe *	55	(14)	41
Rape Services Funding	2,304	(87)	2,217
SARC Counselling Funding *	25	(6)	19
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	63	(16)	47
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	540	(10)	530
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	310	(78)	232
Wirral CSP	27	(7)	20
Jill's Fund	3,105	-	3,105
MOJ Male	1,109	-	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	403	-	403
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	-	679	679
OPCC Contract	(11,760)	2,126	(9,634)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	728	(728)	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	2,543	4,768	7,311
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	4,119	(2,060)	2,059
Thrive Sefton Council	1,994	-	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling	1,833	(611)	1,222
	29,504	3,057	32,561
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>185,133</u>	<u>8,239</u>	<u>193,372</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	43,175	(32,347)	10,828
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(1,808)	(1,808)
Education Service	94,490	(98,328)	(3,838)
	137,665	(132,483)	5,182
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(25)	(25)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House	-	(837)	(837)
* Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(15)	(15)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(8)	(8)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(14)	(14)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(14)	(14)
Rape Services Funding	274,445	(274,532)	(87)
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(6)	(6)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(16)	(16)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	1	(11)	(10)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	(1)	(77)	(78)
Wirral CSP	-	(7)	(7)
MOJ Male	53,974	(53,974)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	73,000	(72,321)	679
OPCC Contract	649,501	(647,375)	2,126
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	(728)	-	(728)
Steve Morgan Foundation	27,800	(23,032)	4,768
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	(1)	(2,059)	(2,060)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	27,407	(27,407)	-
OPCC Remote Counselling	-	(611)	(611)
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	27,500	(27,500)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	61,794	(61,794)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	44,121	(44,121)	-
	1,238,813	(1,235,756)	3,057
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,376,478</u>	<u>(1,368,239)</u>	<u>8,239</u>

17. 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	143,942	11,094	-	155,036
Lime Culture for Truth Project	7,054	(1,828)	-	5,226
Education Service	(4,633)	-	-	(4,633)
	146,363	9,266	-	155,629
Restricted funds				
Justice for Jane	132	(33)	-	99
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	18,289	(852)	-	17,437
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	82	(21)	-	61
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	45	(12)	-	33
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	295	(19)	-	276
Liverpool City Safe *	73	(18)	-	55
Rape Services Funding	3,574	(1,270)	-	2,304
SARC Counselling Funding *	34	(9)	-	25
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	83	(20)	-	63
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	744	(204)	-	540
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	431	(121)	-	310
Wirral CSP	35	(8)	-	27
Jill's Fund	3,105	-	-	3,105
MOJ Male	-	1,109	-	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	403	-	-	403
OPCC Contract	321	17,919	(30,000)	(11,760)
Proceeds of Crime Fund	1,838	(1,838)	-	-
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	152	576	-	728
NHS Funding for Counselling	-	(30,000)	30,000	-
Community Foundations for RADS	7,533	(7,533)	-	-
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	4,811	(4,811)	-	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	2,543	-	2,543
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	306	(306)	-	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	6,178	(2,059)	-	4,119
Thrive Sefton Council	-	1,994	-	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	-	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling	-	1,833	-	1,833
	48,464	(18,960)	-	29,504

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

TOTAL FUNDS	<u>194,827</u>	<u>(9,694)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>185,133</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	23,085	(11,991)	11,094
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(1,828)	(1,828)
Merseycare	20,000	(20,000)	-
	43,085	(33,819)	9,266
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(33)	(33)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House			
*	(1)	(851)	(852)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	(1)	(20)	(21)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	(1)	(11)	(12)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(19)	(19)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(18)	(18)
Rape Services Funding	136,539	(137,809)	(1,270)
SARC Counselling Funding *	(1)	(8)	(9)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	1	(21)	(20)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	26,007	(26,211)	(204)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	49,920	(50,041)	(121)
Wirral CSP	1	(9)	(8)
MOJ Male	27,438	(26,329)	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	91,481	(91,481)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	44,566	(44,566)	-
OPCC Contract	502,500	(484,581)	17,919
Proceeds of Crime Fund	-	(1,838)	(1,838)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	728	(152)	576
NHS Funding for Counselling	29,220	(59,220)	(30,000)
Community Foundations for RADS	-	(7,533)	(7,533)
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	(4,811)	(4,811)
Steve Morgan Foundation	10,426	(7,883)	2,543
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	-	(306)	(306)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	(2,059)	(2,059)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	44,121	(44,121)	-
MOJ CSA Uplift	46,423	(46,423)	-
Safer Streets	10,001	(10,001)	-
Liverpool City for Promotion	5,000	(5,000)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	2,000	(6)	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	-	1,200

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

OPCC Remote Counselling	40,000	(38,167)	1,833
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	<u>27,250</u>	<u>(27,250)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>1,097,818</u>	<u>(1,116,778)</u>	<u>(18,960)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>1,140,903</u></u>	<u><u>(1,150,597)</u></u>	<u><u>(9,694)</u></u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	143,942	21,922	-	165,864
Lime Culture for Truth Project	7,054	(3,636)	-	3,418
Education Service	(4,633)	(3,838)	-	(8,471)
	146,363	14,448	-	160,811
Restricted funds				
Justice for Jane	132	(58)	-	74
Wirral Borough Council Safe House				
*	18,289	(1,689)	-	16,600
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	82	(36)	-	46
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from				
1/10/14) *	45	(20)	-	25
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	295	(33)	-	262
Liverpool City Safe *	73	(32)	-	41
Rape Services Funding	3,574	(1,357)	-	2,217
SARC Counselling Funding *	34	(15)	-	19
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	83	(36)	-	47
Children In Need for CHISVA				
Service	744	(214)	-	530
Wirral Borough Council Public				
Health	431	(199)	-	232
Wirral CSP	35	(15)	-	20
Jill's Fund	3,105	-	-	3,105
MOJ Male	-	1,109	-	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	403	-	-	403
OPCC Additional Funding for				
Counselling	-	679	-	679
OPCC Contract	321	20,045	(30,000)	(9,634)
Proceeds of Crime Fund	1,838	(1,838)	-	-
RCEEW Digital Transformation				
Fund	152	(152)	-	-
NHS Funding for Counselling	-	(30,000)	30,000	-
Community Foundations for RADS	7,533	(7,533)	-	-
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	4,811	(4,811)	-	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	7,311	-	7,311
Merseyside Violence Reduction				
Partnership	306	(306)	-	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	6,178	(4,119)	-	2,059
Thrive Sefton Council	-	1,994	-	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	-	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling	-	1,222	-	1,222

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

	<u>48,464</u>	<u>(15,903)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,561</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>194,827</u></u>	<u><u>(1,455)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>193,372</u></u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	66,260	(44,338)	21,922
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(3,636)	(3,636)
Merseycare	20,000	(20,000)	-
Education Service	94,490	(98,328)	(3,838)
	180,750	(166,302)	14,448
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(58)	(58)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House			
*	(1)	(1,688)	(1,689)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	(1)	(35)	(36)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from			
1/10/14) *	(1)	(19)	(20)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(33)	(33)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(32)	(32)
Rape Services Funding	410,984	(412,341)	(1,357)
SARC Counselling Funding *	(1)	(14)	(15)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	1	(37)	(36)
Children In Need for CHISVA			
Service	26,008	(26,222)	(214)
Wirral Borough Council Public			
Health	49,919	(50,118)	(199)
Wirral CSP	1	(16)	(15)
MOJ Male	81,412	(80,303)	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	91,481	(91,481)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for			
Counselling	117,566	(116,887)	679
OPCC Contract	1,152,001	(1,131,956)	20,045
Proceeds of Crime Fund	-	(1,838)	(1,838)
RCEEW Digital Transformation			
Fund	-	(152)	(152)
NHS Funding for Counselling	29,220	(59,220)	(30,000)
Community Foundations for RADS	-	(7,533)	(7,533)
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	(4,811)	(4,811)
Steve Morgan Foundation	38,226	(30,915)	7,311
Merseyside Violence Reduction			
Partnership	-	(306)	(306)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	(1)	(4,118)	(4,119)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	71,528	(71,528)	-
MOJ CSA Uplift	46,423	(46,423)	-
Safer Streets	10,001	(10,001)	-
Liverpool City for Promotion	5,000	(5,000)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	2,000	(6)	1,994

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling	40,000	(38,778)	1,222
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	54,750	(54,750)	-
RSF Demand Lead Funding	61,794	(61,794)	-
MOJ ISVA to March 2023	<u>44,121</u>	<u>(44,121)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,336,631</u>	<u>(2,352,534)</u>	<u>(15,903)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>2,517,381</u></u>	<u><u>(2,518,836)</u></u>	<u><u>(1,455)</u></u>

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

19. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating Lease Commitments

A new lease for rent for the Unit in Bootle was signed in July 2023 which runs to August 2033.

A new lease for premises was signed in August 2023 which runs to August 2033 with a break clause in August 2027..

The total rent due to be paid within one year are £76,870 (2022 £42,751)

There is a photocopier lease and the payments due in the next year are £6,287 (2022 £6,287).

The total of commitments due within one year is £83,157 (2022 £49,038).

The total of commitments due more than one year is £381,218 (2022 £127,310).

Other rents are paid on rolling contracts.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	18,273	23,085
Other trading activities		
Training courses	118,395	-
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	272	-
Charitable activities		
Commissioned work	1,058,736	783,473
Grants	<u>180,802</u>	<u>334,345</u>
	<u>1,239,538</u>	<u>1,117,818</u>
Total incoming resources	1,376,478	1,140,903
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Hire of plant and machinery	8,443	4,803
Charitable activities		
Wages	1,004,198	811,979
Insurance	9,889	10,397
Light and heat	12,023	9,222
Telephone	23,395	28,347
Postage and stationery	5,174	5,926
Advertising	6,624	12,081
Sundries	-	(181)
Rent	63,527	70,856
Survivor travel	123	236
Travel and expenses	4,014	1,453
Training	23,044	22,226
Canteen & household costs	24,717	22,787
Repairs and maintenance	10,787	7,466
Software and IT costs	7,175	7,694
Subscriptions	491	1,552
Partner's payments	139,184	118,326
Carried forward	1,334,365	1,130,367

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Charitable activities		
Brought forward	1,334,365	1,130,367
Freehold property	830	830
Fixtures and fittings	510	666
Computer equipment	<u>7,675</u>	<u>5,602</u>
	1,343,380	1,137,465
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	72	88
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	7,500	6,000
Accountancy and legal fees	<u>8,844</u>	<u>2,241</u>
	<u>16,344</u>	<u>8,241</u>
Total resources expended	<u>1,368,239</u>	<u>1,150,597</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u><u>8,239</u></u>	<u><u>(9,694)</u></u>

Accounts

RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE (RASA) CENTRE LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2022
CARING FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE SINCE 1986



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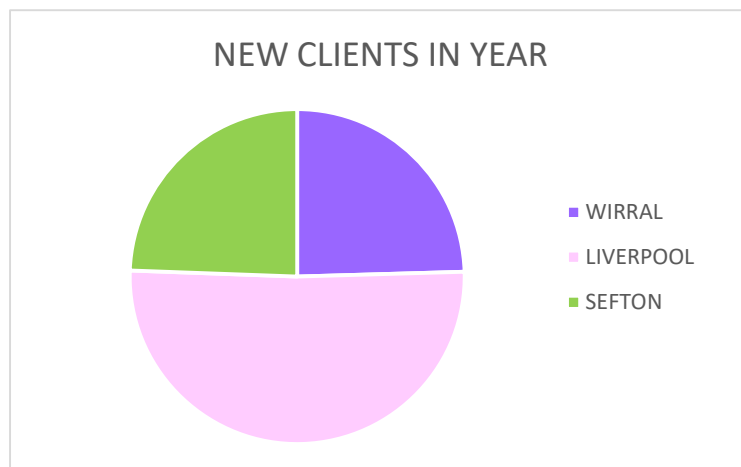
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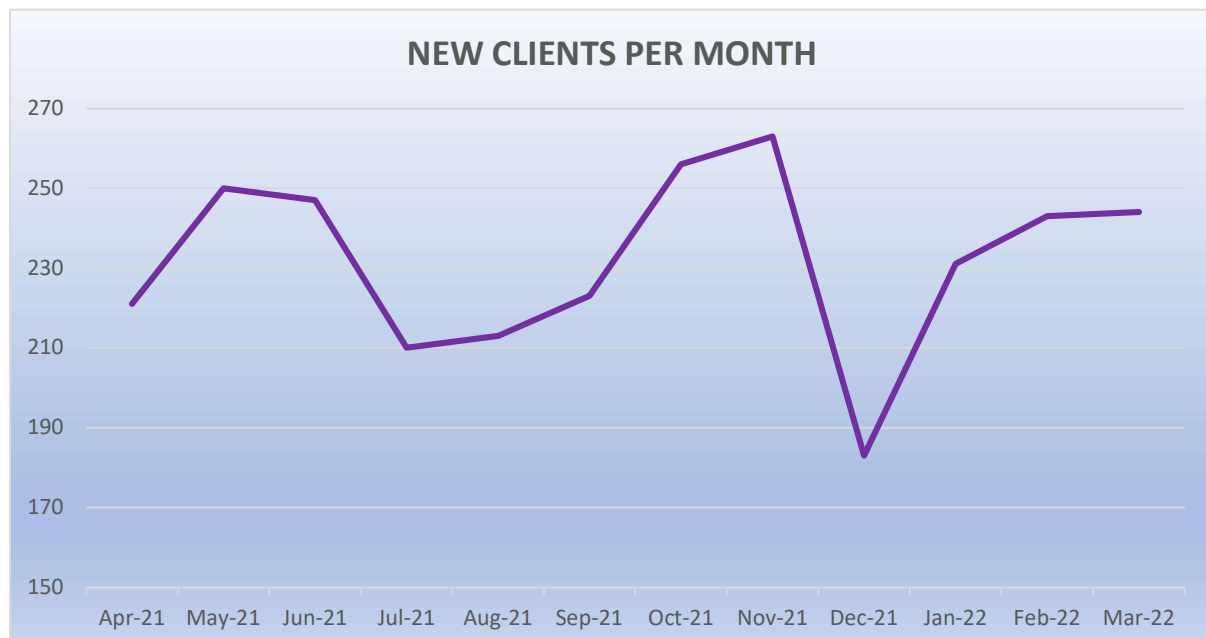
Welcome to a review of our year at RASA from 1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022.



After ending last year on a high – as in high rates of referrals and high waiting lists, our aim this year has been to reduce these waiting times and lists as far as possible and to better support those desperately waiting for the support they so desperately need.

As expected, following our localised Christmas lockdown, referrals in QTR 1 21-22 were far beyond anything we had ever experienced before. In the previous 6 years, we had welcomed an average of 562 new cases in QTR 1, in this year we welcomed 830 with the biggest increase by far being cases of non-recent child sexual abuse.

This area of referral was consistently raised throughout the breaks in lockdown and it seems that people had engaged in periods of contemplation during that time and had made the decision to speak out. This was good to hear and see. It is sadly also true that recent rape figures also rose in this period – but we were back in the centres ready to hold face to face sessions as soon as we were permitted.

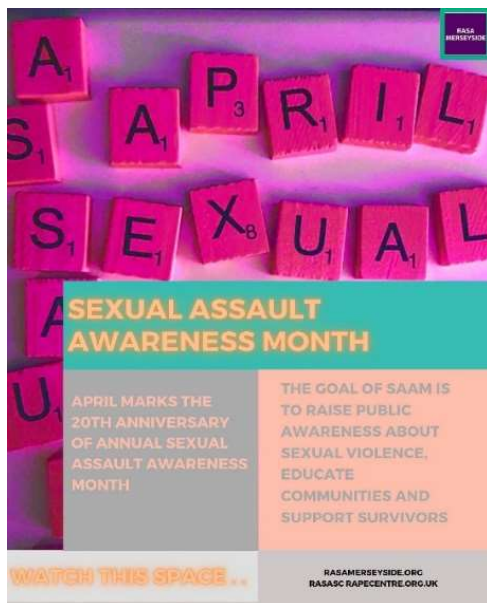


An interesting outcome of the covid period was the realisation that for some – remote working was actually preferable and easier to access and stay engaged. With client numbers so high, this was a huge bonus and we continue to run many long-term counselling programmes remotely, avoiding long waits and disappointing outcomes for those who waited.



In April 2021 we marked the 20th anniversary of SAAM - Sexual Violence Awareness Month. “Even before its official declaration, SAAM was about both awareness and prevention of sexual assault, harassment, and abuse. From the civil rights movement to the founding of the first rape crisis centres to national legislation and beyond, the roots of SAAM run deep”. We celebrated with our neighbours @rasasc_cm, raising awareness of consent, harassment and stalking and staying safe online.

We updated our social media daily, raising awareness of what defines sexual assault, what to do if someone discloses sexual violence to you, and discussing online sexual abuse and victim blaming.



The entire month was filled with ways to support yourself as a victim, friends who may be, or who may become, victims and provided advice and support for the general public and for friends and supporters of survivors of abuse.

One of the most engaged modules was the discussion around consent which was shared multiple times and resulted in a surge in self-referrals.

We were busily delivering training on being a supportive bystander, to tram drivers in Manchester and the waiting list in Birkenhead was 10 months long.

In other news - we resubmitted our BACP accreditation documentation. It had taken considerable time to update all our policies and procedures with the challenges of the previous 12 months, but we were finally ready to go for it.

As part of our regular support, we were delivering Taking Back Control group sessions with survivors. This was going down well with positive outcomes being reported. Feedback from one of the groups included:

- One client has been able to return to work.
- One client is now able to get the bus to university.
- One client saw her perpetrator before a meeting but felt strong enough to attend her meeting despite seeing the perpetrator.

In addition, two attending clients requested to come off the counselling waiting list on completion of the group session. It was making a difference.

Our ISVA Team started the year in discussion with the CPS about working towards actioning the recommendations of the rape review. This positive step was leading to satisfactory progress and a mutual understanding of the challenges faced by all parties.



Our children's team was reporting high levels of peer abuse amongst clients without any level of follow up prosecution or conviction.

It was agreed that the CHISVA Team would attempt a meeting with the CPS to explore this situation and see what could be done to improve outcomes of such reported crimes.

We had started working effectively with Teachable to put our mandatory and CPD training onto an online portal to better reach all those for which it was intended. With larger staff teams and more volunteers, space was at a premium and with long waiting lists and enhanced numbers of clients referring every week, all available rooms needed to be used for face-to-face support – online training suddenly seemed like a great option.

We received 221 new referrals in April 2021 and at the end of the month waiting lists were as follows
Adults 636 Children 92

REFLECTIONS OF A LIVERPOOL ISVA

Reflecting on this year, there are several very positive changes as well as important challenges. Main changes were to staff. We lost a long-term member of the ISVA family who has chosen to move back into her counselling career, however we have also gained three new members of staff with fresh ideas and a fresh perspective. As caseloads continue to rise and client needs continue to increase in intensity, I can only hope that staffing levels are maintained if not increased in times to come.



This is my second year as the Liverpool ISVA. It is a role I have enjoyed and continue to enjoy; however, it has continued to come with its challenges. Primarily, rising caseloads have seen an increase in pressure within the team alongside more delays in criminal cases and negative case decisions. Length of time to investigate leaves clients in “limbo”, which given the high volume of clients in this position in any given time also has an impact on staff. We find ourselves often feeling powerless to help a client who has been left for so long without any finite answers to their allegations. At these times we see an increase in the need of both our emotional support and our advocacy, obviously putting additional strain on our availability and workload. At the moment, in order to incorporate enough time for all ISVA duties I attempt to cap my appointments at 4/5 per day, leaving one session free per week to deal with any client with an unexpected NFA or any particular safeguarding issues. Even with the best intentions, however, weeks tend to be full to the brim with odd and unexpected jobs or client needs. To do lists remain full over the weekend to be picked back up on a Monday.



Liverpool Crown Court

One positive in this, is that we can see clear and enthusiastic client engagement across all locations. More clients are taking up frequent appointments rather than check in calls/text, and more clients are generally engaging and receptive to all aspects of support. I feel that a caveat in this, however, is that it has coincided with a lack of support from police officers in charge of investigations.



Over the last quarter particularly I have noticed a lack of engagement from Officers in Charge, as well as an increase in length of time taken to complete mundane parts of investigations e.g. taking witness statements. Clients are more frequently being left for months with no communication and/or update, as well as without even knowing if a suspect has been interviewed. This, of course, increases the need for our challenging of the criminal justice process whilst simultaneously managing clients emotional support. To further this, there has been an increase in inappropriate means of contact, particularly calls from officers during evenings when no immediate support is available to the client, or out of the blue NFA decisions via the telephone. This leaves the ISVA barely any time to respond to the emotional needs, and sometime safeguarding needs, of the client. This is continued to be raised as an issue both directly with Merseyside police and through criminal justice pathways provided by our Team Leader, Sarah Tipton, who is actively involved in meetings with criminal justice professionals.

A further positive to the above, is the inclusion of our new Listening Ear service. These emotional support sessions go a long way towards taking pressure of the ISVAs where we know we won't have time to speak to a particular client for another few weeks. Clients with more intense needs find this very useful, and feedback has been positive. We also have a new RADS group, run by me, which will be taking place in May 2022 and is already at full capacity. We hope to see continued changes in positive offerings for clients who need more than their ISVA can offer at any given time.



With the addition of extra services, I have been able to take on some RASA counselling clients. This is positive as it allows us to see a full therapeutic process in play, something we miss out on given the stagnation ISVA clients often find themselves in amongst the criminal justice process.

Being able to utilise my full counselling ability also gives me some diversity in the role, which alongside completing the Night-time Economy training is creating a good balance. Together with the Wirral ISVA, I have attended continued professional development training with Lime Culture under the title of

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“Supporting Clients with Additional Needs.” This advised us better ways of dealing with suicidal clients, clients who may be involved in gang culture and clients who are involved in sex work.

This shed more light into important client areas that may be missed and how to deal with them. We are also booked in this year to have a full days training on clients with Learning Disabilities and other special additional needs, which will be particularly helpful given the ongoing presence of this population in our caseloads and the particular needs/ vulnerabilities they bring.

“Each time a woman stands up for herself, without knowing it possibly, without claiming it, she stands up for all women.”
- Maya Angelou

I am hopeful for the future of the ISVA team given exciting changes that have already happened in the last few years; however, with our ever-increasing workloads I hope that our level of service is continuously supported. The team we have at this stage is a formidable one, and with the continued support of the community,

the organisation and funding bodies I know we will continue to thrive.

Alex Cavanagh - Liverpool ISVA

At the start of May 2021, we were hugely excited at the possibility of moving our entire Wirral operation to a new building. RASA started out in a small house in Birkenhead in 1986 and while we had expanded into the next-door property, with increased client numbers and the need for more counselling rooms, space was becoming a serious issue. In addition, traffic levels have greatly increased in the intervening years, and it was difficult to find quiet times in the day. Add to that the relocation of the centralised fire station and ambulance station and the challenges grew. Staff were certainly finding problems running hypnotherapy sessions when the blue light services were in full swing. We viewed it, we planned it and we waited.

Our social media team engaged fully with the theme of Mental Health Awareness Week 2021 – nature and celebrated the many ways being in the natural world can help us overcome many mental health issues.



Meanwhile, plans were underway for a great big street celebration to mark the emergence of support services from the darkness of lockdown. RASA Education was in a position to be a major sponsor and agencies across Merseyside were getting onboard.



We were also pleased to welcome Emily Spurrell PCC for Merseyside to the Bootle offices in early May. She met with staff and volunteers and took time to understand what we did and where.

We noted in May, a sudden spike in recent rape referrals, with no particular common factor. All such information was handed to Merseyside Police to assess and investigate.

Our finance and fundraising team spent a lot of May desperately seeking capital funding that would be needed to convert our newly discovered Birkenhead building for effective use as a counselling and support centre for Wirral. We were met by far too many closed doors as the funding arena had changed post Covid and the needs and wants of funders were more focused on immediate support for individuals impacted by the pandemic – and less on long term capital investment.

In parallel with such searches, we were also keenly seeing funding for additional remote counsellors as our waiting lists were growing and our counselling spaces were permanently at capacity.

With an enhanced report of sexual violence within the night-time economy, RASA staff agreed to work with bar staff to train them on how to be an effective observer and how to intervene or call the alarm. A campaign, in partnership with Liverpool City Council set out to inform and advise the public about RASA, The Police, The Merseyside SARC through posters and leaflets in taxi cabs that served the City.

A new way of working with clients – Single Session Therapy – was trialled in this month.

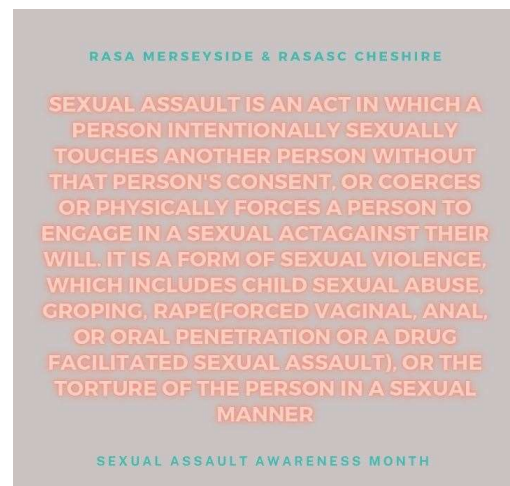
SST is 'an intentional endeavour where the client and therapist agree to meet to help the client deal with their nominated concern in one session knowing that more help is available if needed'.

In this definition, several important points are made:

1. *The work has a purpose.* The *intention* is ideally to help the person in one session.
2. *The client will get the help needed.* Further therapy sessions are available if the client needs such help.

3. The work is consensual. The therapist and client *agree* to embark based on the first two points. This was an entirely new way of working for RASA and one that is carefully assessed before being considered. The challenge is to find the right clients with the right single-issue concerns. There is a lot of preparatory work and clients are aware that further support is available in the future should they so request it, but for some – it just works, and it saves them waiting for months on a waiting list. Several counsellors have been specifically trained in this mode of counselling and it is strictly monitored by RASA Clinical Lead.

In May 2021 we welcomed 250 new clients and at the end of May 2021 waiting lists were as follows
Adults 705 Children 110



COUNSELLING WITH RASA

As I reflect on financial year 2021/2022, I'm proud of the work we have achieved at RASA Merseyside I have seen an increased trend of clients who are presenting with more complex needs. Those who have multiple diagnosed personality and mental health disorders, which can make the work I do as a counsellor more complicated, but never less fulfilling. Clients with complex needs are satisfied with their improved outcomes at the end of therapy, which of course is my goal.

I love that at RASA everyone has the same good intentions, and we are always looking at ways in which we can improve the service, whether that be by process changes or further training of staff. This year more than ever we have evidenced that we are able to develop and grow with the demands and needs of the service and all with the best motives, to improve our clients lives.

Gemma Parle – Counsellor

By June 2021 we had received the architects drawings and the costings for the proposed new centre in Wirral. And it was no great surprise that costs had doubled post Covid. So – far from it being cut and dried and an easy option, it suddenly became a mountain to climb, and we had to start looking for some funders/sponsors quickly.

Development work was still moving on apace and the Safer Streets campaign was really getting going. Further information can be found by checking out <https://sexualviolencesupport.co.uk/safer-streets-merseyside/> but during this year RASA engaged fully at every stage and was very much at the heart of the campaign. We celebrate the huge changes in recent years and the progress that has been made as sexual violence has become recognised for the hugely damaging impact it has on women and girls. 10-15 years ago it would hardly have seemed possible to imagine such positive co-operation between all the involved statutory and voluntary services.



As part of our involvement in the Safer Streets Campaign, we launched campaign of our own in July 21 The “It’s not me, it’s you” campaign.

The campaign ran across all RASA social media and blazoned on tee shirts and hoodies intended to make the point – and did – that women and girls are never responsible for the abuse perpetrated against them. It was a huge success and people were requesting tee shirts and hoodies to be able to support us. The campaign introduction video had over 2000 views. We have stickers all over Liverpool in public areas.

What was the key thing for you about your experience of RASA?

“Someone to take the time to listen to what I’ve been through and give me the support I needed.”



Ofsted Report

In light of an Ofsted report RASA developed a workshop for schools and colleges to be delivered from September onwards. With 2 requests already booked, it looked to be well received.

Our funding team spent the month searching for funders to support our additional needs of family worker, integrative counsellor, and a “power project” young people’s worker. We were able to deliver a full sexual violence aftercare service but as always, we wanted to offer that little bit more. Our concern was for young people slipping through the net and not engaging in counselling – we wanted to be able to reach them.



We learned that several Liverpool taxis were now carrying information about our services as a result of the work we were doing on the night-time economy. This was great progress.

We completed another series of clinical hypnotherapy work with clients. The feedback was excellent, and we planned another course to start in October.

Our new ISVA started work and volunteers were in training to manage the Listening Ear Project for clients on the waiting list for counselling.

In June 2021 we welcomed 248 new clients into RASA and our waiting lists were as follows:

Adults 769 Children 109

My Year at RASA – Sarah Tipton – ISVA & ISVA Service Manager

In the past year I have carried out the role of ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Advisor) & ISVA Service Manager.

My role has included developing the ISVA service, supporting the team, liaising/meeting with other professionals (mostly online but some face-to-face meetings have resumed/are an option), establishing communication pathways with new contacts in the Criminal Justice System (CJS) and championing not only RASA as a service, but for the victims/survivors who are pursuing their case in the CJS.

I have also continued to provide ISVA support to clients, Some who are long standing clients that I have kept on my caseload due to the relationship built or because their cases were due a case decision or due to go to court.

ISVA



In the ISVA role, we provide a voice for those clients who don't feel they are able to communicate their needs to others in the CJS, an explanation of the CJS in understandable terms for the client with informed choice sessions, regular communication (with experience of supporting others through this process) and independent advice based on the clients best interest with a person-centred approach. We will also be there for those who come to our service who are unsure of what support they would like or unsure if they want to go through the CJS.

Referrals for the ISVA service mainly come from the Police, self-referrals, Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC) and other agencies/professionals.

Over the last year we have needed particular focus on referrals coming in from Night-time Economy incidents (including the rise we saw in spiking incidents, both drink and needle spiking), increased reporting of sexual abuse incidents involving university students and a higher number of clients who have reported sexual abuse (usually historic) that are being heard at MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) over DV (Domestic Violence) concerns.

We've managed to maintain not having a waiting list as such for the ISVA service, but clients may wait a few weeks for an assessment or their appointments due to ISVA availability. Potentially they may be waiting for an assessment/appointments longer if they cancel or DNA (do not attend) any that are arranged.

Throughout support, I will manage client expectations of the criminal justice process and help to focus/develop their best coping strategies. I can assist clients in helping other professionals involved (and on occasions their employers), to understand the process and to have some concept of what the client is going through.

We provide a multi-agency approach by liaising with other professionals, seeking advice and support within the RASA team and referring/signposting clients to other support when needed. As a service, we have continued to provide a full risk and needs assessment in each session with clients. I have initiated collaborative work with my team to enhance this assessment process, so we are striving to be as inclusive and holistic as possible in our approach to the client's needs.

My counselling skills continue to be of great benefit to carrying out the ISVA role and now the role of a manager.



Empathy, non-judge mentality, and congruent person skills are needed to be transferred into the relationship I build with both ISVA clients and ISVA team members.



Court

11 of my clients cases have been due for court trial this last year – only 3 of which opted to do a Section 28 (pre-recorded questioning):

2 trials were postponed for covid reasons. (Now due to go ahead April 2022).

2 clients trials sadly received a not guilty verdict.

5 Guilty Verdicts -

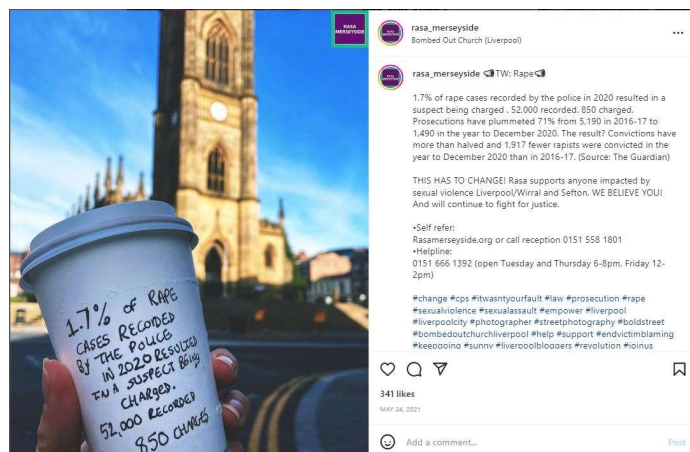
1 - Female client – historic CSA – offender given 15 years prison, Sexual Harm Prevention Order and restraining order, (for offences against my client and her young niece).

1 - Female client – historic CSA - offender given 8-year prison sentence with requirement to sign on the Sex Offenders Register.

1 – Female Client – historic CSA and physical abuse - offender given 21 years in prison.

1 – Male client - historic CSA - perpetrator found guilty 6 out of 8 charges. Offender given 4 years 9 months in prison and an indefinite restraining order.

1 – Male client - historic CSA - perpetrator found guilty 7 out of 9 counts. Offender given 4 years in prison with requirement to sign on the Sex Offenders Register for life.



2 Guilty Pleas:

1 - Female client – recent assault - received a guilty plea a few days before trial, to SA and ABH but the offender pleaded not guilty to attempted rape. This was accepted by my client and the offender was given 32 months prison, 5 year restraining order and requirement to sign on the Sex Offenders Register.

1 – Female client - historic CSA - offender gave guilty plea at trial on 5 out of 6 charges. Offender given 5 years prison and requirement to sign on the Sex Offenders Register.

Overview of Court

I feel it's important to note that while it looks like there are high numbers of guilty verdicts or guilty pleas with a couple of particularly lengthy custodial sentences. This last year has been an accumulation of cases due to postponements from the previous year. Also, as mentioned initially, I had kept on my clients who were due for charging decision, were waiting on court dates and who already had court dates booked in. This was rather than handing them over to another team member, although I have been trying to reduce my caseload for taking on more managerial responsibilities. So, I believe it looks like a more successful 12 months than normal in relation to court results and number of trials, due to these out of the ordinary circumstances.

However, it's still very much worth recognising those successful outcomes for what they are and for what those outcomes will hopefully provide in terms of those clients being able to move forward and feel like justice has been served. It has also been positive for me to experience a higher percentage of successful court outcomes for my clients. I have felt both immensely relieved and thankful for the successful outcomes that clients have had.

ISVA Service Manager

In relation to my responsibilities as ISVA Service Manager, which is now the bulk of my role, I continue to enjoy carrying out this work and supporting the ISVA team.

It is an enormous help and reassurance to be part of such a wonderful team. We try to support one another as each of us recognise this is key to functioning as best as we can as a team. Everyone seems to be working really well together and everyone in the team shows compassion in doing the best they can in the ISVA role. The team have given feedback of how supported they feel, which makes me happy and gives me a great deal of job satisfaction.

Due to the service/staff needs, over this last year we have been awarded additional funding to recruit 2 more team members. One started with us beginning of June 2021 – she has really settled in well to the role and has



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achieved so much already. Another, working specifically to develop a male service for ISVA clients, started with us end of November 2021. She is doing a great job of learning the role and her funding specifically came as a result of research, which Vicky Green (Clinical Lead) contributed to in terms of highlighting particularly male victim/survivor needs.

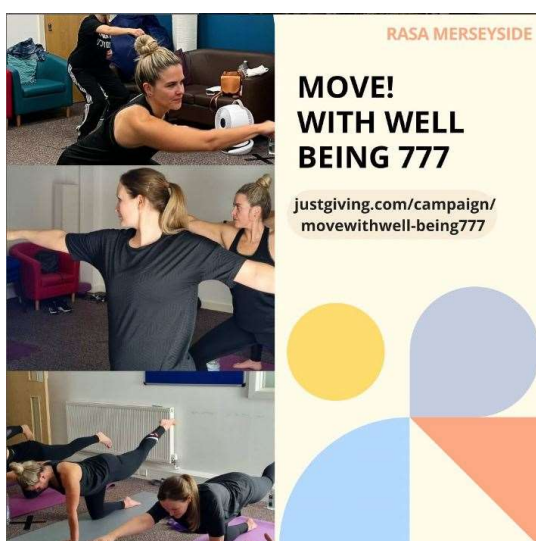
Now trained in RASA procedures and the ISVA role, with further training booked, she will start to develop the service we provide for males, not just from an ISVA perspective but for RASA as a whole.

One of our team members sadly left the ISVA role end of January 2022, however, the team are happy for her pursuing her counselling career still within RASA. As a result of this we recruited another new team member who started with us beginning of March 2022. She is just coming to the end of her RASA ISVA service training period and will be starting to work independently with clients. She has made great progress with her role so far and I'm sure she will continue to do well.

All team members are minimum Level 3 Counselling Skills trained. This is something I have put in place as I believe it better equips the team to communicate effectively with clients and professionals and helps them to be more self-aware of what their own needs are both professionally and personally.

This year I have also set up a Listening Ear service for ISVA clients. 2 RASA volunteers are very kindly providing this support for one day a week each. It's offered to those clients who need more frequent focused emotional support and/or more focused coping strategies putting in place. This not only helps the clients but also helps the ISVAs due to their lack of availability, at times, as a result of workloads. The service is running well so far with some really positive feedback from clients and has a growing waiting list.

We have also set up ISVA RADS Groups, which looks at coping strategies for ISVA clients focussing on Reducing Anxiety Depression & Stress. We ran the first group with some lovely feedback received. We hope to run 2 further groups, 1 which has now completed in late 2021 and 1 which is due to run in May 2022. We're hoping to run an average of 3 RADS groups a year.



In terms of the staff, as well as monthly team meetings, I've been delivering bi-monthly self-care meetings for the ISVAs, which I know they need and appreciate. The setup of these meetings varies and are led by the ISVAs in terms of ideas and suggestions of what we can do in the time we have. I am even more reassured that this is good practice as a service to have this in place after a study published highlighting the support ISVA workers need. (Report: A study of impacts, effects, coping mechanisms and effective support systems for people working as ISVAs and ISVA Managers (May 2021) – by Canterbury Christ Church University and Middlesex University London, with support from LimeCulture).

I continue to have a regular focus on what personal development needs individual members of the team have, support them with advice and list them on training/workshops where possible. I will continue to review with their input on how the team can best be supported.

The ISVA Team did a fundraising event for RASA in our own time. We did 7 hours of exercise in one day, with the message of positive benefits of exercise, healthy eating and mindfulness which we promote to our clients. We took photos and videos throughout the day for content which was used for a week-long social media wellness campaign. The feedback from this was positive, the content received a lot of engagement, and we raised over £760. This money has gone towards anything RASA needs to support clients with general well-being and activities, such as the mindfulness course.

As A Whole

I continue to undergo supervision for quality of work and self-care, as well as keeping record of information and activity within my roles.

I continue with my personal development attending training and workshops around the work I carry out and keeping up to date with standards, policies and safeguarding.

I continue to maintain and build new relationships with other professionals and services to enable us to have a multi-agency approach to supporting clients. Where possible I have championed for changes needed within the CJS.

Office/room space has become an issue for appointments on most days in both of our centres. This has had some influence in the home working rota I set up and does impact the teams' availability for face-to-face appointments. This has been voiced to management and we hope at some point in the future to be able to look at new/bigger premises, funding permitted.

However, I do think the pandemic has opened up more of an accepted convenience for clients to receive remote support and for RASA as an organisation to look at more hybrid working depending on client need. Which I believe has been a positive change.

Other

In the previous year I provided feedback to Merseyside Police Corporate Support & Development Officer. The feedback was then taken to the National Rape Review and is starting to be filtered down locally. A National ISVA Framework was put in place in 2021 for use by the police and CPS across England and Wales. The framework outlines minimum standards on liaising and communicating with ISVAs. It's starting to show signs of being adhered to by our local CPS and will be addressed through Police training over the coming year.





RCEW (Rape Crisis England & Wales) have released a report called 'Holding it Together: the Courage, resilience, and innovation of Rape Crisis Centres during the Covid-19 pandemic'. It details the remarkable efforts of Rape Crisis Centres, to rise up and adapt quickly to meet the urgent needs of victims and survivors over the course of the pandemic. Recognising the inconceivable challenges services have faced during these unprecedented times and the incredible achievements of Rape Crisis Centres over the last year and a half.

I made contributions to this report by providing feedback in monthly meetings and I gave written information on a particular case where a client of mine died before his offender's court trial, after the trial previously being postponed.

Looking to the Future

After a recent development with our relationship with local CPS, I am feeling confident they are also championing for changes and improvements to be made within the CJS.

I am providing a voice recording of my feedback to contribute towards Merseyside Police VAWG (Violence Against Women & Girls) training. This training will be delivered to all front-line officers and anyone who deals with investigating cases or communicating with the public. The feedback will be based on what clients have voiced to me about the Police in terms of the CJS, with examples of both good and bad practice. As a professional working for over 9 years now to support people through the CJS who have suffered sexual abuse, I feel this feedback will be invaluable for local Police training and hope it contributes towards positive change.

I have developed in my role as a person and the team have grown stronger in many ways. I look forward to the opportunity for further development, continuing to lead and support the ISVA team.

It is still on my agenda to develop an ISVA Support Group based on giving practical information and allowing time for clients to connect with one another (with clear boundaries). This unfortunately kept getting put on hold over the last year as I have spent unforeseen time with new team members, developed other areas of the service and have been supporting a high number of clients through court proceedings.

I hope that we are able to obtain funding for more/larger premises due to there being limited room availability. It's been fed back that some clients can only attend an evening group, but we currently don't have the space available to do this.

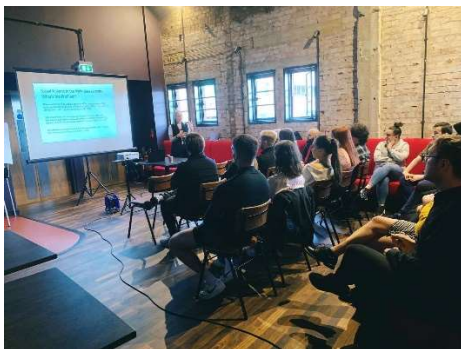
It is my hope that we will also obtain funding for a specific ISVA Pre-Trial Therapist. The services already set up along with more space, another support group and a pre-trial therapist would be the icing on

the cake to help a lot of clients to cope better through a difficult and lengthy criminal justice process. But also help them to feel empowered having more choice in how they are supported.

Then the cherry on top would be to have another 1 or 2 more ISVAs so we are able to have better availability for clients and the team can feel they are able to provide the best support possible.

It is my dream that the ISVA service will continue to go from strength to strength in terms of delivering a holistic plan of support to clients and I look forward to the year ahead.

Sarah Tipton
ISVA Services Manager



At the start of July 2021, we were involved in delivering sexual violence and disclosure training in the night-time economy to a variety of night time economy workers.

It was well received, and we are pleased that even more workers will be available to look out for people enjoying a night out in Liverpool.

We took the opportunity on several occasions to challenge news reports of sexual crimes and explore some of the language used and how it is inappropriate and misleading. This could become a full-time role in its own right as we discovered in the short time we were able to devote to the exercise.



We also launched a new training course - Counselling children and young people - This a post qualifying CPD course for counsellors who want to develop knowledge and skills relating to the therapeutic work with Children and Young people. It aims to provide a forum for counsellors to develop as a reflective practitioner and explore working with children and young people whilst remaining within the philosophical underpinnings of your core training. As with many RASA training courses, it quickly filled.

We managed to achieve funding through The Steve Morgan Foundation for one of the outstanding roles we wanted to create. We had funding to recruit a "Power Project Worker" to encourage engagement from disengaged young people in need of support after sexual violence.



RASA staff completed a 21 mile walk from Liverpool to Southport to raise awareness of victim blaming! This walk covered our Liverpool and Sefton region of work. We all wore our campaign tee shirts and there was lots of engagement with members of the public en route.

We wanted to stand up for anyone who has been subjected to victim blaming and pay tribute to anyone who has been tragically lost, going through it or been impacted by it. Together we can pay tribute to survivors and stand up for anyone subjected to sexual violence and not believed or blamed. What is always important to understand is that sexual violence is never, ever the fault of the person who experiences it. It was such a special day for many reasons, we spent the day in each other's company, laughing, crying laughing, aches and pains but finally catching up with each properly. It's important to self-care (although I'm sure a few of the team would say a 21-mile walk is not self-care and quite the opposite 😊) and really take time to hear each other. ❤️

We also created and buried a time capsule close to the memorial to the woman who's death triggered RASA's beginnings.

We sincerely hope things have changed when we dig up the time capsule in five years' time. Our thoughts, feelings and hopes regarding victim blaming are buried away. Five years is a short period of time, but it's 1825 days. 1825 days to help change society's perception on why sexual violence happens and how the perpetrator is always to blame. We buried the capsule by Diane's memorial in Birkenhead. Diane Sindall was murdered on her way home from work just before midnight on Friday, August 1, 1986. Her car had run out of petrol on



Borough Road, and she had gone in search of petrol. Diane, 21, was just 500 yards from an all-night garage when her attacker struck. She was raped and murdered. RASA was founded in Diane's memory as a catalyst for justice and change. Sexual violence is never your fault, and we should ALWAYS support, believe anyone subjected to sexual violence and continue the fight for justice

In July 2021 we welcomed 210 new clients to RASA. Waiting lists were as follows:

Adults 775 Children 96

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In August 21 RASA hosted a street event to celebrate coming out of lockdown. The impact of lockdown cannot be under-estimated. Alongside the ongoing battle to protect each other from the virus, support for social, mental health, and financial issues became even more important than ever.

We know that people's mental health deteriorated during lockdown; loneliness increased; in some cases adults and children became more vulnerable to abuse with nowhere to escape to, and largely, no one to tell; and for many there has been a devastating financial impact.

RASA hosted a street event is to showcase some of the different services available within the Liverpool region that are there to support those impacted by abuse. The event took place on Monday 9th August from 9am – 5pm.

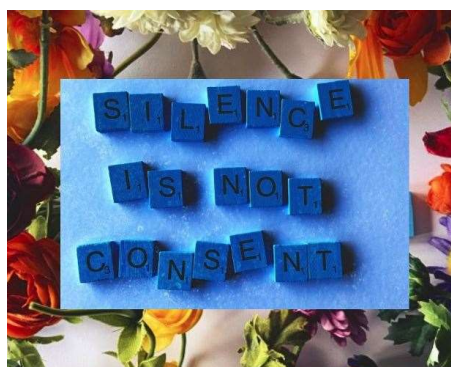
Each agency had an outdoor stall to provide information to members of the public on the services which they offer. There was a range of services at the event including RASA/ Merseyside Police, WHISC and all the Liverpool domestic violence services . We even had entertainment for the children with dancers and face painters.

The aim of the event was to raise awareness, promote services, and showcase the work achieved during lockdown, and also celebrated the end of tough restrictions and the importance of community. The Liverpool Mayor opened the event, we also had a speech from the PCC.



There was a disclosure van for anyone who wanted to access support on the day. The van was in use most of the day. The event was sponsored by RASA Education Limited and Jackson and Roby solicitors who were present on the day to offer advice on family law.

We had some amazing acts some included ex-service users including poets, singers, bands even a boxing class. The event was absolutely bouncing from start to finish. We had radio and local TV coverage. It was a fantastic event with entertainment for everyone.



Following the tragic murder of Sarah Everard, it was felt that more needed to be done to raise awareness and have our voice as women and professional heard. We started our talk show "The Agenda" the first session covered the impact that Sarah Everard's Murder had on staff and clients.

The agenda runs monthly discussing different topics with guest speakers. We have welcomed many interesting people to the discussions including Dr Jessica Taylor, Maggie Oliver, Merseyside Police to name a few.

We ran a pilot – Guardian scheme – working around the night clubs and bars to assist potentially vulnerable people. It has not yet been determined if this will become a regular scheme.

Lorraine Wood - Operations Manager

In August 21 we welcomed 213 new clients to RASA. Waiting lists at the end of August were as follows. Adults 843 Children 95

My year at RASA Merseyside

This is my second year at RASA, and I now feel I have really settled into the role and have a great understanding and education around it. This past year has provided new team members which I feel have added a new dynamic to the team and I personally have got on with very well. In this past year I have carried out the role of the adult ISVA for the Wirral area and also the assessment officer for Liverpool referrals. This means my time has been split between managing my own caseload, Wirral referrals and completing the Liverpool assessments that have been booked in for me.

The majority of my time is spent supporting my Wirral clients through the criminal justice process, offering practical and emotional support within scheduled sessions and also in the interim between appointments. My caseload through this year has usually been between 55 to 60 clients at a time and I split my time between the Birkenhead office, where I see the majority of my clients face to face when able to, due to the continued Covid 19, and also the Bootle office, where I conduct the Liverpool telephone assessments.

Counselling

I have continued to find that, an interesting addition to my role, is the opportunity to see a counselling client a week to ensure my skills are remaining up-to-date and in constant use. I am still a student counsellor, having finished the academic side of the counselling diploma and have finally completed the 100 hours I need to qualify, leaving me with a final assignment to complete before being fully qualified. I have found, in particular this year, that counselling skills, come hand in hand with the ISVA role, with the need for active listening, empathy, and a non-judgmental attitude to be paramount in offering the best support for clients.



In a world where clients often struggle to feel believed, understood, and valued, it is my job to ensure that there is at least one person who is on their side, walking the journey with them. The need to build a trusting relationship with my clients is ever present but also important to highlight the need to build rapport with other professionals and my fellow ISVA colleagues. This good rapport, has for me, ensured, a stable and supportive team that is always able to offer guidance and support if needed. I have noticed that the emotional support needed for clients has increased over this past year. I do believe this is due to starting to see the mental health impacts that the pandemic has had on people - that and the continued world situation.

I have found that the proportion of clients who present with heightened anxiety and hypervigilance has increased, and the need for support has been greater. This has had some impact on the job role as

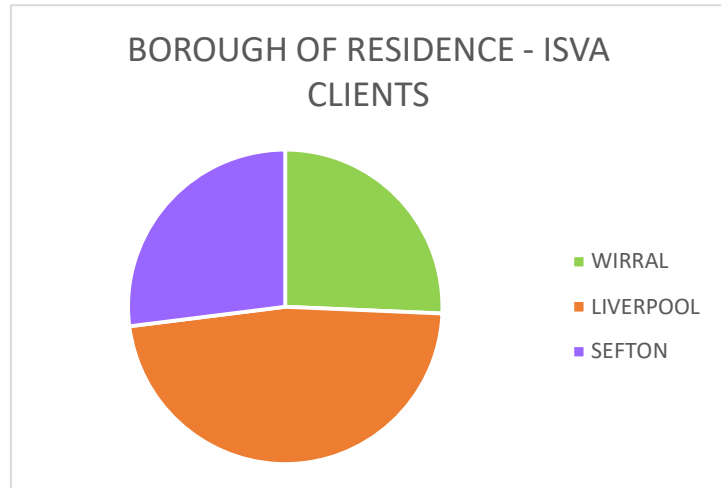
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the emotional support and therefore workload has increased and, in my opinion, will continue to increase going forward.

My ISVA role

This past year I have found that the majority of my work has been offering emotional support to clients and helping to hold them through the duration of the criminal justice process. It has been important for me to build a good rapport, and strong relationships with the client where they feel they can trust me and lean on me if they need to. I have continued work with many clients from last year, as the criminal justice journey is such a lengthy process.



This means, I feel I have built an incredibly strong, professional relationship with many of my clients, and can recognize through positive feedback that they find me empathic and supportive at all times. I have found that a continued struggle in my job role is having to manage clients' expectations and be the voice of reason and reality. I have found, that when the rapport is strong, this is usually easier, as clients, more often than not, would prefer to know the truth and the reality of what to expect even if it isn't exactly what they want to hear. This honesty, and openness, I believe, is one of the most integral parts of my job role and is something I always have been when working with clients.

It is my job to ensure the client has informed choices and has access to all the information they need to understand and process the criminal justice system wherever they may be within it, so I am constantly available to answer questions, and give information and advice to ensure the client has all the information provided to them and their autonomy remains at the forefront of all the decisions. My role has allowed me to give those that feel they do not have one, a voice, whether that be in their lives or with other professionals. By acting as an advocate, it often allows the client the support needed to make further choices and develops a confidence to take control and ownership of their own journey and experience.

Assessment Role

Another aspect of my role is to complete the Wirral and Liverpool assessments for clients engaging in the service. This assessment allows us to highlight any safeguarding issues and needs for the client to create a tailor-made support plan that put the client at the centre. These assessments usually take about an hour and a half including the additional paperwork that is needed. I have had to make several safeguarding referrals in my time this year and am fully educated in when and how to make these. I believe I am completely competent in completing this assessment and have found this a very enjoyable part of my job role.

Due to this very strong and highly effective risk assessment which is continued to be utilized throughout support, I am always able to manage risk and safeguard clients in a way that is unique to them. Every session conducted with a client I will ensure I have followed the risk assessment in full to best support the client, pick up any concerns, make appropriate referrals, liaise with other professionals, and safeguard in any way that is needed.

I am often contacting other professionals and working in a multi-agency manner to best support the client in their life as a whole. Often this will mean contacting police officers, witness care officers, IDVAs, or sometimes acting as an advocate for housing and employment, helping others understand the criminal justice process and the impacts this is having on the client. I have found, and continue to find it, really beneficial and helpful that we have such an experienced and close-knit ISVA team, who I know I can communicate with when I am seeking guidance, advice or emotional support.

The main source of referrals I find is from the police, SARCs and often internally from PAC calls or the counselling service. Sometimes clients will refer themselves into the service. I find that, depending on the referral, it will often depend on the quality of information I receive before completing the initial assessment. Regardless of this, all the information required will be obtained when completing the assessment.

I have had a varied range of client cases, from more difficult and complex to fairly straight forward. This also impacts how much support a client will need and is really unique and individual to the client. I have noticed an increase in workload with more challenging clients, who need more support, as sessions will be more frequent and multi-agency work needed more often. During this last year, I have definitely been dealing with much more complex clients, who have a greater need.

I have noticed an even bigger delay, from when I started during the pandemic, in case updates, investigation stages, CPS decision and court dates. What has also been more challenging, is the number of court dates including charge, trial, and sentencings, that have been postponed. There is an awful lot of work being done between ISVA lead, CPS and witness care, in order to make the process of postponements more victim friendly. So far, when needing to chase reasons, I have found the new protocol, very helpful in getting more detailed reasoning to pass onto the client.



Support in court

Several times this year, I have supported in court in either a trial, as section 28 (pre-recorded cross examination), or a video link. When a case goes to court, my support has been provided from the very beginning of the process. This starts with ensuring the client has their voice heard about how they would like to give evidence, and any applications for special measures made and granted. This requires liaison with the client, the witness care service and CPS.

Often communication can be slightly difficult with other professionals, so it is necessary that this is chased up.

I have ensured that clients are fully aware of the court process and have all the information they need to feel as prepared as possible. I also ensure that the client has access to a pre-court visit, if this is something they are wanting prior to their attendance. Over this past year, my physical attendance has been required where I will offer as much emotional support as possible. I have received, only positive feedback, and heartfelt thanks from clients for my support at this time, with one client stating that she “would not have got through it without me being there and couldn’t be more grateful”. I have also supported clients in completing CPS expenses forms following the trial, alleviated some of the stress present for them.

Sadly, as is often expected, this year I have continued to have more police and CPS no further actions than cases that have gone to trial. It is my job, in these circumstances, to really hold the client and offer that emotional support. It is always important to ensure the client has enough reasoning, understands that these decisions are not because they are not believed and support with an appeal if that’s the route they choose. Over the past year, I have organized a few police meetings to ensure clients are given a full brief of the reasons for the NFA decision.



In one particular case, a very vulnerable client, who received a police NFA, felt her needs were considered and met by the arranging of the meeting by myself. She stated afterwards that she “would not have survived the investigation without me and felt that, because of the police meeting, the reasons were clear, and a full understanding was gained allowing the moving forward”. I have had 3 cases go to court, all with guilty verdicts and custodial sentences. I have also had an early guilty plea entered and for which we are still awaiting the sentencing.

In this situation I checked in with the client that she understood what was going on, which at the time she did not, due to the legal jargon being used. I ensured to provide a greater understanding for her and explain what was happening in terms she was able to understand and process. Again, she thanked me deeply for my role in her support.

Further development

During this past year, I have completed my ISVA training accredited by Lime Culture. I have also taken part in all the mandatory training and additional training provided by RASA in order to better do my job. I attend focus meetings facilitated by Lime Culture for working with clients for disabilities whereby we share information and guidance amongst ISVA’s across the country to best support clients appropriately. I also feed what was discussed to my fellow colleagues so we are able to support in the best way we can. I have attended training for supporting clients with other needs such as sex workers, girls in gangs and those within the LGBTQ+ community.

This year I have also completed training about dealing with suicide resulting in becoming a suicide first-aider, and I intend to complete the level 4 qualification in this also. There is further training I have been enrolled on for supporting client with additional needs which will be completed by April 2022.

Our ISVA team also had an assessment with Lime Culture this year, in order to determine our re-accreditation. During this, I was asked specific questions about how I complete my job role within the policies and procedures provided by Lime Culture. Happily, we were recently granted this re-accreditation. This accolade displays the knowledge, quality and ability of the ISVA team and each individual in it.

Thoughts on my role

Regarding my ISVA role, I am continuing to find the job enjoyable and satisfying, although sometimes challenging. I can manage these challenges that I come across and believe that resilience and self-care is key in maintaining a good work ethic.

One of the most important things for me has been the continued support within the ISVA team and I genuinely believe that in order for me to do my job to the best of my ability the cohesion, knowledge and empathy of the team is paramount. I constantly feel supported and feel that I am always able to share my casework, ask questions and generally talk about the job.



As we all have quite a heavy workload and a busy day to day working life, it is so important that I have a strong team to lean on and hope that they equally feel they are able to lean on me. I find it incredibly helpful to always have open communications with my team and line manager, where I can ask questions and gain further knowledge. I have also had the opportunity to train new members of the team and share the knowledge and expertise that I feel I have gained this past year.

I got very good feedback from my team members who really enjoyed my training style and felt that it equipped them with the tools needed to start the job on a confident note. I have received good feedback from clients thanking me for the support that I offer which is always incredibly nice to hear and reassures me that I am doing my job effectively. Any additional feedback I do receive I then try to utilise and apply this to future case work. In this next coming year, I have been given the opportunity to change roles within the ISVA team so will be spending more time managing the referrals and assessments. I am looking forward to this new challenge and gaining further skills for my role.

In order to maintain my own mental health and ensure my client work is effective, meeting the needs of the client, and professional, I am regularly utilizing supervision. Over the past year I have had two supervisors, with one taking over for interim due to maternity leave. I feel like both supervisors, and I have had a very good rapport and feel comfortable and safe to explore any issues I feel I need to. Through this supervision and line management I have been able to manage more challenging cases

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with a confidence and professionalism without getting overwhelmed. It has been paramount to my personal development and learning experience within the role so far.

I feel that so far in my time at RASA I have really blossomed in the ISVA role. I have developed my knowledge and skills and feel that I am now an integral part of the ISVA team and the RASA family. It continues to be the most fulfilling job that I have ever done, albeit with its challenges, and I feel blessed to have been given the opportunity within this amazing company. Going forward, I hope to continue to grow and develop, having the opportunity to support even more clients and take an even bigger and more active role within my new job role. I would love to get further involved with RASA and all the exciting new things that are happening in the next coming year. I feel honoured to be able to work with such amazing women and in particular, a formidable ISVA team, that faces it's challenges, difficult workload, and emotional impacts, head on, supporting clients to the absolute best of our ability.

Nadia Bakir- Wirral ISVA and Liverpool Assessments Officer

In September 21 we welcomed 223 new clients to RASA. Waiting lists at the end of the month were as follows Adults 851 Children 96



In October 21 we started work on rebranding RASA. We felt that our logo was looking tired and not perhaps as professional as we wanted it to be. We tried multiple variations until we found one that looked good whatever background supported it.

Work began on preparation of a training video for training bus drivers how to be effective bystanders. It was deemed impossible to try and stop transport to train the drivers en masse so this was the next best option. This activity was part of the Safer Streets Project.

It's been another eventful year at RASA. In addition to client work and managerial responsibilities, during this time I have been able to complete the Level 5 CBT course and Level 1 EMDR course. These have both had a huge positive impact on clients and I feel very proud of the fact that at RASA, we have so much support to offer our clients. It's positive that more people are now reaching out for support but unfortunately, we have long waiting lists. We are always striving to think of ways to improve our service and access to support and so we decided to create an 8 week course for clients as a potential alternative to counselling.

We decided that it could be delivered to groups and would focus on psychoeducation. The aim was to enable clients to develop an understanding of sexual violence, the impacts, and how to then regain a sense of control over their lives. We completed a pilot, and the feedback has been extremely positive so we will continue to deliver this in both centres which will hopefully help to reduce the waiting lists a little.



I really enjoyed getting involved with the RASA walk last year in order to raise awareness of the service and the street event in Liverpool for coming out of lockdown with our partner agencies – it was great to be able to get back out into the community and talk to people about our service and the support that we can offer.

I found that there was less of a stigma about people coming to our stall. In previous years I would often see hands trying to discreetly take our leaflets from the table without being seen but at the street event, it seemed that more people felt comfortable to have conversations about sexual violence and therefore break the silence, which sexual violence thrives on.

As always I feel very blessed and privileged to be part of such an amazing team.

Sarah Meek - Wirral Services Manager

In October 21 we welcomed 256 new clients into RASA services. At the end of the month waiting lists were as follows Adults 879 Children 81



In November 21 RASA was heavily engaged in running events for the 16 days of action to eliminate violence against women and girls. This year, in response to public consultation about feeling unsafe, RASA created a series of videos of women reclaiming spaces deemed unsafe. We reclaimed our public spaces, leaving an orange ribbon and a campaign tag.



rasa_merseyside Lorraine is reclaiming Bootle New Strand train station and train stations in general. The survey confirmed that they are places where women and girls feel unsafe, although there may be CCTV, this does stop perpetrators. Many of the people that completed the survey said they feel anxiety waiting for a train alone, in the dark and who is around, the fear of who is on the train and what could happen in a carriage alone. The feeling of being unsafe. THIS HAS TO CHANGE! RECLAIM OUR SPACES

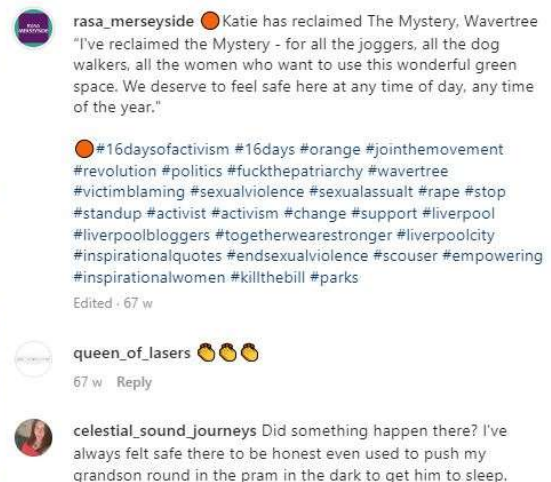
#16daysofactivism #16days #orange #jointhemovement #revolution #politics #fuckthepatriarchy #victimblaming #sexualviolence #sexualassault #rape #stop #standup #activist #activism #change #support #liverpool #liverpoolbloggers #togetherwearestronger #liverpoolcity #inspirationalquotes #endsexualviolence #scouser #empowering #inspirationalwomen #killthebill #trains

68 w

The survey demonstrated that women and girls often do not feel safe in public spaces, for example public transport, restaurant/bars and particularly in toilets, parks and walking at night.

I can begin to accept myself, love myself and actually begin to live my life.

Don't think I have had support that worked so hard to help me in my way. My ADHD usually gets overlooked and it was taken into account



Videos were shared on our social media pages and members of the public were encouraged to take part and reclaim their own public spaces. Videos were collected and edited and one long video was uploaded to RASA social media. This was a huge success that was embraced by many women.

As part of the campaign, RASA also ran the following activities:

Parents Protect Training –

Child sexual abuse happens in secret and most victims do not tell. The abuser is usually a family friend, neighbour, a member of the child's family or someone working with children: he or she may be someone we know and love. This training provided the information needed to recognise the warning signs of abuse in both adults and children and to build the confidence in accessing support / reporting.

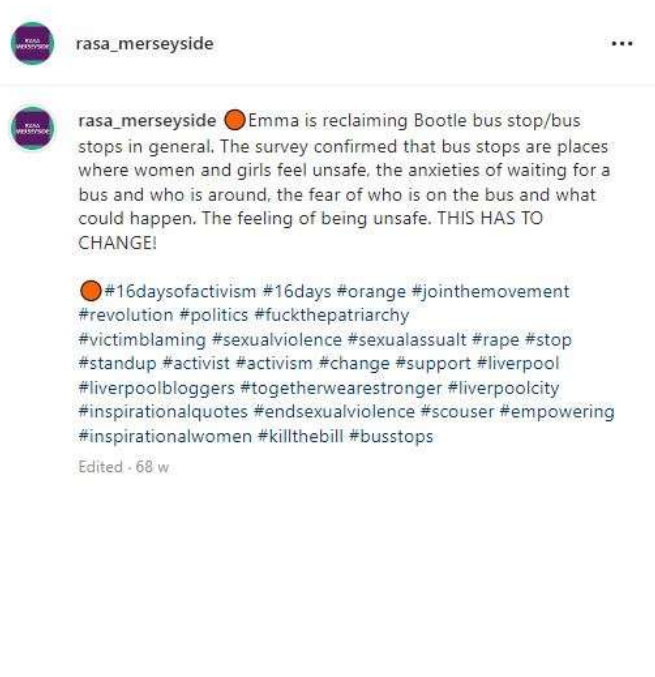
Mindfulness Body Scan - Spending time resting awareness on each part of our body, offering gratitude and affection. The body scan is one of the most effective ways to begin a mindfulness meditation practice. The purpose is to tune in to your body—to reconnect to your physical self—and notice any sensations you're feeling without judgement. Paying homage to empowering our bodies as Women to end violence against Women and Girls.



‘Mindfulness is a lifetime’s journey along a path that ultimately leads nowhere, only to who you are.’

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Responding to disclosures training - This is a 3hour training session suitable for professionals who would like to gain more knowledge with regards to the impact of Sexual Violence and how to respond to disclosures, this session covered the following:

- * What is Sexual Violence
- * Impact of Sexual Violence
- * Responding to Disclosure
- * Window of Tolerance

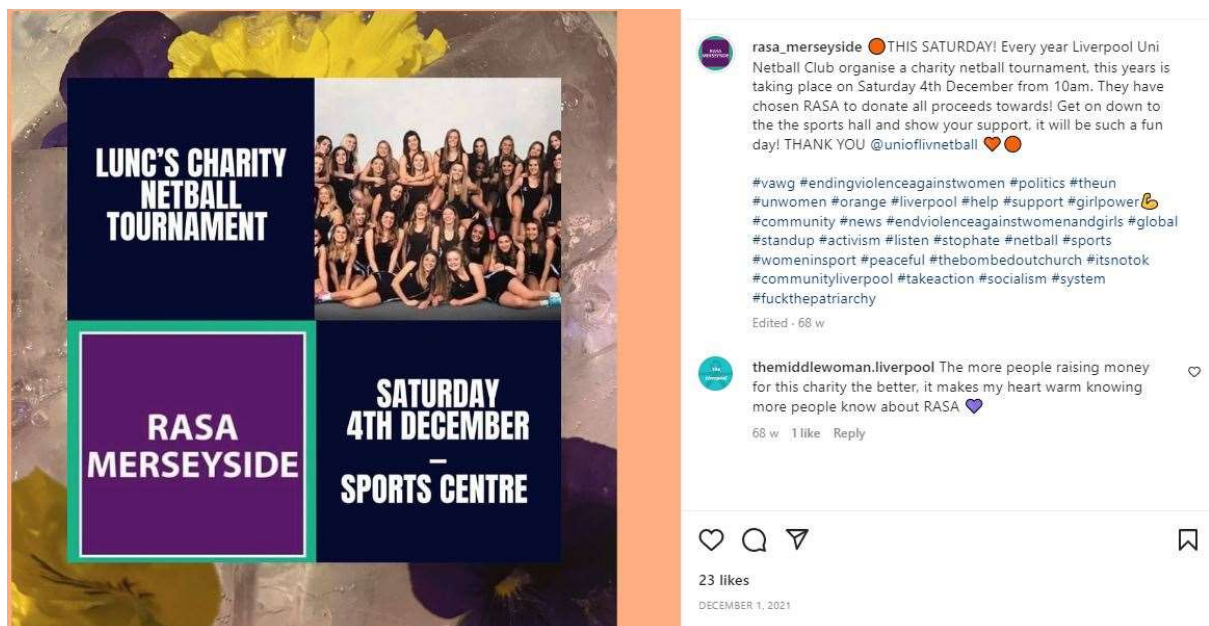
In November 21 we welcomed 263 new clients into RASA services. At the end of November, waiting lists were as follows Adults 921 Children 78

Cards made by the pupils of St. Nicholas Primary School

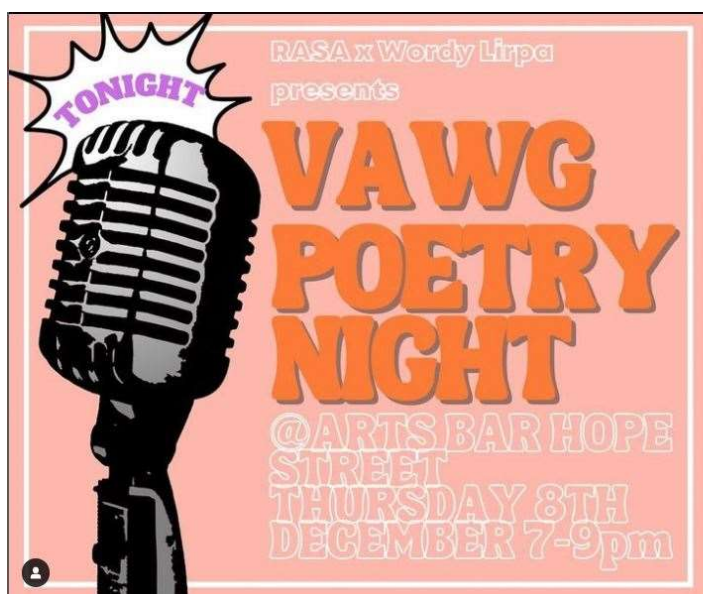
All

Proceeds go to RASA, 12 cards per pack £10

I felt heard, my experiences were listened to, I did not feel rushed or pressured.



It didn't stop our supporters from raising lots of funds and awareness of our services. We were thrilled that so many organisations got involved in fund raising for RASA in December 21. Big thank you to everyone.



rasa_merseyside TONIGHT - RASA X WORDY LIRPA VAWG POETRY 🌟🌟 Get down to @liverpoolartsbar basement, 7-9pm for an amazing collective of local artists coming together to help eliminate violence against women and girls via poetry and the arts. All welcome 🌟 Do you feel passionate about this? I think we ALL should, things need to change, TW- content of the evening may be triggering. Massive thank you @liverpoolartsbar @wordy.lirpa

"Violence against Women and Girls is a fundamental human rights violation, affecting 1/3 women around the world. Women and girls experience violence and discrimination in every society simply because of their gender.

Millions of women and girls face many forms of violence throughout their lives, including rape, FGM, sexual exploitation, child marriage, assault, mental abuse, domestic violence, trafficking, stalking, murder, the list is endless. Those subjected to violence can often experience a range of problems, from psychological distress and depression to severe injuries, HIV and unwanted pregnancy. Violence and the threat of violence can stop girls from going to school, from being able to choose if and who they marry and from reaching their potential"



23 likes
DECEMBER 8, 2022

Feedback -

Zoom sessions were really good. It tackled the problems. Helped me overcome a lot in my head.

Feedback -

Very impressed with the level of support and understanding I received.

Job Title: **ISVA for Male Service**

Centre(s): **Where required** (Bootle, Wirral & Southport).

I no longer take on responsibility/blame for the abuse suffered, my relationship has improved, and I feels able to go out on my own.

Summary of day-to-day role: Independent Sexual Violence Advisor for male clients and engagement focus. Supporting clients through the criminal justice system who have reported or wish to report to the police. Practical and emotional support. Establishing interagency relationships with a view to improving client engagement. Developing both the ISVA and RASA's service for males.

Role – ISVA for Male Service (including some female work). Supporting Liverpool, Sefton, and Wirral clients. The role is challenging but I am enjoying it immensely and now I've had full data system (DPMS) training, I feel more confident in performing my administrative duties. All RASA staff have been incredibly supportive in welcoming me to my new role and my team have been patient and understanding as I navigate the job having had a tumultuous start with DPMS due to Christmas break and working from home due to Covid19.

I feel more confident. I used to hide my feelings but now I have ways to cope. I stamp my feet and move around, open the window.

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The support I received was excellent and very professional It helped me to start to be able to deal with what I had been through.

Team meetings and a focus on self-care, help to instil a sense of comradery in the ISVA team and now I have got to know everyone, I feel comfortable approaching more experienced members of the team for support and guidance which they always happily provide.

I have never worked somewhere so supportive and it's worth mentioning, that despite how busy everyone is, I have never felt like an inconvenience or nuisance when asking for help.

During my time at RASA, I have attended three pre-trial visits at court, two section 28's at court (pre-recorded questioning), a MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) and a Team Around the Family meeting. These meetings and experience of supporting clients at court has provided valuable learning for my role.

The repercussions of the pandemic upon the criminal justice process can still be felt as far as the length of time clients wait to have their cases heard. Face to face interaction between police and clients seems to be non-existent but I can't say personally if this is due to the pandemic or if this has always been the case, due to not being in the role long enough to make a comparison. Most of the interaction my clients get is via telephone.

It has helped me to understand my emotions and I have been able to understand why certain things affect me in a negative way.

The service has helped me throughout the darkest and hardest times and without the help and support of Olivia, I don't think I would be here today. She has been an amazing support throughout the whole 3 and a half years. I will truly miss our sessions and I want to say is a massive thank you to Olivia for everything.

This means I am often the only tangible source of contact for clients. I expect the longevity of individual cases means that as more referrals are made my case load will increase more quickly than if cases were handled in a timelier fashion. I have multiple clients "stuck in the limbo" of evidence collection. With

police having cases returned back to them from CPS (Crown Prosecution Service) with a request for further investigative actions. This can further prolong the already emotionally difficult waiting time. I am conscious that this feeling of stagnation may transfer into my practise if I am not mindful so I will work hard to manage this and build on my resilience to enable me to provide the best support possible to clients.

With no definitive time scale, clients are having to deal with all the anxiety associated with cases plus the uncertainty of when they will get any answers. My role for many of my clients is providing reassurance that the police are working to deal with their cases but often only being able to provide vague timescales that they can expect.

I have a client at present who reported in December and the trial is set for August. The turnaround for this case has been incredibly quick (especially in comparison to others). This comes with the positives of the client not feeling stuck and often re-traumatised in a lengthy process, but also the more unusual circumstances that the client is feeling like "it's all happening so fast".

I now have the understanding that the feelings I have been experiencing for many years is not because there is something wrong with me but because of the impacts of the sexual violence I have suffered.

My client has been overwhelmed by the intensity of the case and my role has been predominantly emotional support which I increased from fortnightly to weekly after I became concerned for his emotional wellbeing.

I referred my client to our ISVA Listening Ear service and he benefits greatly from these sessions. Worker from Listening Ear was imperative to ensuring the safety of the client having performed a welfare check by way of a visit from the ambulance service after the client was in distress on the phone. Now with consent from the client, worker keeps me informed as to whether additional emotional support might be required during my ISVA sessions.

Thank you for your patience and continually challenging my beliefs gently for understanding that I did not want to believe it was abuse so took on responsibility which felt easier but now I know I am not to blame or responsible for the abuse I suffered.

I have noticed resistance and defensiveness from some Police officers when I have gently challenged practises or asked for more information relating to cases. I wonder whether this is because officers do not know the benefits of using our role to compliment victim/survivor support. I am hoping this improves with time and will be included to some degree in the upcoming VAWG training that all frontline Police, investigating officers and specialist units will receive over the coming 12 months.

The importance of inter-agency understanding of the ISVA role was something I brought up to Lime Culture and the CPS during a recent focus group I attended. NFA (No Further Action) results from cases are common.

As during the first few months of my employment I have been focusing on training and development. Now I've had DPMS training, I am booked onto the Lime Culture – Supporting Males training in May and I am in a position where I feel confident in the role itself.

I will look to beginning a male engagement action plan and start to add to a portfolio that RASA can submit to stakeholders to hopefully gain/continue with funding for our service. I am looking forward to developing my role and the coming year ahead, feeling determined to create positive change.

Having an understanding of myself and how the impact of the abuse has impacted me which having a greater understanding of myself has enable me to move forward and accept that I am not to blame.

Sally Wexsteen – Male ISVA Development Worker

In December 2021 we welcomed 183 new clients into RASA services. At the end of December waiting lists were as follows Adults 924 Children 83

A YEAR IN RASA CHILDREN'S SERVICES

New skills/qualifications acquired - EMDR LEVEL 1 & 2

Knowledge development

1. Attended the Rainbow centre, Alder Hey Hospital
2. I presented the Safeguarding Children Training – RASA – this was for new volunteer counsellors prior to them working with clients at RASA.
3. Recovery is the best form of revenge book – A book by Carolyn Spring, a survivor of trauma, abuse, and dissociative identity disorder
4. Lunch and Learn – Impacts of gambling on women.
5. Savera – Honour based violence training – signs, ways to respond and signpost
6. Currently started my accreditation process for the BACP.
7. Safeguarding Training refresher – LSCP
8. Managerial and Clinical Supervision – Monthly to ensure my knowledge is current and in line with the current legal legislations
9. Group Supervision – RASA – Helen Millar ran the group Supervision.
10. Weekly Team Meetings

I feel like I owe my life to RASA. I didn't think I could be fixed - I thought I'd always be broken. I'll be forever grateful.

Support given has been outstanding never imagined I would get this support and it has made it has made such a positive impact on my health. Can now see a brighter future.

Multi-agency networking events attended.

- CAMHS – Referrals: -
- EDY's – eating disorder department – 2 referrals with April 2021 – April 2022
- Crisis support - high risk clients requiring stabilisation before they can engage in therapeutic work at RASA
- Mental Health – Psychological assessment for 1 client
- CIN Meetings – various
- Referrals follow up meetings – casework – appropriate information sharing as per work done, risk, and expanding on concerns or referral details where necessary.
- MARF – referrals compiled over the year.

I just so much better than when I first started this. I felt I would never come out of the dark hole of depression.

Schools/education: Many clients request me to contact their place of education to help support their learning. This is a regular occurrence and schools seems to respond well Clients feel unheard 'bad behaviour' when they may be dealing with staying present, hyperarousal, severe anxiety, disassociation, lack of sleep etc

Things that have gone well

- *CRIS and Young Person assessment forms: -*
- *Clients who have had a minimum of 3 sessions scores have all dropped a minimum of 50%*
- *Clients have disclosed passing driving tests, mock exams, able to sit their exam's (which they could not do before) engaged with others socially rather than still isolating away.*
- *Clients are gaining great benefit from complimentary therapies I am able to offer such as;*

EMDR, Rewind Therapy, Hypnotherapy. These help to reduce such symptoms as Anxiety, Depression, Flashbacks, Nightmares.

ISVA was always there when I needed her and gave me supported when I needed.

CBT – I have used this with several clients to help them return to school or re-engage with the education system.

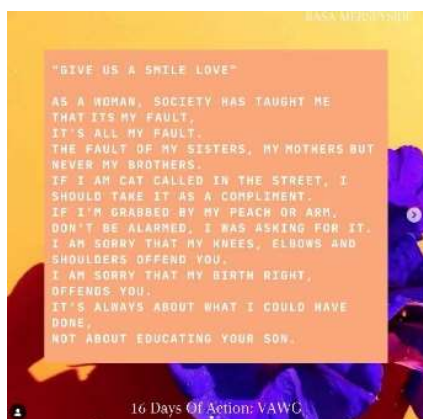
Psychoeducation = there is a pattern I have identified from working with clients of all ages that once they understand the impacts of trauma and sexual abuse for example: -

- *Ways they responded – Fight, Flight, flop, freeze, friend*
- *Anger*
- *Suicidal thoughts*
- *Flashbacks / nightmares*
- *Depression*
- *Anxiety*

They feel less 'odd' or 'something wrong with me' their symptoms reduce and their view to therapy can sometimes then become more appealing. They now understand trauma, negative experiences, and relationships and how that has affected their health and well-being. All of this helps to reduce the shame and guilt they feel and carry every day.

Vanessa Mount Children's Case Worker

In January 2022 we welcomed 231 new clients into RASA services. At the end of January 2022 waiting lists were as follows Adults 930 Children 72



February 2021 was spent doing a lot of tweaking of forms, of policies and procedures, ready for the new year. Budgets were written and approved, salaries were agreed, hours were shared between the teams and we were almost ready to start another year of service.

We were about to welcome 2 student nurses into the team to shadow some of the ISVA work in the hopes that they will gain a greater understanding of the work they do.

Job Title: ISVA

Summary of day to day role: **Independent Sexual Violence Advisor for Sefton Area/Assessment Lead. Supporting clients through the criminal justice system who have reported or wish to report to the police. Practical and emotional support.**

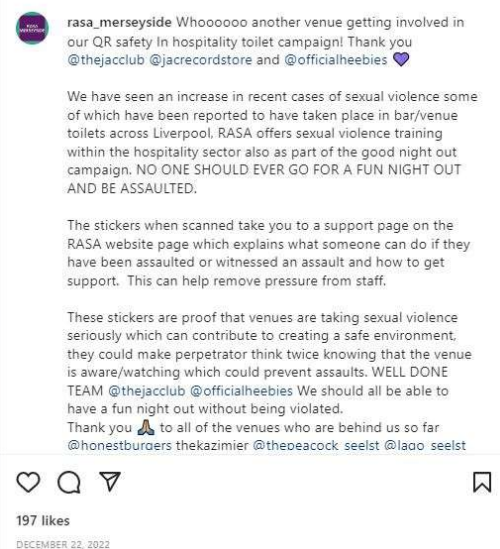
The impact of the pandemic upon the criminal justice process has been pervasive and caused a huge detrimental impact to those of my clients who have had their trials postponed over the past year. Supporting them to manage the impact of this has added another layer to the regular support that they receive.

It has also meant that the timeframes in which they would have been expected to have come to the end of their ISVA support have consequently been extended, therefore increasing the workload. The unknown that exists still, relating to the rescheduled trial dates, carries some further anxious anticipation for my clients and exacerbates the uncertainty that is already a factor when it comes to crown court in under normal circumstances. Due to the amount of trials either booked or rescheduled, I have been in court several times over the past couple of months.

I am thoroughly enjoying being back in the enjoyable and supportive environment with my colleagues for half of my working week. The environment feels refreshed and reinvigorated and the new staff members have fitted in really well and are wonderful new additions to our organisation . I continue to take things in my stride given the impact of the past year and realise that my mental health and well being has never been so important to look after.

Olivia Lewis – Sefton ISVA

In February 21 we welcomed 243 new clients into RASA services. At month end, waiting lists were as follows Adults 971 Children 90





rasa_merseyside Vanessa tied her ribbon under Southport Pier, part of the beach which is dark at night. When we think of beaches or piers, we should think about having fun with family and friends, days out creating memories. NOT HAVING TO LOOK OVER YOUR SHOULDER. Thank you Nessa

#16daysofactivism #16days #orange #jointhemovement #revolution #politics #fuckthepatriarchy #victimblaming #sexualviolence #sexualassault #rape #stop #standup #activist #activism #change #support #liverpool #liverpoolbloggers #togetherwearestronger #liverpoolcity #inspirationalquotes #endsexualviolence #scouser #empowering #inspirationalwomen #killthebill #beaches

67 w

In March 22 we carried out our usual review of the year. While we had not made great progress in bringing down the general waiting list, we have had success in many other areas of work.

We have engaged new groups and individuals this year and we are delighted to see so many smaller groups and individuals too, raising funds to support our work. Southport KGV College has nominated us as their charity of the year and we will work with them to see how we can support that nomination.

A further college has asked for similar engagement and we await their requirements.

The dedication of a counsellor to support refugees and asylum seekers has meant that there is no longer a waiting list for this very vulnerable group of people and their, often very urgent, needs can be met quickly after initial contact is established.

The Community Safety Marshall Project in Liverpool is being piloted across the busy Easter weekend ahead and we hope it will mean added security for those out celebrating with their friends. Often a trained pair of eyes watching out for perpetrator behaviour is all that is needed to prevent a possible assault. We are proud to be part of such an initiative.

The Listening Ear Project is running well and offering additional support to those waiting for counselling or ISVA services.



So many supporters have held fundraising event this year. We have hosted a street event. We have run campaigns, we have held day events, we have supported others in their running of events for our benefit.

We have supported those seeking to learn more about what to do better to help their own roles and responsibilities – and all in addition to our core work of supporting survivors of sexual violence.



Our Education Centre (RASA Education Limited) has grown alongside us with more courses being offered than in previous years. We have trained from Level 2 – Level 4 in Counselling and to Level 5 in specialist areas of work like Adult and Children’s Trauma.

And the counsellors trained through our training centre have come back to us as volunteers, even though many have moved into amazing roles elsewhere. Our courses have proved popular and we have needed to add more sessions to try and keep up with that demand.

RASA EDUCATION

Level 2 Counselling Concepts

Level 2 Award in Counselling Concepts
For Learners who are interested in counselling training and what it entails, the Level 2 Award in Counselling Concepts is a practical introduction. This taster course will encourage Learners to develop their communication skills and gain a comprehensive and full understanding of the following.....



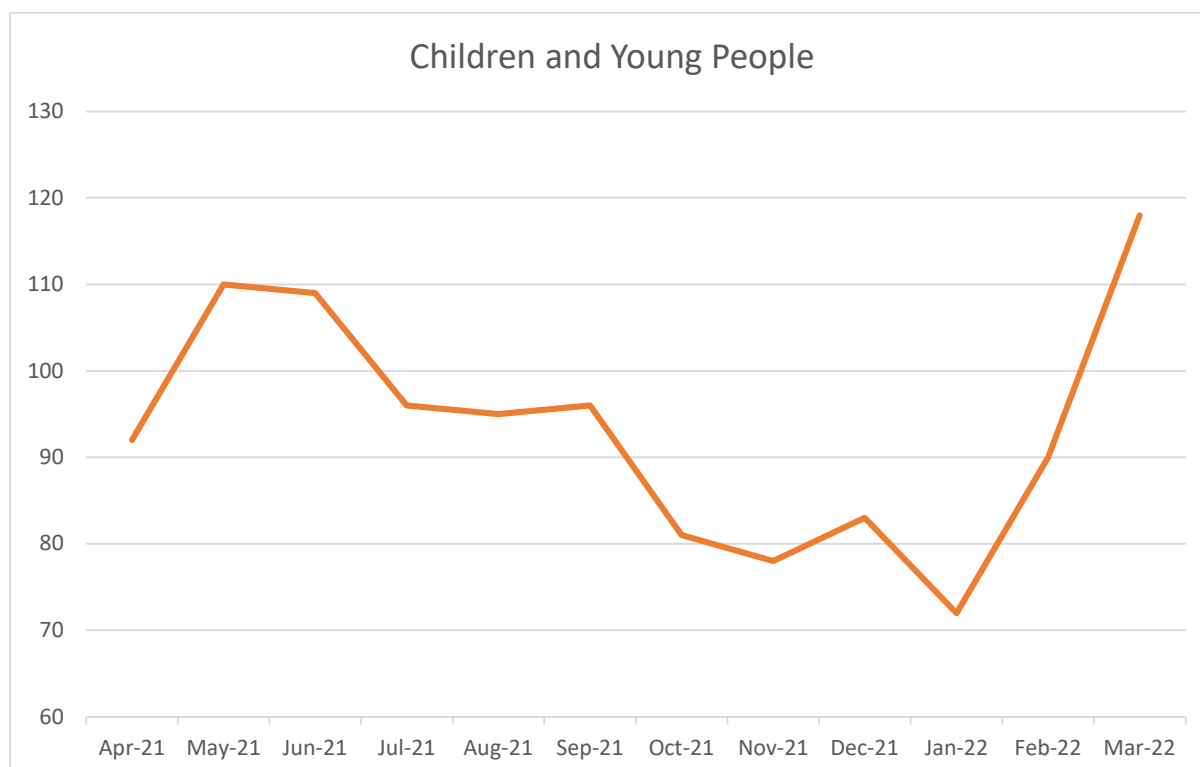
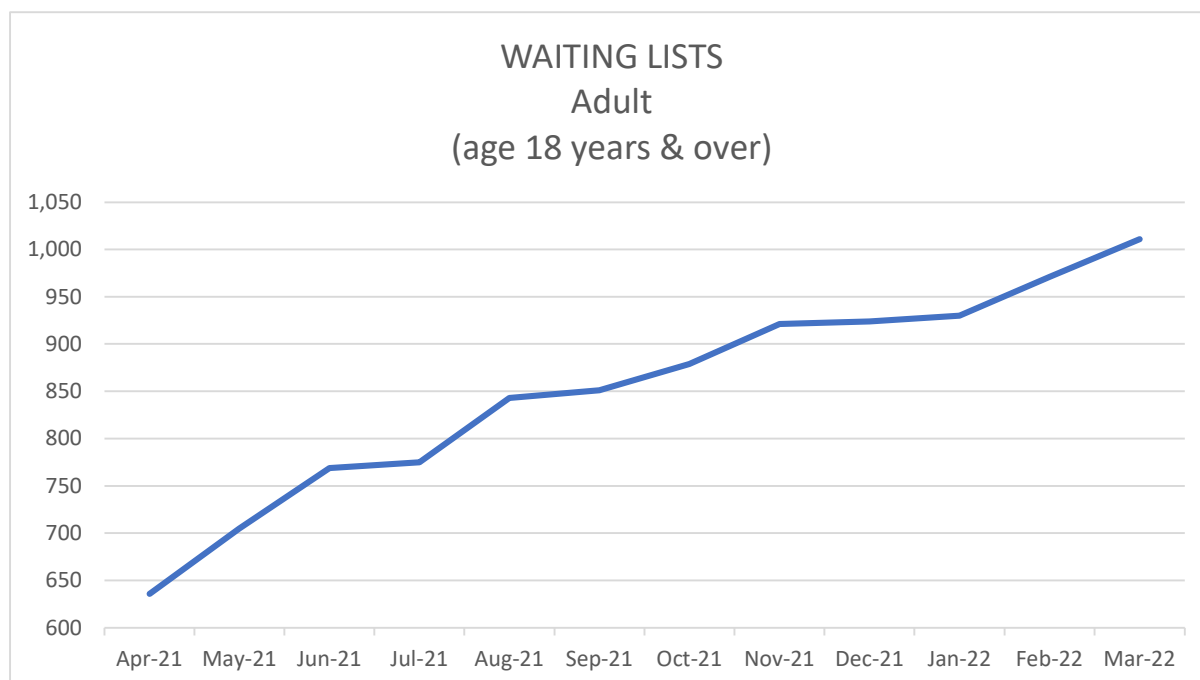

RASA EDUCATION

Level 2 Counselling Concepts

- The professional context of counselling
- Communication skills in helping relationships
- An introduction to personal development

Learners will complete a written piece of work for each of the above and will also be expected to participate in a 15 minute listening session observed by the tutor.





And so we end the year with waiting lists higher than ever before Adults 1,011 Children 118.

We have delivered 28.63% more activities than last year.

We have delivered 28.28% more minutes of client facing time.

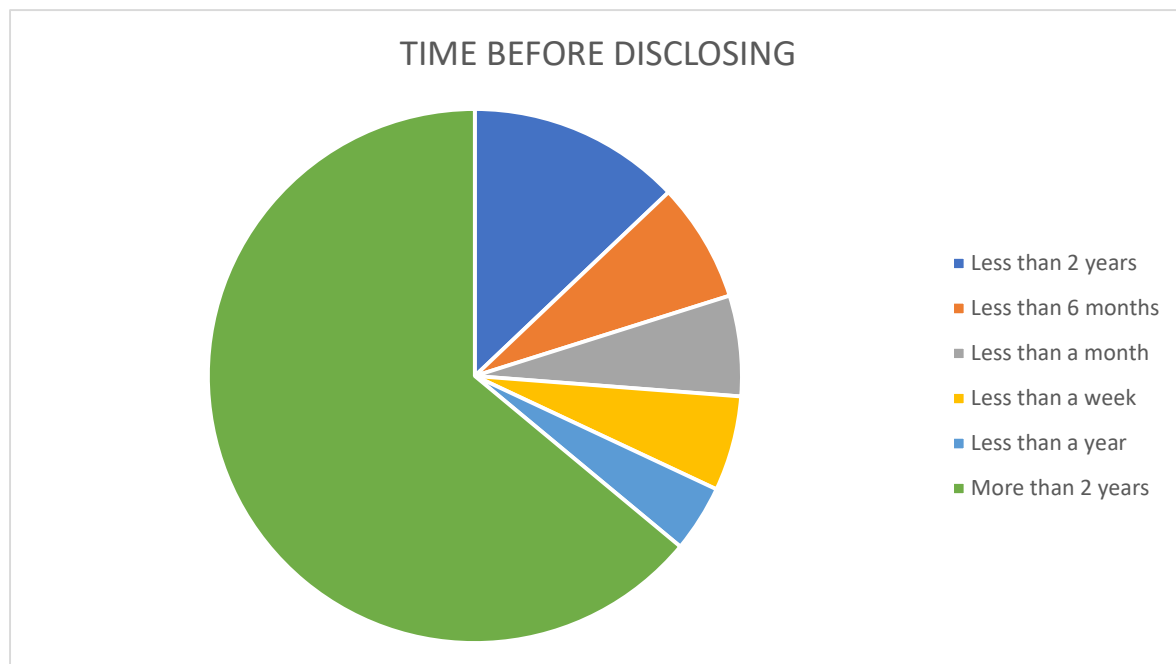
ISVA cases are up by 76.06%.

49.34% more clients stated rape as their main presenting issue.

We welcomed 37.48% more new clients than the year before.

Were we an industry or a retailer, we would be celebrating such an increase in “turnover” – but we are neither. We are a charity supporting survivors of sexual violence and every increased figure represents one more victim of some of the most heinous crimes known.

Do the increased figures mean more sexual crimes are being committed – or does it mean that more people feel confident to report what has happened to them and seek help?



63.97% clients counted in this report had waited more than 2 years to report the crime against them.

It would seem that the majority of new clients felt comfortable to come forward and report the crime against them, because they felt confident to do so. This means we are “doing good” and our partnerships are working.

We have reached a situation in which people who have been sexually violated feel confident to come to us for support. What we have not yet reached is a situation where we have the capacity to manage the volume of cases coming to us for that support, as effectively and quickly as we would like and as they deserve..

We are constrained by space and funds, and we are reviewing all our practices to try and get to a situation in which survivors feel confident and supported the minute they need us.

We are looking at, and experimenting with, many different ways of offering counselling and support – and at interim support for those awaiting a dedicated counsellor.

We have diversified ways in which people can engage and have run several hugely successful programmes of virtual support using platforms such as zoom.

And this has reduced for many the amount of time they have needed to wait to get help.

But it doesn't work for everyone and many still need that one to one, face to face, engagement in a safe and private setting, to enable them to get the most from their counselling.

Sadly we were unable to take on board the huge centre conversion in Birkenhead.

We simply could not afford the conversion costs and were unable to find grant funders to help.

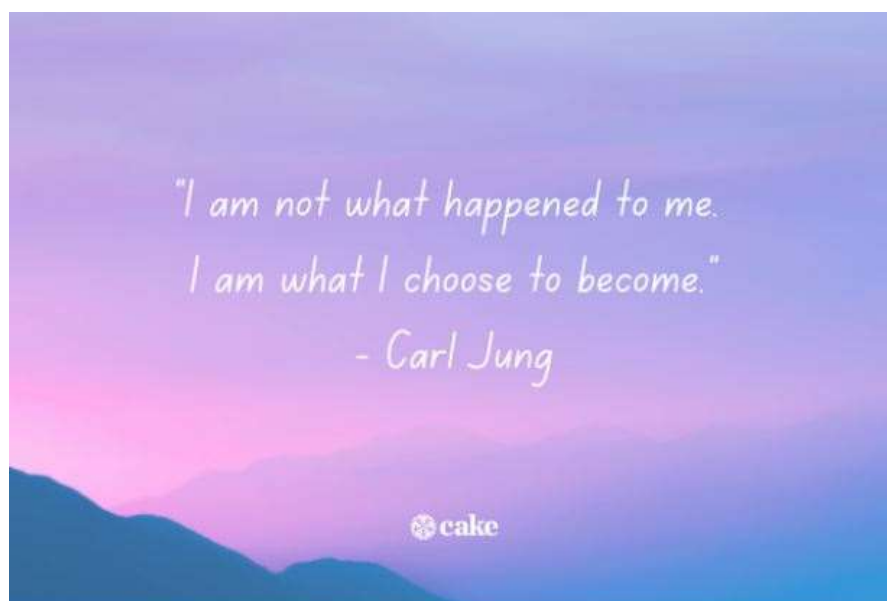
The building is still empty and if such funding does become available we will be back to the drawing board with our designs and needs.

Until then, we will keep listening, keep developing, keep producing new ideas and plans to best support our clients.

And who knows what 2022-23 has in store for us all?

One thing is for certain – we will still be here – and we will still be offering high quality, informed, advised, qualified and experienced counsellors and advocates for survivors of all forms of sexual violence.

It's just what we do!



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1 year

52 weeks

2,828 (2,057) new clients

643 (479) sexually abused children

1,213 (1,000) clients from previous year

3,342 (2,585) females – 590 (441) males – 65 (31) others

61,221 (47,595) activities – 1,139,486 (888,261) minutes logged with clients

981 (798) Wirral clients – 2,060 (1,538) Liverpool clients – 956 (721) Sefton clients

2,949 (2,480) counselling clients – 993 (564) ISVA clients – 55 (13) other activities clients

940 (680) multiple sexual violence incidents – 309 (267) affected relatives and friends

905 (606) rapes as a primary cause for presenting – 36 (28) sexually exploited adults

1,094 (987) adult survivors of child sexual abuse

1,120 (2,578) sexually violated adults

16 (10) domestic violence victims

52 weeks

1 year

Rape Crisis National Helpline

0808 802 9999

The National Helpline offers confidential emotional support, information and referral details.

Open between 12pm-2.30pm and 7pm-9.30pm every day of the year.

RASA | Sexual
Merseyside Violence
Services



NATIONAL SERVICE STANDARD
Rape Crisis Professionally Approved

Rape Crisis England & Wales
Live Chat Helpline

Donate

Phone Numbers

Liverpool / Sefton - 0151 558 1801
Birkenhead - 0151 650 0155

[Privacy Policy](#)
[Impact statement](#)












REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04538556 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1094462

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022
for
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

After ending last year on a high - as in high rates of referrals and high waiting lists, our aim this year has been to reduce these waiting times and lists as far as possible and to better support those desperately waiting for the support they so desperately need.

As expected, following our localised Christmas lockdown, referrals in QTR 1 21-22 were far beyond anything we had ever experienced before. In the previous 6 years, we had welcomed an average of 562 new cases in QTR 1, in this year we welcomed 830 with the biggest increase by far being cases of non-recent child sexual abuse.

This area of referral was consistently raised throughout the breaks in lockdown and it seems that people had engaged in periods of contemplation during that time and had made the decision to speak out. This was good to hear and see. It is sadly also true that recent rape figures also rose in this period - but we were back in the centres ready to hold face to face sessions as soon as we were permitted.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The full Trustee's Report is filed separately at Charities Commission.

Central to RASA's purpose is the principle of providing a safe, confidential place for survivors of sexual violence to be listened to, believed, and supported, with no pressure put on them. This work encompasses a helpline and email contact service, face-to-face counselling and emotional support, facilitated support groups, advocacy for those dealing with the criminal justice system (ISVA), training for survivors and for the public, family support, mindfulness and meditation, complimentary therapies, and signposting to other services.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are

1. To provide a free, confidential and non-judgemental support service for women and girls who have been victims of sexual violence in Merseyside (under the trading name RASA).
2. To raise public awareness of the damaging and life-changing effects of rape and sexual abuse.

In order to fulfil these aims, the objectives of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are:

- * To provide a service for women and girls, which includes telephone, one-to-one and group support, in women only space at designated times and at the request of the woman or girl.
- * To provide a telephone support service for supporters of survivors, both male and female.
- * To provide information and advice to other individuals and agencies to provide training and talks to external agencies in the local community to recruit volunteers.
- * To provide adequate training, support and supervision for staff and volunteers.
- * To monitor and evaluate service provision and policies on a continual basis involving staff, volunteers and women who use the service.
- * To work with other individuals and agencies to further the aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre to raise funds to meet the needs of the service to identify areas of unmet need and take appropriate action.
- * To provide parity of service for male survivors of sexual violence, noting that such support and counselling will not encroach on the women only space of the RASA Safe House or any of the centres where RASA works in a face to face capacity with victims of sexual violence.

RASA does not employ male staff or volunteers as we are keenly aware that the vast proportion of sexual violence is perpetrated by men against women and it would therefore be inappropriate for male workers to be evident in a professional sexual violence counselling and support service

Working from a feminist perspective: What it means for RASA

Since it was established in Birkenhead in 1986, RASA Merseyside has always had a feminist ethos, and has aimed to support survivors of sexual violence from a feminist perspective.

People have different understandings of the term 'feminism', and the social and political movements that have been called 'feminist' are diverse, sometimes taking opposing positions on particular issues.

At RASA, we embrace diverse understandings and views, while ensuring that all RASA staff and volunteers share a common set of values on sexual violence through our recruitment and training practices.

Our ethos has been shaped by our experience of working with survivors of sexual violence, and by the lived experience of the women who have volunteered and worked for RASA, over the last 33 years.

This has led to an outward-looking approach, allowing us to respond to the needs of the community we are part of. Over the years, we have moved from being a collective of women offering peer support to other women in their community via a phone line, to the professional organisation we are today, offering counselling and ISVA services to women, children and men across Merseyside.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

While much has changed in the way we work, and the number of survivors we are able to help has grown, our core ethos has changed little.

We continue to describe our ethos as feminist for the following reasons:

- * Gender inequality, specifically discrimination against and oppression of women and girls, persists in our society and around the world.
- * While gender inequality has many consequences and effects, sexual violence is among the most severe and pervasive worldwide. This is evidenced by the fact that the vast majority of incidents of sexual violence are perpetrated by a man against a woman or girl.
- * Sexual violence is a means of exerting power and control over victims, and a means of diminishing the victim's own power and control over their own life. On a societal level, it is a means of enforcing patriarchal power and control through violence against individuals, and through the fear of violence.
- * Without recognising the gendered nature of sexual violence with individual survivors and as an organisation, we cannot help survivors to recover from trauma, or find long-term strategies to address sexual violence in our community.
- * Patriarchal violence, perpetrated by overwhelmingly by men, affects men and boys, and transgendered/non-binary people, as well as women and girls. Understanding the common pattern of sexual violence as a means of power and control and recognising the specific ways people of different genders are affected, is entirely compatible with a feminist approach to supporting survivors of sexual violence.
- * Maintaining a women-only workforce and providing women-only spaces remains crucial to our ability to support all survivors effectively. The survivors who come to us tell us this consistently.

Our Ethos

- * RASA Merseyside is a women-led, women-run service founded on feminist principles. We believe that by working in an all-women environment, we challenge structures that discriminate against women, providing the opportunity to empower ourselves and claim control of our own lives.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are crimes of violence and abuse of power, not 'unwanted sex'.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are never the fault of the survivor, and we work with all survivors towards this understanding of what happened to them.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are gendered crimes - the majority of victims are women and children, and the majority of perpetrators are men. Sexual violence is both an expression of, and a means of enforcing and increasing, discrimination against women and gender inequality.
- * Because women and girls live with sexism, the degradation of the female body and the threat of sexual violence in society at large, we create and maintain women-only spaces to offer relief and safety for survivors, and for the women who work at RASA. We know that this benefits survivors and helps them to heal.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- * When children have experienced sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, they require specialist support. We strive to develop ways of working that help children recover from this trauma, and live happy and healthy lives. We reach out to families, schools and the wider community to raise awareness and help prevent the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and young people.
- * We know that transgender people are at increased risk of sexual violence and abuse, as well as transphobic violence. We aim to welcome all trans and non-binary gender survivors in a safe space for them, and work with other organisations locally to ensure they get the specialist support they need.
- * We work with men and boys to the same feminist principles, recognizing the different ways that sexual violence affects them, and offering men-only support groups for survivors facilitated by a RASA worker. At RASA we see all sexual violence as a cause and a consequence of the patriarchal societal structure we live in, acknowledging that almost all men and boys who experience sexual violence are abused by a man. As such, we believe a service working to feminist principles is well placed to help male survivors of sexual violence.
- * Recognising the oppression that many groups experience in today's society, we aim to work in a non-oppressive, anti-discriminatory way with people of any race, class, culture, immigration status, nationality, faith, sexuality, gender identity, age, disability, or health status. We work towards making our service accessible and available to all, and actively seek to make links with the diverse communities in Merseyside.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

In November 21 RASA was heavily engaged in running events for the 16 days of action to eliminate violence against women and girls. This year, in response to public consultation about feeling unsafe, RASA created a series of videos of women reclaiming spaces deemed unsafe. We reclaimed our public spaces, leaving an orange ribbon and a campaign tag.

The survey demonstrated that women and girls often do not feel safe in public spaces, for example public transport, restaurant/bars and particularly in toilets, parks and walking at night.

Videos were shared on our social media pages and members of the public were encouraged to take part and reclaim their own public spaces. Videos were collected and edited and one long video was uploaded to RASA social media. This was a huge success that was embraced by many women.

As part of the campaign, RASA also ran the following activities:

Parents Protect Training -

Child sexual abuse happens in secret and most victims do not tell. The abuser is usually a family friend, neighbour, a member of the child's family or someone working with children: he or she may be someone we know and love. This training provided the information needed to recognise the warning signs of abuse in both adults and children and to build the confidence in accessing support / reporting.

Mindfulness Body Scan - Spending time resting awareness on each part of our body, offering gratitude and affection. The body scan is one of the most effective ways to begin a mindfulness meditation practice. The purpose is to tune in to your body-to reconnect to your physical self-and notice any sensations you're feeling without judgement. Paying homage to empowering our bodies as Women to end violence against Women and Girls.

Responding to disclosures training - This is a 3hour training session suitable for professionals who would like to gain more knowledge with regards to the impact of Sexual Violence and how to respond to disclosures, this session covered the following:

- * What is Sexual Violence
- * Impact of Sexual Violence
- * Responding to Disclosure
- * Window of Tolerance

RASA Power Project Worker visited local schools to capture the voice of young people on the subject of ending violence against women and girls facilitating a display based on these discussions.

Volunteers

RASA retains volunteers very effectively, because RASA is a great place to work but it is also due largely, we believe, to the support and development opportunities afforded within the organisation.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities

We continued to work throughout this year, despite the challenges and have remained open since the national lockdown was lifted. In July 2020 a full risk assessment was completed in both centres which led to huge changes in how we work. Screens were installed, people allocated to individual offices and working patterns changed. New contracts and agreements were put into place for clients who could no longer wait for face-to-face support.

Because of all the changes that we have instigated and put in place, we have remained open through the second and third lockdown which is something that many other organisations were unable to do.

Following the initial success of our Reducing Anxiety Depression and Stress (RADS) courses, we gained funding to train all of our qualified counsellors in hypnotherapy. A total of twenty-two counsellors have received this training which has led to clinical hypnotherapy becoming a core part of our counselling service used to install stabilisation and reduce anxiety, stress, and depression.

Fundraising activities

During the year Covid didn't stop our supporters from raising lots of funds and awareness of our services. We were thrilled that so many organisations got involved in fund raising for RASA in December 21.

So many supporters have held fundraising event this year. We have hosted a street event. We have run campaigns, we have held day events, we have supported others in their running of events for our benefit.

Big thank you to everyone.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Internal and external factors

An interesting outcome of the covid period was the realisation that for some - remote working was actually preferable and easier to access and stay engaged. With client numbers so high, this was a huge bonus and we continue to run many long-term counselling programmes remotely, avoiding long waits and disappointing outcomes for those who waited.

In April 2021 we marked the 20th anniversary of SAAM - Sexual Violence Awareness Month. "Even before its official declaration, SAAM was about both awareness and prevention of sexual assault, harassment, and abuse. From the civil rights movement to the founding of the first rape crisis centres to national legislation and beyond, the roots of SAAM run deep". We celebrated with our neighbours @rasasc_cm, raising awareness of consent, harassment and stalking and staying safe online.

We updated our social media daily, raising awareness of what defines sexual assault, what to do if someone discloses sexual violence to you, and discussing online sexual abuse and victim blaming.

The entire month was filled with ways to support yourself as a victim, friends who may be, or who may become, victims and provided advice and support for the general public and for friends and supporters of survivors of abuse.

One of the most engaged modules was the discussion around consent which was shared multiple times and resulted in a surge in self-referrals.

We were busily delivering training on being a supportive bystander, to tram drivers in Manchester and the waiting list in Birkenhead was 10 months long.

In other news - we resubmitted our BACP accreditation documentation. It had taken considerable time to update all our policies and procedures with the challenges of the previous 12 months, but we were finally ready to go for it.

Financial review

Financial position

At the end of this year RASA holds in the region of £127,000, which is sufficient to pay necessary redundancy and to enable key members of staff to wind down the Charity and to dissolve and disperse assets and clients as appropriate.

RASA has in place a comprehensive Financial Procedure (updated and reviewed in January 2020. It is available upon request.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Principal funding sources

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for three years (April 2018 to April 2021) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs. The service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs.

RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

2828 new clients were welcomed into RASA service in this year - 1213 client cases were carried forward from the previous year - 4041 unique individuals in total were therefore seen in service in the year.

With the onset of Covid-19 in March 2020, a decision was made to extend, without re-tendering, this contract, for an additional 12 months to 31-03-2022.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR FEMALE RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the female Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for females over the age of 13. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to all female survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

With the onset of Covid-19 in March 2020, a decision was made to extend this grant fund, for an additional 12 months to 31-03-2022.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR MALE RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the male Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for males over the age of 13. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to all male survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

With the onset of Covid-19 in March 2020, a decision was made to extend this grant fund, for an additional 12 months to 31-03-2022.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE CSE FUNDING UPLIFT

As recipients of the Rape Support Fund, RASA was pleased to accept an uplift in funding to enable us to meet the challenges of increasing numbers of adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Exploitation as a result of high-profile national media and the promotion of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

This allows us to provide additional support to adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Rape.

With the onset of Covid-19 in March 2020, a decision was made to extend this grant fund, for an additional 12 months to 31-03-2022.

WIRRAL BOROUGH COUNCIL PUBLIC HEALTH

RASA is additionally commissioned to deliver counselling and support to adult victims of sexual violence living in Wirral. This commission was achieved in 2017 and runs from April 2017- March 2022.

CHILDREN IN NEED

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

RASA is funded through Children in Need to deliver a Children's Sexual Violence Support Service. This is newly achieved funding and will build on the previous Children in Need funding that saw a Children's Service fully established for the boroughs of Sefton, Liverpool and Wirral. The service has been able to grow to meet demand. This funding commenced on 01-10-2019 and ended on 30-09-2021.

PROCEEDS OF CRIME FUND

This project equips parents and carers with the skills and knowledge to spot the signs a child is being sexually abused or is in danger of such and will be able to effectively encourage disclosure and act on that disclosure to support the child safely and in their best interests. In addition, the training aims to STOP abuse before it starts by equipping adults with the skills to recognise early warnings and empowering them to act effectively and promptly to protect the child from harm. This is a twelve-month funding opportunity. This funding was awarded in late 2018 and was cleared in this year.

NHS ENGLAND HIGH VOLUME FUNDING

In 2021-22 RASA received funding through NHS England to better manage the increased need for counselling and to reduce waiting times.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR MERSEYSIDE

In December 2019, RASA was awarded funding to run an interim support service for clients awaiting counselling and support. The RADS (Reducing Anxiety, Depression and Stress) service uses clinical hypnotherapy in a group setting with the effect of stabilising survivors and holding them engaged in the recovery process. Expenditure on this was delayed due to Covid and was finally expended in full in this year.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the sole aim of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum. In this year the training contributed 8% of RASA Income.

SPORT ENGLAND

RASA was awarded funding in 2020-21 to run yoga courses for survivors of sexual violence. This was adapted due to the pandemic and adjusted to become an on line programme delivered through Teachable.

Reserves policy

RASA aims to build a reserve fund to cover 3 months running costs of the Charity. Currently such a reserve would be in the region of £250,000. As RASA works to contract budget deadlines, it is unlikely that RASA will achieve full reserve cover without substantial unrestricted donations being received as all available funding is being used to maintain and develop services for clients.

At 31st March 2022 the total funds held are £191,132 made up of Restricted Funds of £29,504 and Unrestricted Funds of £161,628.

Included in unrestricted funds is the balance of the property owned by the property held at a value of £17,430
The total reserves not including the property is £173,702.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the 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.

Principal risks and uncertainties

During the Covid-19 pandemic, RASA were able to adapt in a responsive and flexible way to accommodate remote working to ensure staff and clients were kept safe. Existing clients were provided with the option of continuing with their sessions remotely or waiting until face-to-face support could resume. New clients started their sessions remotely either online or over the telephone. RASA checked in with clients on a weekly basis by email and text. This support was described as invaluable during what was already a difficult time for clients, which was then exasperated by the impacts of the pandemic, including isolation and limited support networks associated with the national lockdown measures. Whilst many clients were keen to have face-to-face contact, they did find remote support more accessible, reducing travel and allowing them to attend during work hours. RASA were keen to continue to provide a blended offer going forward, giving the clients the option and choice of remote or face-to-face engagement, or a mixture of the two

STRATEGIC REPORT

Future plans

And so we end the year with waiting lists higher than ever before Adults 1,011 Children 118.

We have delivered 28.63% more activities than last year.

We have delivered 28.28% more minutes of client facing time.

ISVA cases are up by 76.06%.

49.34% more clients stated rape as their main presenting issue.

We welcomed 37.48% more new clients than the year before.

Were we an industry or a retailer, we would be celebrating such an increase in "turnover" - but we are neither. We are a charity supporting survivors of sexual violence and every increased figure represents one more victim of some of the most heinous crimes known.

Do the increased figures mean more sexual crimes are being committed - or does it mean that more people feel confident to report what has happened to them and seek help?

63.97% clients counted in this report had waited more than 2 years to report the crime against them.

It would seem that the majority of new clients felt comfortable to come forward and report the crime against them, because they felt confident to do so. This means we are "doing good" and our partnerships are working.

We have reached a situation in which people who have been sexually violated feel confident to come to us for support. What we have not yet reached is a situation where we have the capacity to manage the volume of cases coming to us for that support, as effectively and quickly as we would like and as they deserve..

We are constrained by space and funds, and we are reviewing all our practices to try and get to a situation in which survivors feel confident and supported the minute they need us.

We are looking at, and experimenting with, many different ways of offering counselling and support - and at interim support for those awaiting a dedicated counsellor.

We have diversified ways in which people can engage and have run several hugely successful programmes of virtual support using platforms such as zoom.

And this has reduced for many the amount of time they have needed to wait to get help.

But it doesn't work for everyone and many still need that one to one, face to face, engagement in a safe and private setting, to enable them to get the most from their counselling.

Sadly we were unable to take on board the huge centre conversion in Birkenhead.

We simply could not afford the conversion costs and were unable to find grant funders to help.

The building is still empty and if such funding does become available we will be back to the drawing board with our designs and needs.

Until then, we will keep listening, keep developing, keep producing new ideas and plans to best support our clients.

And who knows what 2022-23 has in store for us all?

One thing is for certain - we will still be here - and we will still be offering high quality, informed, advised, qualified and experienced counsellors and advocates for survivors of all forms of sexual violence.

It's just what we do!

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

RASA is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England / Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 9 of these financial statements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

RASA welcomes individuals who wish to be considered as a potential trustee.

Prospective trustees are recommended, self-refer or respond to advertisements on volunteer websites.

Prospective trustees progress through to appointment via the safer recruitment process under which they are interviewed by two senior staff members and/or an existing trustee.

As an accredited member of Rape Crisis England and Wales, RASA must ensure that the trustee board remains women lead. Men are welcome to apply to be trustees but will be unable to take key board positions.

Following safer recruitment process completion, prospective candidates are forwarded for election at the next AGM. At this point they must present a short biography to allow members to decide who they wish to elect. Existing elected trustees may also decide to recommend individuals to be co-opted onto the Board of Trustees. This must be carried out in line with the RASA Constitution.

Decision making

Day to day decisions are made by the operational management team consisting of Josephine Wood, Vicky Green and Lorraine Wood.

Induction and training of new trustees

Individuals must then successfully complete the RASA training for non-client focused staff. This process is carefully monitored by Education Centre staff for suitability to work with RASA.

Key management remuneration

Trustees have set the remuneration for key management.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04538556 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1094462

Registered office

15 Morpeth Close
Moreton
Wirral
CH46 6HQ

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Trustees

L Pilling (resigned 18.12.22)
P Smith
D Blaylock (resigned 18.12.22)
J Smith (resigned 12.9.22)
M Wilson (appointed 2.12.22)
J Harris (appointed 18.12.22)
J Murphy (appointed 18.12.22)
A Raz (appointed 18.12.22)
S Gunter (appointed 18.12.22)
S Blower (appointed 18.12.22)

Company Secretary

J Wood

Senior Statutory Auditor

Beverley Rice

Auditors

ICAEW
Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Limited 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) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"

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.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

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, Robinson Rice Associates, 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 31 March 2023 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Sandra Blower

S Blower - Trustee

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; 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:

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation

Our audit response is based on:

- Enquiry of management, those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Enquiry of Trustees of any issues arising
- Enquiry of entity staff in tax and compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.

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.

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
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Rice', with a stylized flourish above the name.

Beverley Rice (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

31 March 2023

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	23,085	-	23,085	8,240
Charitable activities	4				
Provision of services		20,000	1,097,818	1,117,818	1,020,602
Other trading activities	3	-	-	-	645
Total		43,085	1,097,818	1,140,903	1,029,487
 EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	-	4,803	4,803	4,124
Charitable activities	6				
Provision of services		33,820	1,111,974	1,145,794	949,735
Total		33,820	1,116,777	1,150,597	953,859
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		9,265	(18,959)	(9,694)	75,628
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		146,363	48,464	194,827	119,199
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		155,628	29,505	185,133	194,827

The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Balance Sheet
31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	2,131	26,997	29,128	33,785
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	15	12,917	92,070	104,987	113,850
Cash at bank and in hand		169,473	(42,676)	126,797	82,364
		<u>182,390</u>	<u>49,394</u>	<u>231,784</u>	<u>196,214</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(28,892)	(46,887)	(75,779)	(35,172)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>153,498</u>	<u>2,507</u>	<u>156,005</u>	<u>161,042</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>155,629</u>	<u>29,504</u>	<u>185,133</u>	<u>194,827</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>155,629</u>	<u>29,504</u>	<u>185,133</u>	<u>194,827</u>
FUNDS	17				
Unrestricted funds				155,629	146,363
Restricted funds				<u>29,504</u>	<u>48,464</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>185,133</u>	<u>194,827</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 31 March 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Sandra Blower

S Blower - Trustee

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	46,877	40,157
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>46,877</u>	<u>40,157</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,444)	(12,197)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		-	1
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(2,444)</u>	<u>(12,196)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>44,433</u>	<u>27,961</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>82,364</u>	<u>54,403</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>126,797</u></u>	<u><u>82,364</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(9,694)	75,628
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	7,101	6,696
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	2,414
Decrease in stocks	-	8,000
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	8,863	(63,475)
Increase in creditors	40,607	10,894
Net cash provided by operations	<u>46,877</u>	<u>40,157</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.21 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.22 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	82,364	44,433	126,797
	<u>82,364</u>	<u>44,433</u>	<u>126,797</u>
Total	<u>82,364</u>	<u>44,433</u>	<u>126,797</u>

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.

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.

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.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

All splits are based on the numbers of clients served by the particular costs - or in the case of supervision - actual costs itemised in invoices. In the case of funds to be split across boroughs, funds are split in accordance with population of the borough in question (%).

Tangible fixed assets

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

Freehold property	- in accordance with the property
Improvements to property	- 33% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

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.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

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.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Donations	23,085	8,240
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Training courses	-	595
Room hire	-	50
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	-	645
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Commissioned work	Activity Provision of services	783,473	-
Grants	Provision of services	334,345	1,020,602
		<u>1,117,818</u>	<u>1,020,602</u>

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

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Grant Income	<u>334,345</u>	<u>1,020,602</u>

5. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Opening stock	-	8,000
Purchases	-	(8,000)
Hire of plant and machinery	4,803	4,124
	<u>4,803</u>	<u>4,124</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>1,137,465</u>	<u>8,329</u>	<u>1,145,794</u>

7. GRANTS PAYABLE

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Provision of services	<u>-</u>	<u>13,130</u>

In the year ended 31st March 2021 a grant was given to the organisation End Violence Against Women for the collected funds to hold CPS to account for their appalling failure to progress cases on a merits based approach.
<https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/justice-after-rape/>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Provision of services	88	8,241	8,329
	<u>88</u>	<u>8,241</u>	<u>8,329</u>

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	7,101	6,703
Hire of plant and machinery	4,803	4,124
Deficit on disposal of fixed assets	-	2,414
	<u>11,904</u>	<u>13,241</u>

10. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors and their associates for the audit of the charity's financial statements	6,000	6,500
	<u>6,000</u>	<u>6,500</u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

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

12. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Wages and salaries	811,979	605,247
	<u>811,979</u>	<u>605,247</u>

Salary costs include amounts paid to subcontracted workers.

They also include:

Employers National Insurance £56,060
Employer Pension Contributions £11,685

12. STAFF COSTS - continued

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

	31.3.22	31.3.21
Management	8	8
Counsellors and support workers	25	19
	<u>33</u>	<u>27</u>

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

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	8,238	2	8,240
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	85,780	934,822	1,020,602
Other trading activities	645	-	645
Total	<u>94,663</u>	<u>934,824</u>	<u>1,029,487</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	-	4,124	4,124
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	7,676	942,059	949,735
Total	<u>7,676</u>	<u>946,183</u>	<u>953,859</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	<u>86,987</u>	<u>(11,359)</u>	<u>75,628</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	59,373	59,826	119,199
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>146,360</u>	<u>48,467</u>	<u>194,827</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 April 2021	41,500	16,920	21,565	50,078	130,063
Additions	-	-	-	2,444	2,444
At 31 March 2022	41,500	16,920	21,565	52,522	132,507
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2021	23,240	16,920	18,879	37,239	96,278
Charge for year	830	-	667	5,604	7,101
At 31 March 2022	24,070	16,920	19,546	42,843	103,379
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2022	17,430	-	2,019	9,679	29,128
At 31 March 2021	18,260	-	2,686	12,839	33,785

15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	104,987	113,850

16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Other creditors	6,380	-
Accruals and deferred income	69,399	35,172
	75,779	35,172

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	143,942	11,094	-	155,036
Lime Culture for Truth Project	7,054	(1,828)	-	5,226
Education Service	(4,633)	-	-	(4,633)
	<u>146,363</u>	<u>9,266</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>155,629</u>
Restricted funds				
Justice for Jane	132	(33)	-	99
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	18,289	(852)	-	17,437
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	82	(21)	-	61
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	45	(12)	-	33
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	295	(19)	-	276
Liverpool City Safe *	73	(18)	-	55
Rape Services Funding	3,574	(1,270)	-	2,304
SARC Counselling Funding *	34	(9)	-	25
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	83	(20)	-	63
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	744	(204)	-	540
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	431	(121)	-	310
Wirral CSP	35	(8)	-	27
Jill's Fund	3,105	-	-	3,105
MOJ Male	-	1,109	-	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	403	-	-	403
OPCC Contract	321	17,919	(30,000)	(11,760)
Proceeds of Crime Fund	1,838	(1,838)	-	-
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	152	576	-	728
NHS Funding for Counselling	-	(30,000)	30,000	-
Community Foundations for RADS	7,533	(7,533)	-	-
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	4,811	(4,811)	-	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	2,543	-	2,543
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	306	(306)	-	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	6,178	(2,059)	-	4,119
Thrive Sefton Council	-	1,994	-	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	-	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling	-	1,833	-	1,833
	<u>48,464</u>	<u>(18,960)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,504</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>194,827</u>	<u>(9,694)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>185,133</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	23,085	(11,991)	11,094
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(1,828)	(1,828)
Merseycare	20,000	(20,000)	-
	43,085	(33,819)	9,266
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(33)	(33)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	(1)	(851)	(852)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	(1)	(20)	(21)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	(1)	(11)	(12)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(19)	(19)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(18)	(18)
Rape Services Funding	136,539	(137,809)	(1,270)
SARC Counselling Funding *	(1)	(8)	(9)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	1	(21)	(20)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	26,007	(26,211)	(204)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	49,920	(50,041)	(121)
Wirral CSP	1	(9)	(8)
MOJ Male	27,438	(26,329)	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	91,481	(91,481)	-
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	44,566	(44,566)	-
OPCC Contract	502,500	(484,581)	17,919
Proceeds of Crime Fund	-	(1,838)	(1,838)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	728	(152)	576
NHS Funding for Counselling	29,220	(59,220)	(30,000)
Community Foundations for RADS	-	(7,533)	(7,533)
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	(4,811)	(4,811)
Steve Morgan Foundation	10,426	(7,883)	2,543
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	-	(306)	(306)
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	(2,059)	(2,059)
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	44,121	(44,121)	-
MOJ CSA Uplift	46,423	(46,423)	-
Safer Streets	10,001	(10,001)	-
Liverpool City for Promotion	5,000	(5,000)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	2,000	(6)	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	-	1,200

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

OPCC Remote Counselling	40,000	(38,167)	1,833
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	27,250	(27,250)	-
	<u>1,097,818</u>	<u>(1,116,778)</u>	<u>(18,960)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>1,140,903</u></u>	<u><u>(1,150,597)</u></u>	<u><u>(9,694)</u></u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	52,713	91,229	143,942
Lime Culture for Truth Project	8,909	(1,855)	7,054
Education Service	(2,249)	(2,384)	(4,633)
	59,373	86,990	146,363
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	176	(44)	132
Hoylake Holistics	3,161	(3,161)	-
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	19,128	(839)	18,289
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	109	(27)	82
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	60	(15)	45
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	320	(25)	295
Liverpool City Safe *	98	(25)	73
Rape Services Funding	1,382	2,192	3,574
SARC Counselling Funding *	45	(11)	34
Liverpool *	13	(13)	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	111	(28)	83
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	1,172	(428)	744
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	578	(147)	431
Wirral CSP	47	(12)	35
Jill's Fund	13,105	(10,000)	3,105
MOJ Additional Funding	-	403	403
OPCC Contract	30	291	321
Proceeds of Crime Fund	7,099	(5,261)	1,838
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	304	(152)	152
Community Foundations for RADS	7,533	-	7,533
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	6,782	(1,971)	4,811
Steve Morgan Foundation	(1,427)	1,427	-
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	-	306	306
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	6,178	6,178
	59,826	(11,362)	48,464
TOTAL FUNDS	119,199	75,628	194,827

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	94,663	(3,434)	91,229
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(1,855)	(1,855)
Education Service	-	(2,384)	(2,384)
	94,663	(7,673)	86,990
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(44)	(44)
Hoylake Holistics	(1)	(3,160)	(3,161)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	1	(840)	(839)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(27)	(27)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(15)	(15)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(25)	(25)
Liverpool City Safe *	(1)	(24)	(25)
Rape Services Funding	167,000	(164,808)	2,192
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(11)	(11)
Liverpool *	-	(13)	(13)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(28)	(28)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	52,015	(52,443)	(428)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	49,919	(50,066)	(147)
Wirral CSP	-	(12)	(12)
Jill's Fund	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
MOJ Additional Funding	34,001	(33,598)	403
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	25,618	(25,618)	-
OPCC Contract	448,502	(448,211)	291
Proceeds of Crime Fund	-	(5,261)	(5,261)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	-	(152)	(152)
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	(1,971)	(1,971)
Steve Morgan Foundation	10,000	(8,573)	1,427
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	7,334	(7,028)	306
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	46,306	(40,128)	6,178
MOJ Covid 19 funds to March 21	47,250	(47,250)	-
Smallwood Trust	9,829	(9,829)	-
MOJ ISVA Funding 1	37,051	(37,051)	-
	934,824	(946,186)	(11,362)
TOTAL FUNDS	1,029,487	(953,859)	75,628

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	52,713	102,323	-	155,036
Lime Culture for Truth Project	8,909	(3,683)	-	5,226
Education Service	(2,249)	(2,384)	-	(4,633)
	59,373	96,256	-	155,629
Restricted funds				
Justice for Jane	176	(77)	-	99
Hoylelake Holistics	3,161	(3,161)	-	-
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	19,128	(1,691)	-	17,437
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	109	(48)	-	61
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	60	(27)	-	33
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	320	(44)	-	276
Liverpool City Safe *	98	(43)	-	55
Rape Services Funding	1,382	922	-	2,304
SARC Counselling Funding *	45	(20)	-	25
Liverpool *	13	(13)	-	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	111	(48)	-	63
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	1,172	(632)	-	540
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	578	(268)	-	310
Wirral CSP	47	(20)	-	27
Jill's Fund	13,105	(10,000)	-	3,105
MOJ Male	-	1,109	-	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	-	403	-	403
OPCC Contract	30	18,210	(30,000)	(11,760)
Proceeds of Crime Fund	7,099	(7,099)	-	-
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	304	424	-	728
NHS Funding for Counselling	-	(30,000)	30,000	-
Community Foundations for RADS	7,533	(7,533)	-	-
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	6,782	(6,782)	-	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	(1,427)	3,970	-	2,543
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	4,119	-	4,119
Thrive Sefton Council	-	1,994	-	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	-	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	-	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling	-	1,833	-	1,833
	59,826	(30,322)	-	29,504

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

TOTAL FUNDS	<u>119,199</u>	<u>65,934</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>185,133</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	117,748	(15,425)	102,323
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(3,683)	(3,683)
Merseycare	20,000	(20,000)	-
Education Service	-	(2,384)	(2,384)
	137,748	(41,492)	96,256
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(77)	(77)
Hoylake Holistics	(1)	(3,160)	(3,161)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(1,691)	(1,691)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	(1)	(47)	(48)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	(1)	(26)	(27)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(44)	(44)
Liverpool City Safe *	(1)	(42)	(43)
Rape Services Funding	303,539	(302,617)	922
SARC Counselling Funding *	(1)	(19)	(20)
Liverpool *	-	(13)	(13)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	1	(49)	(48)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	78,022	(78,654)	(632)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	99,839	(100,107)	(268)
Wirral CSP	1	(21)	(20)
Jill's Fund	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
MOJ Male	27,438	(26,329)	1,109
MOJ Additional Funding	125,482	(125,079)	403
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	70,184	(70,184)	-
OPCC Contract	951,002	(932,792)	18,210
Proceeds of Crime Fund	-	(7,099)	(7,099)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	728	(304)	424
NHS Funding for Counselling	29,220	(59,220)	(30,000)
Community Foundations for RADS	-	(7,533)	(7,533)
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	(6,782)	(6,782)
Steve Morgan Foundation	20,426	(16,456)	3,970
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	7,334	(7,334)	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	46,306	(42,187)	4,119
MOJ Covid 19 funds to March 21	47,250	(47,250)	-
Smallwood Trust	9,829	(9,829)	-

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

MOJ ISVA Funding 1	81,172	(81,172)	-
MOJ CSA Uplift	46,423	(46,423)	-
Safer Streets	10,001	(10,001)	-
Liverpool City for Promotion	5,000	(5,000)	-
Thrive Sefton Council	2,000	(6)	1,994
Funding for children Cheshire NHS	3,000	-	3,000
Funding for Children Lilly Charity	1,200	-	1,200
OPCC Remote Counselling	40,000	(38,167)	1,833
MOJ ISVA Funding 2			
	27,250	(27,250)	-
	2,032,642	(2,062,964)	(30,322)
TOTAL FUNDS	2,170,390	(2,104,456)	65,934

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

19. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating Lease Commitments

A lease for rent for the Unit in Bootle was signed in February 2020 running to 30 September 2025.

The total rent due to be paid within one year are £42,751 (2021 £42,751)

There is a photocopier lease and the payments due in the next year are £6,287 (2021 £4,504).

The total of commitments due within one year is £49,038 (2021 £47,256).

The rent due more than one year is £127,310 (2021 £188,818).

Other rents are paid on rolling contracts.

20. FUNDS

* These funds relate to historic fixed asset capital donations.

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the competitive tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for three years (April 2018 - April 2021) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs.

RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

The full service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs as well as a children's provision, pre-trial therapy, and counselling.

2062 new clients were welcomed into RASA service in this year - 1003 client cases were carried forward from the previous year - 3065 unique individuals in total were therefore seen in service in the year.

With the onset of Covid-19 in March 2020, a decision was made to extend, without re-tendering, this contract, for an additional 12 months to 31-03-2021

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS - RAPE SUPPORT FUND

RASA achieved funding through the female Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for females over the age of 13. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to all female survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE CSE FUNDING UPLIFT

As recipients of the Rape Support Fund, RASA was pleased to accept an uplift in funding to enable us to meet the challenges of increasing numbers of adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Exploitation as a result of high-profile national media and the promotion of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

This allows us to provide additional support to adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Rape. 792 such cases were referred or self-referred in this year.

WIRRAL BOROUGH COUNCIL PUBLIC HEALTH

RASA is additionally commissioned to deliver counselling and support to adult victims of sexual violence living in Wirral. This commission was achieved in 2017 and runs from April 2017- March 2022. 553 new Wirral cases were referred in this year.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE EXTRAORDINARY COVID-19 SUPPORT

RASA was awarded funding under this emergency grant fund, to allow us to extend the ability of counsellors and ISVAs to provide effective remote support to try and keep the waiting lists and waiting times, steady throughout the pandemic. RASA used this funding to employ additional staff to provide appropriate support and assistance to those in need after becoming victims of sexual violence an abuse.

20. FUNDS - continued

A second round of this funding was released for application and RASA was again awarded a similar value to allow sustained, enhanced and increased levels of counselling and support.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ISVA FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for additional ISVA funding on behalf of RASA and RASASC to allow us to enhance and improve our response to those individuals who wished to make reports to the police and be supported through the criminal justice system. Throughout this year, it was indeed essential to provide this additional support to such victims as justice systems were stalled and/or halted by the pandemic and survivors of rape and abuse needed considerably heightened support at this very difficult time.

OPCC COVID 19 FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for a small pot of funding to fill gaps in service required during the first 6 months of this year. RASA used this funding to provide remote, sessional counselling, allowing victims and survivors to achieve, or continue receiving, remote counselling from home.

CHILDREN IN NEED

RASA is funded through Children in Need to deliver a Children's Sexual Violence Support Service. This is newly achieved funding and will build on the previous Children in Need funding that saw a Children's Service fully established for the boroughs of Sefton, Liverpool and Wirral. The service has been able to grow to meet demand.

This funding commenced on 01-10-2019 and is due to end on 30-09-2021

PROCEEDS OF CRIME FUND

Funding achieved under this grant equips parents and carers with the skills and knowledge to spot the signs a child is being sexually abused or is in danger of such and enable them to effectively encourage disclosure and act on that disclosure to support the child safely and in their best interests.

In addition, the training aims to STOP abuse before it starts by equipping adults with the skills to recognise early warnings and empowering them to act effectively and promptly to protect the child from harm. This is a twelve-month funding opportunity.

This funding was awarded in late 2018 and was extended due to Covid-19. It will be fully expended in this year.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR MERSEYSIDE

In December 2019, RASA was awarded funding to run an interim support service for clients awaiting counselling and support. The RADS (Reducing Anxiety, Depression and Stress) service uses clinical hypnotherapy in a group setting with the effect of stabilising survivors and holding them engaged in the recovery process. Due to restrictions under Covid-19, this funding has been extended to be expended in this year. This did not happen and at the close of the year, the balance remained the same.

20. FUNDS - continued

STEVE MORGAN FOUNDATION

At the outset of Covid-19, Steve Morgan Foundation offered emergency support for charities hit by sudden change and a need to carry on service delivery. RASA successfully applied for and received this funding which allowed us to purchase equipment to immediately commence remote working with clients. This funding was received right at the end of last year and was expended swiftly at the start of this one. It allowed us to quickly equip our counsellors and ISVAs with the necessary laptops and online platforms they required to carry on with their work, but remotely.

SMALLWOOD TRUST

To assist in the recovery process and to better retain clients during restricted access times and in the aftermath of lockdown, RASA developed appropriate clinical hypnotherapy courses to be delivered on site. These sessions were warmly welcomed by clients who found strength and support from being engaged in them.

MERSEYSIDE VIOLENCE REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP

This funding allowed a cohort of specifically trained counsellors to provide a trauma informed response to survivors of sexual violence, focussing on psych education, which includes physiological impact of trauma and developing an understanding how they have been impacted by the sexual violence experienced, developing positive coping strategies and resilience building. In addition to counselling, we offer Clinical Hypnotherapy, which is extremely successful at treating anxiety, depression, stress, and PTSD.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the sole aim of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum. In this year the training contributed 7% of RASA Income.

SPORT ENGLAND

RASA was awarded funding in early 2020 to run yoga courses for survivors of sexual violence. As we have been unable to carry out "in person" yoga classes in this year, we have adapted several sessions to become virtual and have requested a change in direction to allow us to provide a lasting online platform to endure beyond the limits of this grant.

JILL'S FUND

This public collection of donations is being held by RASA following the sudden and unexpected death of Jill Saward in January 2017. It has been held by RASA until such time as Jill's family determine it's most beneficial use for continuing the work Jill was unable to complete. Jill was a supported of RASA Merseyside for many years and was closely engaged, right up until the time of her death.

MERSEY CARE

This income is received from allowing sessional room hire within the RASA Centre.

LIME CULTURE FOR TRUTH PROJECT

RASA was commissioned by Lime Culture to deliver effective professional support to those individuals choosing to make representation to the IICSA.

20. FUNDS - continued

HOYLAKE HOLISTICS

RASA opened the West Wirral Centre in 2012 with a grant from the Big Lottery with the aim of creating a social enterprise to underpin the sexual violence support work we do in West Wirral. Hoylake Holistics runs as a shop providing holistic therapies to the general public, with

discreet facilities for survivors to access support.

However due to the circumstances resulting from COVID in 2020 the shop is unlikely to be able to continue past 2021.

JUSTICE FOR JANE

These funds are held in trust for the family of Jane Clough. They are donated funds to be used by the family to fund awareness raising and education around rape and domestic violence. The family retired from this role at the end of year to 31-03-2020 and requested that the small remaining balance be donated to RASA to be used as appropriate.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	23,085	8,240
Other trading activities		
Training courses	-	595
Room hire	-	50
	-	645
Charitable activities		
Commissioned work	783,473	-
Grants	334,345	1,020,602
	1,117,818	1,020,602
Total incoming resources		
	1,140,903	1,029,487
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Opening stock	-	8,000
Purchases	-	(8,000)
Hire of plant and machinery	4,803	4,124
	4,803	4,124
Charitable activities		
Wages	811,979	605,247
Rates and water	-	1,857
Insurance	10,397	7,059
Light and heat	9,222	6,889
Telephone	28,347	41,531
Postage and stationery	5,926	4,423
Advertising	12,081	-
Sundries	(181)	-
Rent	70,856	59,523
Survivor travel	236	615
Travel and expenses	1,453	235
Training	22,226	47,095
Carried forward	972,542	774,474

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Charitable activities		
Brought forward	972,542	774,474
Canteen & household costs	22,787	16,773
Repairs and maintenance	7,466	7,137
Software and IT costs	7,694	22,604
Subscriptions	1,552	1,007
PPE equipment	-	1,042
Partner's payments	118,326	96,007
Freehold property	830	830
Fixtures and fittings	666	884
Computer equipment	5,602	4,991
Loss on sale of tangible fixed assets	-	2,414
Grants to institutions	-	13,130
	1,137,465	941,293
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	88	69
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	6,000	6,500
Accountancy and legal fees	2,241	1,873
	8,241	8,373
Total resources expended	1,150,597	953,859
Net (expenditure)/income	(9,694)	75,628

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; 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:

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation

Our audit response is based on:

- Enquiry of management, those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Enquiry of Trustees of any issues arising
- Enquiry of entity staff in tax and compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.

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.

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
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)
Limited

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.

Beverley Rice (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

31 March 2023

Accounts

RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE (RASA) CENTRE LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT YEAR TO 31-03-2021

CARING FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE SINCE 1986





FINANCE AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER REPORT 2020-21

No one who worked their way through 2020-21 can claim it was anything other than bizarre, sad, frightening and somehow amazing, all at the same time. We each learned a lot more about ourselves and each other, than we knew before all the mayhem began.

We ended our previous year in a flurry of laptop purchasing and learning a whole new language of Zooming, Teams Meetings, Skype, Lateral Flow Tests and of course, Covid-19.

We were, as an organisation, in a very strong position at this time to carry on doing what we do best – supporting survivors of sexual violence, as our counsellors and independent sexual violence advocates transferred, as far as possible, to online working.

Having all our data stored in a remote cloud, somewhere far away, meant we didn't need to carry pen drives around, we just had to log on to our shared database as if we were in the office. Never have we been more delighted to have chosen this route several years previously.

RASA helped me through a very challenging time. Without the support of this organisation, I wouldn't be the person I am today. EMPOWERED.

But we were afraid – and not just of an unseen virus. We were afraid of circumstances in which we were locking up abusers and abused, women with their partners, children with their abusing relatives.

These were indeed “unprecedented” times but for some, we were aware, they could have long lasting impacts – impacts we may not even hear about for another thirty years – the length of

time it will take many victims to talk about their abuse happening today.

Certain departments within the government realised the impact on victims and on victim services and throughout the year we were pleased to receive many more grants and supportive funding streams than we had ever known before.

In total, we received £183,387 additional funding due to Covid-19. This funding was used in the main for additional salary cost and new counsellors. (£150,185)

£11,563 was used to cover the increased costs of phone calls (all staff mobiles needed additional data and minutes for working away from the centre) and for memberships and subscriptions to zoom and other online accounts.

The balance was spent on training staff in new modes of counselling and in upskilling and fine-tuning existing specialisms to deal with the new situation and the challenges they were facing. (Single Session Therapy, EMDR, Specific Situation Training, Mindfulness and Relaxation Techniques etc)

We will always be grateful for this additional support, which allowed us to continue to serve our clients effectively. Perhaps a special thank you to The Steve Morgan Foundation that stepped in very early on, quickly assessing the upcoming storm, and allowed us to immediately implement an emergency plan.

We delivered more counselling and support sessions than ever before, albeit in the main, remotely.

And it had surprising results. We found that young people really liked this online working – they actually stayed engaged.



Since finishing my sessions with [REDACTED] I've gone from strength to strength. The absolutely invaluable help RASA has given me has given me my life back in so many ways and I'll forever be thankful. I have recommended RASA to a couple of friends and continue to share Instagram posts for those who might need help. Thank you so much RASA (especially [REDACTED])

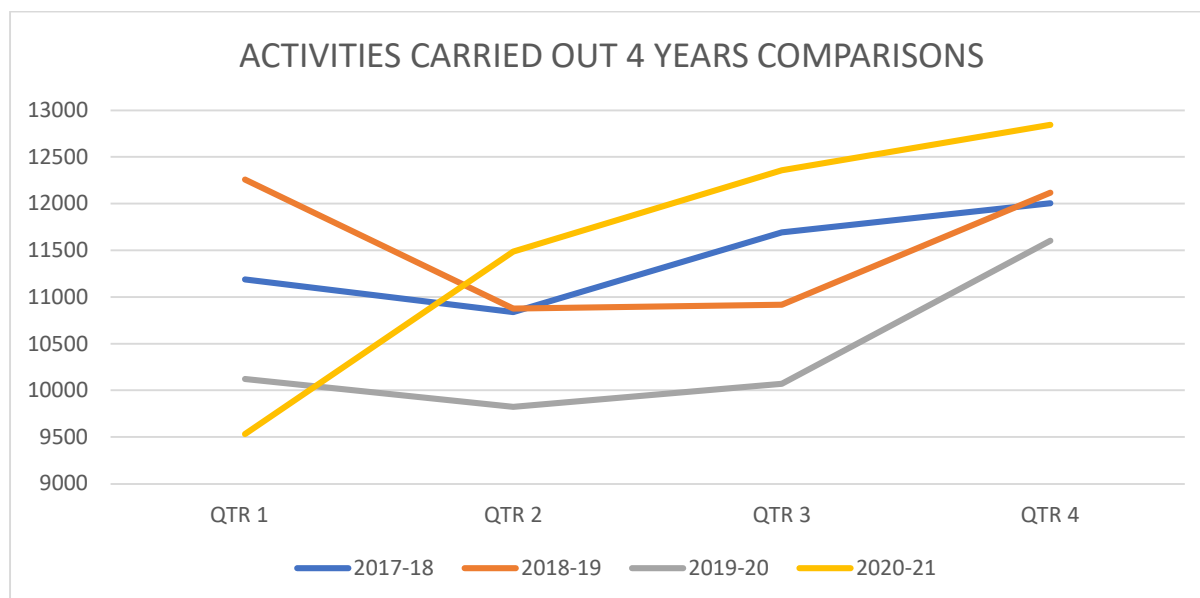
We have been so pleased with outcomes from remote counselling that we are planning to embed it in our standard ways of working in the long term. Advantages of this are – accessible at a time that suits counsellor and client – less pressure on counselling space which has become a big issue as we have grown, and less travel for both parties.

It does of course require additional supervision hours, as counselling, be it remote or in person is strictly regulated within our service and enhanced numbers of hours worked = enhanced counselling requirements.

To have some sort of context, the chart below demonstrates activities carried out each quarter for four years, including this one. The previous three years follow a similar pattern, starting high, dipping in quarter two and then steadily rising again in the fourth quarter, once Christmas is out of the way.

In the first quarter of this year, we witnessed a huge drop in new referrals – and consequent activity, followed by a huge increase in quarter two. The timings and dates correspond exactly with the start and end of restrictions due to Covid-19, but we were so completely overwhelmed by the rush for support in quarter two that our waiting lists started to spiral upwards.

And there were/are many reasons for this. Yes we were gaining many more new clients than ever before, but those clients are/were presenting with ever more complex needs and were staying in service longer as a result. Counsellors were taking on more and more clients in an attempt to control the upward spiral and all our new funding was being invested in additional hours.



Throughout the year, counsellors trained in new techniques such as EMDR, mindfulness, hypnotherapy, relaxation therapy to reduce anxiety and distress.

And so, while we start the new year with a larger waiting list than any of us would like to have, we know that we do so as the best and strongest team that we can be, ready to better serve our clients in the years to come.



And while we can look at facts and figures and reach conclusions through data, we can be proud that we came through the year as a team, without a day of lost service, working in homes across Merseyside, against all odds, surrounded by test kits, battling home schooling, juggling laptops and routers, learning a whole new way of working and still – delivering the best possible aftercare service for survivors of sexual violence in all its forms.

I have never been prouder of RASA

Josephine Wood MBE

Finance and Strategic Development Manager

Annual Report - Clinical Lead

It goes without saying that this year has been like no other (20/21). During the pandemic the impact on survivors of sexual violence can be felt in a multitude of ways. The safety measures to protect ourselves and others from COVID-19 presented unique difficulties to survivors as they navigate challenges, like a change in routine, an interruption to their healing, or loneliness and isolation (just to name a few).

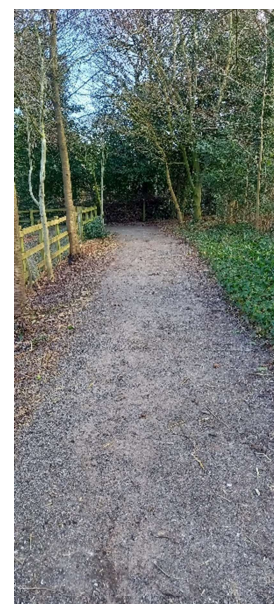
For our clients the known adverse psychological impact of restrictions was self-isolation, which intensified loneliness and reduced a sense of connectedness, purpose and meaning in personal lives, additionally exacerbating sleep problems, anxiety, depression, PTSD symptoms, all of which are already associated with their trauma. And at times therapy had to be paused and refocused on the presenting issues the pandemic brought. This meant that clients often spent longer time in therapy.

Additionally, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on sexual abuse survivors going through the criminal justice system has been 'huge' with support services nationally reporting referral increases of up to 366 per cent. They also reported supporting clients for much longer periods of time because of the delays now being seen in the criminal justice system.

We also observed a drop in referrals during the pandemic restrictions and now a concerning increase in referrals. The impact of the pandemic has inevitably meant that waiting lists have increased. The opportunity, created by lockdowns, for survivors to sit and reflect, lack of opportunity to engage other coping mechanisms, and broader impacts of the pandemic on mental wellbeing are possible reasons for increased referrals to support services.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, emerging data, and reports from those on the front lines, have shown that all types of violence against women and girls have increased. The increase in reports of sexual abuse and violence is happening at the same time that services were and still are compromised.

Thankfully we were able to still operate, we did not suspend our support, our responsive approach meant we worked remotely in the first instances of the applied restrictions of the pandemic. We adapted our face-to-face service provision so that this could resume.



During the Covid-19 pandemic, RASA were able to adapt in a responsive and flexible way to accommodate remote working to ensure staff and clients were kept safe. Existing clients were provided with the option of continuing with their sessions remotely or waiting until face-to-face support could resume. New clients started their sessions remotely either online or over the telephone. RASA checked in with clients on a weekly basis by email and text. This support was described as invaluable during what was already a difficult time for clients, which was then exasperated by the impacts

“Over the telephone has been fine because I've been in a safe space. I've been in my own space. So, it's been I've been comfortable enough to talk about things over the phone. It's, it's not been an issue for me whatsoever” (Client 8)

of the pandemic, including isolation and limited support networks associated with the national lockdown measures. Whilst many clients were keen to have face-to-face contact, they did find remote support more accessible, reducing travel and allowing them to attend during work hours. RASA were keen to continue to provide a blended offer going forward, giving the clients the option and choice of remote or face-to-face engagement, or a mixture of the two.

Development, Training & Research

As we enter 20/21 now is the time to reset our services and service sustainability. Although there is much concerning us when we consider today there is much to be excited about, with additional funding to support us during the pandemic we have been able to both upskill and add to our teams, expanding the ISVA and Children's team, as well as more counsellors coming on board. I have witnessed is overwhelming supportive, strength and courage in difficult times from staff and volunteers, always keeping the client and the heart of the support we provide. Looking ahead I am hugely optimistic.

Although some service development was halted during this time, ideas were shared, and innovative service delivery continues. Research shows that accommodating clients' preferences in therapy can lead to better therapeutic alliances, lower dropout, and improved outcomes. We are endeavouring to offer access a wider choice of therapeutic interventions within in one service. That gives clients choice and a sense of autonomy in their care. To provide therapeutic care that recognises the lifelong psychological and physiological impact.



- **Counselling**– F2F, On-line, Telephone.
- **Pre-trial Therapy**
- **Single Session**- CBT/ REWIND/
Hypnotherapy - *(Is a therapy that lasts for one single session, so you the client are choosing and agreeing to being able to work with the problem in one 5session. It is a structured session to aim to maximise the therapeutic work).*
- **RADS Groups**- Our RADS group is a clinical hypnotherapy group, providing 3 sessions of clinical hypnotherapy, over a 3 week period, working on reducing your symptoms of anxiety, depression and stress.
- **RASA Group Support**- ‘Taking back control’ This an 8-week group work programme with structured sessions, that involve reflection, discussions, activities and to learn from each other. It will run over 8 consecutive weeks, each session last 2 hours.

RASA Research Project



We are conducting a review of our service for male survivors of sexual abuse, this involved exploring the services available to support male victims and survivors and the new framework for working with male victims and survivors. The research will explore the characteristics and help seeking behaviours of male survivors; service provision, use and engagement for male survivors of sexual violence within RASA; the outcomes for male survivors accessing the service; and views on the quality standards for male service provision and if and how they related to RASA service provision and perceived needs of male survivors accessing RASA.

Title of Project: A review of service provision for and needs of male survivors of sexual violence within RASA Merseyside undertaken by Liverpool John Moore's University – PHI Public Health Institute. *Full research available 1st December 2021.*

Testimony from a client December 2021



I'd like to say a massive thank you to [REDACTED] for all her amazing work in facilitating and guiding my healing journey over the last few months.

At the assessment before we started therapy I was suffering from severe anxiety, depression, and complex PTSD. These issues have controlled my whole life for years and especially the last year making me unable to work, function fully as a parent and having suicidal thoughts. I was in desperate need of help unable to talk to anyone about it. After an assault in the city centre, I was referred to RASA from the police and my sister who recommended them.

[REDACTED] at RASA helped me more than I could have imagined! The talking therapy worked so well for me, it was amazing to have the space for my emotions to be held and learn about healthy relationships. She was very professional, empathetic and a brilliant facilitator in my healing! I cannot thank her enough. She showed me understanding and acceptance on a level which I had never felt in my life.

This was a big step up for me and gave me a lot of confidence to move forward from trauma. I used to have about four hard depression days a week unable to cope and get out of bed, now over 2 weeks on from finishing I've only had 4 hours one day feeling a bit glum in bed. I feel much more comfortable with having moments of different and sad emotions; however, I am not overwhelmed by it anymore and I can easily let it out in a healthy way. After our sessions, I now have no symptoms of depression or PTSD present.

With therapy at RASA, I've learned how value myself so much more and have a happy balanced life. Therapy has changed so much in my life for the better and I really hope many more people can experience this healing service.

Thank you all millions!!

April 2021 End of Year Report – Ally Cavanagh - Liverpool ISVA and Counsellor



The end of the financial year for RASA Merseyside in 2021 brings with it the end of one of the strangest and most challenging 12 months of the past decade. As we start to see the world opening up once more, recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, we can now reflect more clearly on the work that has been achieved by RASA staff during such a devastating time for our client base.

I took on the role of Liverpool ISVA in August 2020, as we welcomed a new staff member to take on the Wirral ISVA and assessment officer role and had a mini shake-up of the team. This changeover in and of itself was a strange one; re-entering the office environment whilst also training a new staff member and saying goodbye to the Wirral caseload without having seen them face to face for 6 months. Thankfully our new Wirral ISVA hit the ground running, and the changeover for me to the Liverpool caseload was similarly seamless.

Though after August the UK was going to be hit with more rises in COVID cases and more subsequent lockdowns, RASA Merseyside was given all clear to continue with office work; the MOJ having been in touch to inform us that we are an essential service. This, I feel, reflected the constantly increasing need of our clients throughout the pandemic.

As support systems crumbled and coping strategies became less and less obtainable, RASA clients and their mental health took a huge hit throughout the pandemic; I myself have noticed an increase in suicidal thoughts and intent, requests for appointments and need for contacting GP's. This has all coincided with a grid-locked criminal justice system where court cases were being postponed and officers in charge were inundated, in turn creating further distress for our clients and again a more intense need for support and advocacy. All in all, the last 12 months have been extremely challenging for the role of an ISVA.

Communication between myself and other agencies has been absolutely crucial during this period. Managing a clear and open line of communication between myself and investigating officers has meant that although there have been tremendous delays in cases, clients have nonetheless been fully informed (in most cases) as to the reasons for this. In those cases where communication hasn't been achieved; this has been challenged and dealt with by me as the clients advocate.

In some cases, police officers have reached out to me to let me know just how crucial this has been for their role, where they have often felt that they are letting victims down due to their own work pressures I have been able to link in and manage client expectations and emotions. This has been extremely challenging particularly with an increasingly emotional client base, however reflecting back on the last few months I am proud of having been able to keep clients engaging in the CJS despite increasingly frustrating barriers.

Similarly clear communication with GP surgeries and other support workers has been a must; as support networks have been reduced during lockdown and coping strategies stripped bare, the reflective increase in suicidal thoughts and personal risk for our clients has been a major issue. Managing this risk with our own policies and linking in with mental health





services has fortunately prevented any long-lasting harm. I will say, however, as the NHS has been overwhelmed with COVID-19 I feel that a lot of this risk has been held mainly with the ISVA.

Clients have reported waiting on the phone for hours to arrange a simple mental health or medication check with their GP. I have found myself attempting to meet clients' needs myself by putting 6/7 ISVA support sessions in per day, often feeling that a client left for 3 or 4 weeks without an appointment is a client at severe risk.

As we are starting to come out of the last lockdown and the world seems to be opening up further, I can recognise that the work done for my caseload over the last few months has been intense and in one of my client's own words, "lifesaving".

I can only hope that this work continues to be recognised in the wider community. As always, linking in with domestic violence services has been particularly important.

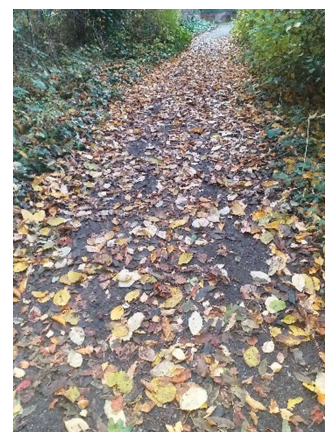
During lockdown we recognise that risk of domestic violence, and violence against children, has been a serious problem in many communities. Being hyper aware of this risk and assessing each individual case fully, as well as linking in with established DV workers has been an imperative.

As already highlighted, it has been a strange time for victims in the criminal justice system in a number of ways. Not only have there been delays in investigation stages, but we have also been contending with cancelled court dates sometimes postponed for 12 months in advance. Emotionally this has been devastating for clients who have spent months building themselves up to attend court. As an ISVA, supporting client mental health whilst keeping them engaged in the process has been tough. In certain cases, news of cancellation/ postponement has been extremely last minute.

My team leader, Sarah Tipton, has been fighting what I know has been a frustrating battle with Crown Court staff in order to ensure clients have good understanding and full reasoning for why their cases have been cancelled or changed. I am aware that this battle still rages on. Over the last few months, I have attended court twice; once for a full trial and once for a section 28. The full trial was, as always, difficult for the client and for me as the ISVA in managing client needs. There were 4 days in total, each delay by "COVID"; we did not receive any further information other than this.

As 2021 moves forward, we are seeing more and more cases go to Section 28 in order to offset a backlog in sexual violence cases and get victims testimony dealt with earlier on rather than wait for their postponed trial date.

This is a positive in terms of Crown Court recognising that the delays and wait to give evidence can be extremely difficult for victims; however, it has also meant that supporting the client is more difficult. As we know, for an ISVA to be in the room whilst a client completes a S28 is a big ask; for most clients the prospect of giving their evidence without this is terrifying.





This leaves a challenge for our role over the next 12 months; fighting for our clients right to have us present during their pre-recorded cross-examination. Fortunately, our team lead has provided a pathway through Crown Court which should make this process easier; for ourselves and for our clients.

In terms of training, I have been able to not only fully complete my ISVA role training but also EMDR and Clinical Hypnotherapy training.

As the new year has progressed, I have recognised that I would personally enjoy using more of my counselling skills where appropriate and as such have embarked on a journey to further develop these skills alongside my ISVA role.

It is an important aspect of our team that we are all trained counsellors, and I am hoping that over the next 12 months we will have more opportunity to use these skills for clients outside of the criminal justice process.

Fortunately, with additional funding during the COVID-19 pandemic I was able to pick up a hypnotherapy group and 2 RASA counselling clients for 3 months, outside of my usual work hours. This work I found enriched my ISVA role as it gave me a broader client perspective, and also provided some respite through a very challenging time in working with victims in the criminal justice process.

In my last report I mentioned work being carried out for the Good Night out Campaign. I, and a member of Public Protection were busy visiting nightlife venues twice a month to deliver training to bar and nightclub staff; empowering them not only to recognise and understand sexual violence in their venues but also to act upon it where appropriate.

Unfortunately, as the pandemic has progressed, the hospitality industry has come to a standstill meaning that this training has been postponed. I have, however, recently been in touch with my training partner and am in the process of confirming future dates. She has also informed me that her manager would like this training to be delivered to Police Officers in Merseyside. This feels like a step in the right direction regarding issues of sexual violence and the need to address it. This, I hope, is a further positive step towards the future for RASA Merseyside and our status as a pillar of the community.

I would like to sign off, as always, by acknowledging the team I have been fortunate to work with for the past 12 months. One of the most challenging aspects of working from home during the COVID 19 pandemic was not having regular access to the support and camaraderie I have learned is crucial to our role.

I am so proud of the work we have done, and continue to do, for our clients during the most challenging of times. At a moment where many services came to a stop, or crumbled under the pressure, I feel RASA Merseyside has taken the baton and ran with it. We have refused to let any of our clients down and have continued to push ourselves to deliver the best possible support. I only hope that this is continued to be recognised well into the future of our fantastic organisation.



Alex Cavanagh – Counsellor and ISVA



Olivia Lewis - ISVA (Liverpool)

Summary of day-to-day role: **Independent Sexual Violence Advisor for Sefton Area/Assessment Lead. Supporting clients through the criminal justice system who have reported or wish to report to the police. Practical and emotional support.**

Over the past year, I have transitioned from being the Liverpool ISVA to Assessment Lead and Sefton ISVA. I have settled into the role and have become more used to it and am managing my time as efficiently as possible, particularly as I have reduced my working week to four days. The role continues to be demanding, particularly as there is no ISVA waiting list and have continued to be distinctly under resourced staff wise, so the pressure continues to be on. The addition of Nadia to the team has been extremely refreshing and helpful, particularly within my role as Nadia provides assessment support for Liverpool clients.

My line manager has continued to offer support throughout the year and ensured that I continue to implement necessary adjustments in order to sustain an acceptable level of service. She has been very supportive throughout the very unusual and disconcerting circumstances that we have all found ourselves in since March 2020. Recently, we have been informed that as a result of the significantly challenging role that members of staff have needed to take some time off.

This has highlighted just how impactful the role can be on our emotional and mental well-being and how uniquely impactful vicarious trauma can be within the work that we do. This being said, it has also highlighted the importance of taking care of ourselves and asking for support as/when we need it, particularly due to the large workloads we all have to carry. We are a fantastic team who work very well together. We perform our very demanding roles despite all of the ongoing pressures and no pay increases, with remarkable resilience and professionalism and I'm very proud of us for this. I look forward to the very much needed/long overdue additions to the ISVA team that have finally been approved to start soon.

The impact of the pandemic upon the criminal justice process has been pervasive and caused a huge detrimental impact to those of my clients who have had their trials postponed over the past year. Supporting them to manage the impact of this has added another layer to the regular support that they receive.

It has also meant that the timeframes in which they would have been expected to have come to the end of their ISVA support have consequently been extended, therefore increasing the workload. The unknown that exists still, relating to the rescheduled trial dates, carries some further anxious anticipation for my clients and exacerbates the uncertainty that is already a factor when it comes to crown court in under normal circumstances. Due to the number of trials either booked or rescheduled, I will now be in court at least once per month until July.

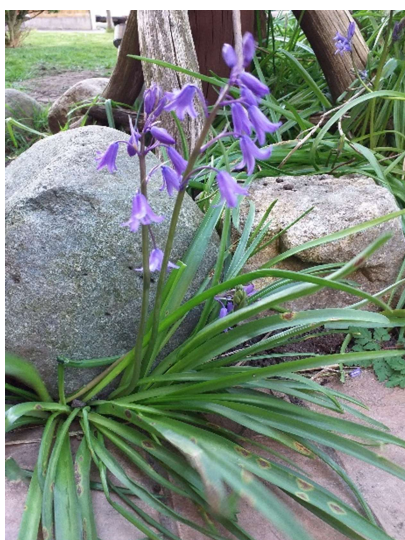
The thought of counselling was terrifying, I paced outside before my first session deciding whether to go in. But as soon as I entered the centre I was greeted with the warmest of welcomes by the receptionist. She made me feel 'normal', it wasn't clinical or scary. My counsellor has completely changed my wellbeing, I now understand my trauma and have new ways of thinking, it is the most valuable thing I have ever done. Thank you.



I have now returned to the office for half of my working week, and I am thoroughly enjoying being back in the enjoyable and supportive environment with my colleagues.

It is also really nice to be with some new additions to the counselling team. The environment feels refreshed and reinvigorated. I continue to take things in my stride given the impact of the past year and realise that my mental health and wellbeing has never been so important to look after.

April 2020 – March 2021 My Year at RASA – Sarah Tipton – ISVA & ISVA Service Manager



In the past year I have carried out the role of ISVA Team Lead for the adult service and officially changed to ISVA Service Manager in December.

As everyone will be voicing, it has been an incredibly difficult year due to the pandemic. Most ISVA work has been carried out remotely and in many ways, I am thankful that the ISVA service has been able to adapt when needed to be running entirely over the phone or online.

I have provided line management to two ISVA team members, which increased to 3 in August, and I have hosted monthly team meetings. I have also been providing any additional support and advice to the team when needed.

My role has included liaising/meeting with other professionals (mostly online due to restrictions), establishing communication pathways with new contacts in the criminal justice system (CJS) and championing not only for RASA as a service, but for the victims/survivors who are taking part in the CJS.

I have also continued to provide ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Adviser) support to clients. Some who are long standing clients that I have kept on my caseload, others who are based in Southport and new referrals for Southport.

In August, due to staff needs, we changed the ISVAs around in their roles, recruited for a new team member, and went through a process of most of the area caseloads being allocated a new ISVA worker. This was not an easy task to organise, especially while most staff were still working remotely. However, having two incredible team members and an extremely helpful flexible new team member to orchestrate this change, we managed it with very few bumps in the road. Since then, my case load has been between 20 - 25 clients at a time.

My counselling skills continue to be of great benefit to carrying out the ISVA role and now the role of a manager. Empathy, non-judge mentality, and congruent person skills are needed to be transferred into the relationship I build with both ISVA clients and ISVA team members.

With regards to providing ISVA support, we have continued to provide a full risk and needs assessment in each session with clients.



In the ISVA role, we provide a voice for those clients who don't feel they are able to communicate their needs to others in the criminal justice system, an explanation in understandable terms for the client with informed choice sessions, regular communication with experience of supporting others through this process and independent advice based on the client's best interest with a person-centred approach.

Throughout the support, I will manage client expectations of the criminal justice process and help to focus them on their best coping strategies. I can assist clients in helping other professionals involved and on occasions their employers, to understand the process and to have some concept of what the client is going through.

We provide a multi-agency approach by liaising with other professionals, seeking advice and support within the RASA team and referring clients to other support when needed.

Referrals mainly come from the police, Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC), followed by various other agencies and self-referrals.

The criminal justice system was fractured before the pandemic, so the last 12 months has almost broken it, and the main ones affected by the fallout has been all the victims with cases going to court.

Cases have often taken even longer to be investigated, clients are waiting even longer for a case decision and if the case goes to court, there has been enormous amounts of delays and postponements.

Clients with pending court trials between the end of March and July had their cases postponed due to court closures, most being told it is to be booked in again for 9+ months' time, some even longer at 13+ months.

Since then, client's second or potentially third trial (if there have been other previous postponements to the case), has been postponed yet again due to the courts running at reduced capacity. This process is often incredibly damaging for clients mental health. On many occasions a case postponement decision has been as late as the day before or on the day the trial is due to start.

As ISVAs we have managed the client's expectations of this to the best of our knowledge at the time but have unfortunately encountered many barriers with courts and CPS providing lack of information. Clients have voiced that the lack of information from courts and CPS has added to their trauma through the CJS and we as ISVAs have heard first-hand how this has been affecting client mental health and wellbeing.

Sadly, a client of mine who had his trial listed for a third time in November after 2 previous postponements, died the day before his trial was due to start due to ill health.

The only justice I can hold on to in this case, was due to their being other victims involved, the offender previously being found guilty of similar offences in the eighties and most victim accounts of the abuse being so similar. Not only was the trial able to go ahead for the other victims, but an exception was made for the client's evidence to be accounted for and heard at the trial still. The client still had a voice and justice was fully served in that the offender was found guilty on all counts.

One other sad situation to mention. The Centre for Women's Justice took a case to the courts, which was prosecuting the CPS for its low number of cases resulting in a decision to charge in sexual offence cases. This case was unsuccessful unfortunately.

The case shone light on evidence that the CPS decision making process for sexual violence cases had been unlawfully adapted. So, we have to see the positive awareness this has raised and hope that CPS as a whole is now under more strict observation with their decision-making processes moving forward.

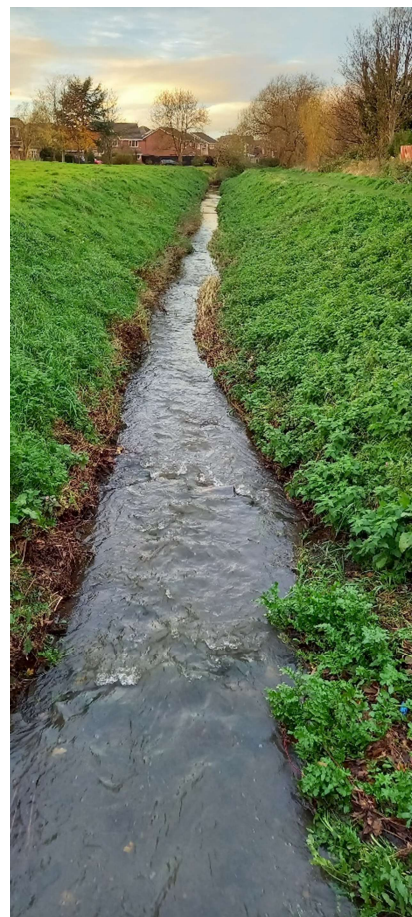
For those cases where a trial has gone ahead, there have been positive outcomes. The trial for the other victims involving my client who passed away, resulted in 9 years prison for the perpetrator and Sex Offender Register (SOR) for life.

I had one case where the perpetrator put in a guilty plea at trial. He was sentenced to 5 years prison, SOR and Sexual Harm Prevention Order.

Another perpetrator was found guilty at trial of rape and false imprisonment, he received 15 years prison, SOR for life and an indefinite restraining order.

Other case results have varied, a number have been deemed by CPS or by the police that there hasn't been enough evidence for the case to go to court. In total four of my client's trials have been postponed, one of which for the second time.

I have supported in 1 Section 28 (pre-recorded questioning) at the courts. The other trials that went ahead I had either already supported in a section 28, the client didn't attend due to being deceased or the client chose other social support due to limit on number of people able to attend for support because of COVID regulations.



In relation to my ISVA Service Manager role, I am enjoying carrying out this work and supporting the ISVA team. I have received some lovely feedback about the support I have given and continue to review with their input on how the team can best be supported.

It is an enormous help and reassurance to be part of such a great team. We try to support one another as each of us have particularly heavy workloads and the pandemic has taken its toll on the service and staff. We are recruiting another team member because of the service/staff needs, so I look forward to being able to give more to the role once we have recruited another team member.

I often seek advice and support from my line manager. Her knowledge and support are an integral part of me being able to sustain the roles and work I do. I am thankful and appreciative of her input.



I continue to undergo supervision for quality of work and self-care, as well as keeping record of information and activity within my roles. I also continue with my personal development attending training and workshops around the work I carry out and keeping up to date with standards, policies, and safeguarding.

There are so many things I feel both RASA and I individually have achieved over this last year, too many to include in this report. To list two things I have particularly progressed with over the last 12 months. First is providing feedback in a meeting I had in person with Merseyside Police Corporate Support & Development Officer. Amongst other things, this was to champion for further recognition with the ISVA role from the police and to improve communication pathways from them. The feedback was then taken to the National Rape Review and is starting to be filtered down locally. A National Framework is soon to be put in place for use by the police and CPS across England and Wales. The framework outlines minimum standards on liaising and communicating with ISVAs. Which if adhered to will make huge improvements, for us and for victims/survivors.

Second, is managing to initiate a monthly meeting with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), Witness Care Unit (WCU) and occasionally Mersey & Cheshire Courts will attend. The communication pathway with CPS in the past has been very limited, and although they are still resistant to making many changes, it is a really positive step to be able to have this platform to voice the need for change. I have asked them to particularly acknowledge recent issues with lack of communication regarding hearing/trial postponements and the affects this is having.

I have developed in my role as a person and the team have grown stronger in many ways, despite having such heavy workloads and going through a really difficult time in their lives. I look forward to the opportunity for further development, continuing to lead and support the ISVA team.

I said it in the last year-end report, and I'll say it again, once the country has come through the other side of the current pandemic, I hope the rest of the year will be kind to us and we will allow ourselves time to reflect on what is important.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS - OPERATIONAL MANAGER LORRAINE WOOD

Counselling here is the best thing I ever did. My counsellor was so committed to my journey and stuck with me every step of the way. Although immensely difficult, it has absolutely changed my life thanks to the care & support of this service. A safe environment with very intelligent & compassionate counsellors. Can't recommend enough.

We continued to work throughout this year, despite the challenges and have remained open since the national lockdown was lifted. In July 2020 a full risk assessment was completed in both centres which led to huge changes in how we work. Screens were installed, people allocated to individual offices and working patterns changed. New contracts and agreements were put into place for clients who could no longer wait for face-to-face support.

Because of all the changes that we have instigated and put in place, we have remained open through the second and third lockdown which is something that many other organisations were unable to do.

Following the initial success of our Reducing Anxiety Depression and Stress (RADS) courses, we gained funding to train all of our qualified counsellors in hypnotherapy. A total of twenty-two counsellors have received this training which has led to clinical hypnotherapy becoming a core part of our counselling service used to install stabilisation and reduce anxiety, stress, and depression.

I am hugely proud of the RASA Team and of how we have all coped with this challenging and difficult year. Let's hope 21-22 is better for all of us.

1 year

52 weeks

2,057 new clients

479 sexually abused children

1,000 clients from previous year

2,585 females – 441 males – 31 others

47,595 activities – 888,261 minutes logged with clients

798 Wirral clients – 1,538 Liverpool clients – 721 Sefton clients

2,480 counselling clients – 564 ISVA clients – 13 other activities clients

606 rapes as a primary cause for presenting – 28 sexually exploited adults

680 multiple sexual violence incidents – 267 affected relatives and friends

987 adult survivors of child sexual abuse

2,578 sexually violated adults

10 domestic violence victims

52 weeks

1 year

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04538556 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1094462

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021
for
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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 31 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).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The full Trustee's Report is filed separately at Charities Commission.

Central to RASA's purpose is the principle of providing a safe, confidential place for survivors of sexual violence to be listened to, believed, and supported, with no pressure put on them. This work encompasses a helpline and email contact service, face-to-face counselling and emotional support, facilitated support groups, advocacy for those dealing with the criminal justice system (ISVA), training for survivors and for the public, family support, mindfulness and meditation, complimentary therapies, and signposting to other services.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are

1. To provide a free, confidential and non-judgemental support service for women and girls who have been victims of sexual violence in Merseyside (under the trading name RASA).
2. To raise public awareness of the damaging and life-changing effects of rape and sexual abuse.

In order to fulfil these aims, the objectives of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are:

- * To provide a service for women and girls, which includes telephone, one-to-one and group support, in women only space at designated times and at the request of the woman or girl.
- * To provide a telephone support service for supporters of survivors, both male and female.
- * To provide information and advice to other individuals and agencies to provide training and talks to external agencies in the local community to recruit volunteers.
- * To provide adequate training, support and supervision for staff and volunteers.
- * To monitor and evaluate service provision and policies on a continual basis involving staff, volunteers and women who use the service.
- * To work with other individuals and agencies to further the aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre to raise funds to meet the needs of the service to identify areas of unmet need and take appropriate action.
- * To provide parity of service for male survivors of sexual violence, noting that such support and counselling will not encroach on the women only space of the RASA Safe House or any of the centres where RASA works in a face to face capacity with victims of sexual violence.

RASA does not employ male staff or volunteers as we are keenly aware that the vast proportion of sexual violence is perpetrated by men against women and it would therefore be inappropriate for male workers to be evident in a professional sexual violence counselling and support service

Working from a feminist perspective: What it means for RASA

Since it was established in Birkenhead in 1986, RASA Merseyside has always had a feminist ethos, and has aimed to support survivors of sexual violence from a feminist perspective.

People have different understandings of the term 'feminism', and the social and political movements that have been called 'feminist' are diverse, sometimes taking opposing positions on particular issues.

At RASA, we embrace diverse understandings and views, while ensuring that all RASA staff and volunteers share a common set of values on sexual violence through our recruitment and training practices.

Our ethos has been shaped by our experience of working with survivors of sexual violence, and by the lived experience of the women who have volunteered and worked for RASA, over the last 33 years.

This has led to an outward-looking approach, allowing us to respond to the needs of the community we are part of. Over the years, we have moved from being a collective of women offering peer support to other women in their community via a phone line, to the professional organisation we are today, offering counselling and ISVA services to women, children and men across Merseyside.

While much has changed in the way we work, and the number of survivors we are able to help has grown, our core ethos has changed little.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

We continue to describe our ethos as feminist for the following reasons:

- * Gender inequality, specifically discrimination against and oppression of women and girls, persists in our society and around the world.
- * While gender inequality has many consequences and effects, sexual violence is among the most severe and pervasive worldwide. This is evidenced by the fact that the vast majority of incidents of sexual violence are perpetrated by a man against a woman or girl.
- * Sexual violence is a means of exerting power and control over victims, and a means of diminishing the victim's own power and control over their own life. On a societal level, it is a means of enforcing patriarchal power and control through violence against individuals, and through the fear of violence.
- * Without recognising the gendered nature of sexual violence with individual survivors and as an organisation, we cannot help survivors to recover from trauma, or find long-term strategies to address sexual violence in our community.
- * Patriarchal violence, perpetrated by overwhelmingly be men, affects men and boys, and transgendered/non-binary people, as well as women and girls. Understanding the common pattern of sexual violence as a means of power and control and recognising the specific ways people of different genders are affected, is entirely compatible with a feminist approach to supporting survivors of sexual violence.
- * Maintaining a women-only workforce and providing women-only spaces remains crucial to our ability to support all survivors effectively. The survivors who come to us tell us this consistently.

Our Ethos

- * RASA Merseyside is a women-led, women-run service founded on feminist principles. We believe that by working in an all-women environment, we challenge structures that discriminate against women, providing the opportunity to empower ourselves and claim control of our own lives.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are crimes of violence and abuse of power, not 'unwanted sex'.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are never the fault of the survivor, and we work with all survivors towards this understanding of what happened to them.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are gendered crimes - the majority of victims are women and children, and the majority of perpetrators are men. Sexual violence is both an expression of, and a means of enforcing and increasing, discrimination against women and gender inequality.
- * Because women and girls live with sexism, the degradation of the female body and the threat of sexual violence in society at large, we create and maintain women-only spaces to offer relief and safety for survivors, and for the women who work at RASA. We know that this benefits survivors and helps them to heal.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- * When children have experienced sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, they require specialist support. We strive to develop ways of working that help children recover from this trauma, and live happy and healthy lives. We reach out to families, schools and the wider community to raise awareness and help prevent the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and young people.
- * We know that transgender people are at increased risk of sexual violence and abuse, as well as transphobic violence. We aim to welcome all trans and non-binary gender survivors in a safe space for them, and work with other organisations locally to ensure they get the specialist support they need.
- * We work with men and boys to the same feminist principles, recognizing the different ways that sexual violence affects them, and offering men-only support groups for survivors facilitated by a RASA worker. At RASA we see all sexual violence as a cause and a consequence of the patriarchal societal structure we live in, acknowledging that almost all men and boys who experience sexual violence are abused by a man. As such, we believe a service working to feminist principles is well placed to help male survivors of sexual violence.
- * Recognising the oppression that many groups experience in today's society, we aim to work in a non-oppressive, anti-discriminatory way with people of any race, class, culture, immigration status, nationality, faith, sexuality, gender identity, age, disability, or health status. We work towards making our service accessible and available to all, and actively seek to make links with the diverse communities in Merseyside.

Volunteers

RASA retains volunteers very effectively, because RASA is a great place to work but it is also due largely, we believe, to the support and development opportunities afforded within the organisation.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities

We continued to work throughout this year, despite the challenges and have remained open since the national lockdown was lifted. In July 2020 a full risk assessment was completed in both centres which led to huge changes in how we work. Screens were installed, people allocated to individual offices and working patterns changed. New contracts and agreements were put into place for clients who could no longer wait for face-to-face support.

Because of all the changes that we have instigated and put in place, we have remained open through the second and third lockdown which is something that many other organisations were unable to do. Following the initial success of our Reducing Anxiety Depression and Stress (RADS) courses, we gained funding to train all of our qualified counsellors in hypnotherapy. A total of twenty-two counsellors have received this training which has led to clinical hypnotherapy becoming a core part of our counselling service used to install stabilisation and reduce anxiety, stress, and depression.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Internal and external factors

Development, Training & Research

As we enter 20/21 now is the time to reset our services and service sustainability. Although there is much concerning us when we consider today there is much to be excited about, with additional funding to support us during the pandemic we have been able to both upskill and add to our teams, expanding the ISVA and Children's team, as well as more counsellors coming on board. I have witnessed is overwhelming supportive, strength and courage in difficult times from staff and volunteers, always keeping the client and the heart of the support we provide. Looking ahead I am hugely optimistic.

Although some service development was halted during this time, ideas were shared, and innovative service delivery continues. Research shows that accommodating clients' preferences in therapy can lead to better therapeutic alliances, lower dropout, and improved outcomes. We are endeavouring to offer access a wider choice of therapeutic interventions within in one service. That gives clients choice and a sense of autonomy in their care. To provide therapeutic care that recognises the lifelong psychological and physiological impact.

Financial review

Financial position

At the end of this year RASA holds in the region of £82,000, which is sufficient to pay necessary redundancy and to enable key members of staff to wind down the Charity and to dissolve and disperse assets and clients as appropriate.

RASA has in place a comprehensive Financial Procedure (updated and reviewed in January 2020. It is available upon request.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Principal funding sources

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for three years (April 2018 to April 2021) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs. The service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs.

RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

2179 new clients were welcomed into RASA service in this year - 902 client cases were carried forward from the previous year - 3081 unique individuals in total were therefore seen in service in the year.

With the onset of Covid-19 in March 2020, a decision was made to extend, without re-tendering, this contract, for an additional 12 months to 31-03-2022.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR FEMALE RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the female Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for females over the age of 13. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to all female survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR MALE RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the male Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for males over the age of 13. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to all male survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE CSE FUNDING UPLIFT

As recipients of the Rape Support Fund, RASA was pleased to accept an uplift in funding to enable us to meet the challenges of increasing numbers of adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Exploitation as a result of high-profile national media and the promotion of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

This allows us to provide additional support to adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Rape.

WIRRAL BOROUGH COUNCIL PUBLIC HEALTH

RASA is additionally commissioned to deliver counselling and support to adult victims of sexual violence living in Wirral. This commission was achieved in 2017 and runs from April 2017- March 2022.

CHILDREN IN NEED

RASA is funded through Children in Need to deliver a Children's Sexual Violence Support Service. This is newly achieved funding and will build on the previous Children in Need funding that saw a Children's Service fully established for the boroughs of Sefton, Liverpool and Wirral. The service has been able to grow to meet demand.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STRATEGIC REPORT
Financial review

This funding commenced on 01-10-2019 and is due to end on 30-09-2021.

PROCEEDS OF CRIME FUND

This project equips parents and carers with the skills and knowledge to spot the signs a child is being sexually abused or is in danger of such and will be able to effectively encourage disclosure and act on that disclosure to support the child safely and in their best interests. In addition, the training aims to STOP abuse before it starts by equipping adults with the skills to recognise early warnings and empowering them to act effectively and promptly to protect the child from harm. This is a twelve-month funding opportunity.

This funding was awarded in late 2018 and is due to be expended in this year.

JOHN MOORES FOUNDATION

RASA achieved funding for a contribution towards the post of Volunteer Coordinator and Trainer. The RASA Education Manager is an ABC accredited trainer capable of delivering nationally recognised qualifications in a variety of counselling modules. As part of this funding, RASA has been able to further develop training courses available to volunteers and staff and to increase the opportunities for self-sustainability.

RCEW DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FUND

RASA achieved funding through Rape Crisis England and Wales to make contribution towards the national Digital Transformation Project.

The main aims of the project are to:

- " Increase the number of women and girls supported, and to reach marginalised women and girls by integrating digital technologies into specialist sexual violence services and prevention.
- " Build specialist knowledge, capacity and infrastructure, and develop quality approaches to respond to technology related challenges.

THE BROOK TRUST

RASA achieved funding from The Brook Trust to cover the shortfall in funding that would have a detrimental effect and put core and essential services at risk. The aim of the fund is to protect and sustain existing services, not to fund new services or expansion. The fund is to retain existing key staff and services in the short term, enabling RASA to take measures to increase the chances of longer-term sustainability.

NHS ENGLAND HIGH VOLUME FUNDING

In November 2019 RASA received funding through NHS England to better manage the increased need for counselling and to reduce waiting times.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR MERSEYSIDE

In December 2019, RASA was awarded funding to run an interim support service for clients awaiting counselling and support. The RADS (Reducing Anxiety, Depression and Stress) service uses clinical hypnotherapy in a group setting with the effect of stabilising survivors and holding them engaged in the recovery process.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STRATEGIC REPORT **Financial review**

STEVE MORGAN FOUNDATION

At the outset of Covid-19, Steve Morgan Foundation offered emergency support for charities hit by sudden change and a need to carry on service delivery. RASA successfully applied for, and received this funding which allowed us to purchase equipment to immediately commence remote working with clients.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the sole aim of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum. In this year the training contributed 8% of RASA Income.

SPORT ENGLAND

RASA was awarded funding in this year to run yoga courses for survivors of sexual violence.

Reserves policy

RASA aims to build a reserve fund to cover 3 months running costs of the Charity. Currently such a reserve would be in the region of £250,000. As RASA works to contract budget deadlines, it is unlikely that RASA will achieve full reserve cover without substantial unrestricted donations being received as all available funding is being used to maintain and develop services for clients.

At 31st March 2021 the total funds held are £194,818 made up of Restricted Funds of £48,467 and Unrestricted Funds of £146,351.

Included in unrestricted funds is the balance of the property owned by the property held at a value of £18,260.

The total reserves not including the property is £176,558.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the 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.

Principal risks and uncertainties

During the Covid-19 pandemic, RASA were able to adapt in a responsive and flexible way to accommodate remote working to ensure staff and clients were kept safe. Existing clients were provided with the option of continuing with their sessions remotely or waiting until face-to-face support could resume. New clients started their sessions remotely either online or over the telephone. RASA checked in with clients on a weekly basis by email and text. This support was described as invaluable during what was already a difficult time for clients, which was then exasperated by the impacts of the pandemic, including isolation and limited support networks associated with the national lockdown measures. Whilst many clients were keen to have face-to-face contact, they did find remote support more accessible, reducing travel and allowing them to attend during work hours. RASA were keen to continue to provide a blended offer going forward, giving the clients the option and choice of remote or face-to-face engagement, or a mixture of the two

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

RASA is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England / Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 9 of these financial statements.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

RASA welcomes individuals who wish to be considered as a potential trustee.

Prospective trustees are recommended, self-refer or respond to advertisements on volunteer websites.

Prospective trustees progress through to appointment via the safer recruitment process under which they are interviewed by two senior staff members and/or an existing trustee.

As an accredited member of Rape Crisis England and Wales, RASA must ensure that the trustee board remains women lead. Men are welcome to apply to be trustees but will be unable to take key board positions.

Following safer recruitment process completion, prospective candidates are forwarded for election at the next AGM. At this point they must present a short biography to allow members to decide who they wish to elect. Existing elected trustees may also decide to recommend individuals to be co-opted onto the Board of Trustees. This must be carried out in line with the RASA Constitution.

Decision making

Day to day decisions are made by the operational management team consisting of Josephine Wood, Vicky Green and Lorraine Wood.

Induction and training of new trustees

Individuals must then successfully complete the RASA training for non-client focused staff. This process is carefully monitored by Education Centre staff for suitability to work with RASA.

Key management remuneration

Trustees have set the remuneration for key management.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04538556 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1094462

Registered office

15 Morpeth Close

Moreton

Wirral

CH46 6HQ

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Principal address

Units 2 and 3 Stella Nova
Washington Parade
Bootle
L20 4TZ

Trustees

K Teeboon (resigned 27.7.20)
L Pilling
P Smith
D Blaylock
J Smith

Company Secretary

J Wood

Senior Statutory Auditor

Beverley Rice

Auditors

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd 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) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"

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.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

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, Robinson Rice Associates, 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 07-08-2022 and signed on the board's behalf by:



.....
J Smith - Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; 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 corresponding figures in respect of the prior year have not been audited.

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.
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

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 such as fraud are inherently more difficult to detect than irregularities from error but we tailor our audit to provide reasonable assurance that the accounts are free from such misstatements. Fraud and other errors could occur due to no segregation of duties so we have reviewed the charities internal controls, organisation structure and their risk assessment practices. We have discussed in detail with the management the workings of the organisation to obtain a clear understanding of the entities laws and regulations and their control procedures in the organisation. In doing so we have reviewed the effectiveness of the charities controls based on the organisations functions and through this process identified areas that we believe would be higher risk areas for misstatement. We then check our understandings by testing these systems and risk areas to enable us to draw conclusions to the accuracy of the accounts.

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
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Rice', with a large, loopy flourish above the name.

Beverley Rice (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

Date: 7 June 2022

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	8,239	-	8,239	19,230
Charitable activities	4				
Provision of services		85,780	934,822	1,020,602	778,759
Other trading activities	3	<u>645</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>645</u>	<u>138,740</u>
Total		94,662	934,824	1,029,486	936,729
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	-	4,124	4,124	45,221
Charitable activities	6				
Provision of services		7,677	942,059	949,736	908,924
Total		<u>7,677</u>	<u>946,183</u>	<u>953,860</u>	<u>954,145</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		86,985	(11,359)	75,626	(17,416)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		59,366	59,826	119,192	136,608
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>146,351</u>	<u>48,467</u>	<u>194,818</u>	<u>119,192</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Balance Sheet
31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	4,005	29,780	33,785	30,706
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	15	-	-	-	8,000
Debtors	16	30,780	83,070	113,850	50,375
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>120,327</u>	<u>(37,971)</u>	<u>82,356</u>	<u>54,389</u>
		151,107	45,099	196,206	112,764
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	(8,758)	(26,415)	(35,173)	(24,278)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>142,349</u>	<u>18,684</u>	<u>161,033</u>	<u>88,486</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>146,354</u>	<u>48,464</u>	<u>194,818</u>	<u>119,192</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>146,354</u>	<u>48,464</u>	<u>194,818</u>	<u>119,192</u>
FUNDS	18				
Unrestricted funds				146,351	59,366
Restricted funds				<u>48,467</u>	<u>59,826</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>194,818</u>	<u>119,192</u>

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

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 07-06-2022 and were signed on its behalf by: J Smith - Trustee



The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>40,164</u>	<u>(20,563)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>40,164</u>	<u>(20,563)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(12,197)	(8,531)
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(12,197)</u>	<u>(8,531)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		27,967	(29,094)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>54,389</u>	<u>83,483</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>82,356</u>	<u>54,389</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Net Income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	75,626	(17,416)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	6,705	6,541
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	2,414	258
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	8,000	(500)
Increase in debtors	(63,475)	(7,914)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>10,894</u>	<u>(1,532)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u>40,164</u>	<u>(20,563)</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.21 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>54,389</u>	<u>27,967</u>	<u>82,356</u>
	<u>54,389</u>	<u>27,967</u>	<u>82,356</u>
Total	<u>54,389</u>	<u>27,967</u>	<u>82,356</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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.

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.

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.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

All splits are based on the numbers of clients served by the particular costs - or in the case of supervision - actual costs itemised in invoices. In the case of funds to be split across boroughs, funds are split in accordance with population of the borough in question (%).

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

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

Freehold property	- in accordance with the property
Improvements to property	- 33% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

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.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Donations	<u>8,239</u>	<u>19,230</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Shop income	-	40,582
Training courses	595	78,158
Room hire	<u>50</u>	<u>20,000</u>
	<u>645</u>	<u>138,740</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Commissioned work	Provision of services	-	26,125
Grants	Provision of services	<u>1,020,602</u>	<u>752,634</u>
		<u>1,020,602</u>	<u>778,759</u>

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

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Grant Income	<u>1,020,602</u>	<u>752,634</u>

5. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Opening stock	8,000	7,500
Purchases	(8,000)	22,341
Closing stock	-	(8,000)
Staff costs	-	17,386
Hire of plant and machinery	<u>4,124</u>	<u>5,994</u>
	<u>4,124</u>	<u>45,221</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities (see note 7) £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>928,163</u>	<u>13,130</u>	<u>8,442</u>	<u>949,735</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

7. GRANTS PAYABLE

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Provision of services	<u>13,130</u>	<u>10,677</u>

A grant was given to the organisation End Violence Against Women for the collected funds to hold CPS to account for their appalling failure to progress cases on a merits based approach.
<https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/justice-after-rape/>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Provision of services	<u>69</u>	<u>8,373</u>	<u>8,442</u>

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	6,500	-
Depreciation - owned assets	6,703	6,546
Hire of plant and machinery	4,124	5,994
Deficit on disposal of fixed assets	<u>2,414</u>	<u>258</u>

10. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors and their associates for the audit of the charity's financial statements	6,500	-

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

12. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>605,247</u>	<u>595,196</u>
	<u>605,247</u>	<u>595,196</u>

Salary costs include amounts paid to subcontracted workers.

They also include:

Employers National Insurance £36,673
Employer Pension Contributions £7,583

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

	31.3.21	31.3.20
Management	8	8
Counsellors and support workers	<u>19</u>	<u>16</u>
	<u>27</u>	<u>24</u>

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

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	19,230	-	19,230
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	26,125	752,634	778,759
Other trading activities	<u>98,158</u>	<u>40,582</u>	<u>138,740</u>
Total	143,513	793,216	936,729
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	1,226	43,995	45,221
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	133,180	775,744	908,924
Total	<u>134,406</u>	<u>819,739</u>	<u>954,145</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	9,107	(26,523)	(17,416)

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	50,263	86,352	136,615
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>59,370</u>	<u>59,829</u>	<u>119,199</u>

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 April 2020	41,500	16,920	23,126	43,995	125,541
Additions	-	-	-	12,197	12,197
Disposals	-	-	(1,561)	(6,114)	(7,675)
At 31 March 2021	<u>41,500</u>	<u>16,920</u>	<u>21,565</u>	<u>50,078</u>	<u>130,063</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2020	22,410	16,920	18,821	36,684	94,835
Charge for year	830	-	881	4,992	6,703
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	(823)	(4,437)	(5,260)
At 31 March 2021	<u>23,240</u>	<u>16,920</u>	<u>18,879</u>	<u>37,239</u>	<u>96,278</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2021	<u>18,260</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,686</u>	<u>12,839</u>	<u>33,785</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>19,090</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,305</u>	<u>7,311</u>	<u>30,706</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

15. STOCKS

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Stocks	<u>-</u>	<u>8,000</u>

16. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Other debtors	-	555
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>113,850</u>	<u>49,820</u>
	<u>113,850</u>	<u>50,375</u>

17. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	<u>35,173</u>	<u>24,278</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	52,706	91,227	143,933
Lime Culture for Truth Project	8,909	(1,855)	7,054
Education Service	<u>(2,249)</u>	<u>(2,384)</u>	<u>(4,633)</u>
	59,366	86,988	146,354
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	176	(44)	132
Hoylake Holistics	3,161	(3,161)	-
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	19,128	(839)	18,289
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	109	(27)	82
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	60	(15)	45
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	320	(25)	295
Liverpool City Safe *	98	(25)	73
Rape Services Funding	1,382	2,192	3,574
SARC Counselling Funding *	45	(11)	34
Liverpool *	13	(13)	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	111	(28)	83
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	1,172	(428)	744
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	578	(147)	431
Wirral CSP	47	(12)	35
Jill's Fund	13,105	(10,000)	3,105
MOJ Additional Funding	-	403	403
OPCC Contract	30	291	321
Proceeds of Crime Fund	7,099	(5,261)	1,838
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	304	(152)	152
Community Foundations for RADS	7,533	-	7,533
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	6,782	(1,971)	4,811
Steve Morgan Foundation	<u>(1,427)</u>	<u>1,427</u>	<u>-</u>
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	-	306	306
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	<u>-</u>	<u>6,178</u>	<u>6,178</u>
	<u>59,826</u>	<u>(11,362)</u>	<u>48,464</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>119,192</u>	<u>75,626</u>	<u>194,818</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. 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	94,662	(3,435)	91,227
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(1,855)	(1,855)
Education Service	-	(2,384)	(2,384)
	94,662	(7,677)	86,988
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(44)	(44)
Hoylake Holistics	-	(3,160)	(3,160)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(840)	(840)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(27)	(27)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(15)	(15)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(25)	(25)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(24)	(24)
Rape Services Funding	167,000	(164,808)	2,192
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(11)	(11)
Liverpool *	-	(13)	(13)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(28)	(28)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	52,015	(52,443)	(428)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	49,919	(50,066)	(147)
Wirral CSP	-	(12)	(12)
Jill's Fund	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
MOJ Additional Funding	34,000	(33,598)	402
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	25,618	(25,618)	-
OPCC Contract	448,502	(448,211)	291
Proceeds of Crime Fund	-	(5,261)	(5,261)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	-	(152)	(152)
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	(1,971)	(1,971)
Steve Morgan Foundation	10,000	(8,573)	1,427
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	7,334	(7,028)	306
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	46,306	(40,128)	6,178
MOJ Covid 19 funds to March 21	47,250	(47,250)	-
Smallwood Trust	9,829	(9,829)	-
MOJ ISVA Funding	37,051	(37,051)	-
	934,824	(946,186)	(11,362)
TOTAL FUNDS	1,029,486	(953,860)	75,626

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	43,453	8,498	755	52,706
Designated Fund for Training and Development	304	451	(755)	-
Lime Culture for Truth Project	2,177	6,732	-	8,909
Education Service	4,329	(6,578)	-	(2,249)
	50,263	9,103	-	59,366
Restricted funds				
Justice for Jane	1,321	(1,145)	-	176
Hoylake Holistics	14,250	(11,089)	-	3,161
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	19,996	(868)	-	19,128
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	145	(36)	-	109
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	79	(19)	-	60
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	353	(33)	-	320
Liverpool City Safe *	130	(32)	-	98
Rape Services Funding	1,015	367	-	1,382
SARC Counselling Funding *	60	(15)	-	45
Liverpool *	17	(4)	-	13
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	433	(322)	-	111
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	13,254	(12,082)	-	1,172
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	773	(195)	-	578
Wirral CSP	63	(16)	-	47
Jill's Fund	23,105	(10,000)	-	13,105
OPCC Contract	40	(10)	-	30
Proceeds of Crime Fund	2,599	4,500	-	7,099
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	8,719	(8,415)	-	304
Community Foundations for RADS	-	7,533	-	7,533
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	6,782	-	6,782
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	(1,427)	-	(1,427)
	86,352	(26,526)	-	59,826
TOTAL FUNDS	136,615	(17,423)	-	119,192

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. 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	19,231	(10,726)	8,505
Designated Fund for Training and Development	917	(466)	451
Lime Culture for Truth Project	26,126	(19,394)	6,732
Merseycare	20,000	(20,000)	-
Education Service	<u>77,239</u>	<u>(83,817)</u>	<u>(6,578)</u>
	143,513	(134,403)	9,110
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(1,145)	(1,145)
Hoylake Holistics	40,580	(51,669)	(11,089)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(868)	(868)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(36)	(36)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	1	(20)	(19)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(33)	(33)
Liverpool City Safe *	1	(33)	(32)
Rape Services Funding	99,999	(99,632)	367
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(15)	(15)
Liverpool *	-	(4)	(4)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	(1)	(321)	(322)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	36,751	(48,833)	(12,082)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	49,920	(50,115)	(195)
Wirral CSP	-	(16)	(16)
Jill's Fund	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
MOJ Additional Funding	34,000	(34,000)	-
OPCC Contract	448,500	(448,510)	(10)
Proceeds of Crime Fund	7,500	(3,000)	4,500
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	2,025	(10,440)	(8,415)
NHS Funding for Counselling	56,637	(56,637)	-
Community Foundations for RADS	7,680	(147)	7,533
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	9,623	(2,841)	6,782
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	(1,427)	(1,427)
	<u>793,216</u>	<u>(819,742)</u>	<u>(26,526)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>936,729</u>	<u>(954,145)</u>	<u>(17,416)</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	43,453	99,734	755	143,942
Designated Fund for Training and Development	304	451	(755)	-
Lime Culture for Truth Project	2,177	4,877	-	7,054
Education Service	4,329	(8,962)	-	(4,633)
	50,263	96,100	-	146,363
Restricted funds				
Justice for Jane	1,321	(1,189)	-	132
Hoylake Holistics	14,250	(14,250)	-	-
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	19,996	(1,707)	-	18,289
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	145	(63)	-	82
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	79	(34)	-	45
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	353	(58)	-	295
Liverpool City Safe *	130	(57)	-	73
Rape Services Funding	1,015	2,559	-	3,574
SARC Counselling Funding *	60	(26)	-	34
Liverpool *	17	(17)	-	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	433	(350)	-	83
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	13,254	(12,510)	-	744
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	773	(342)	-	431
Wirral CSP	63	(28)	-	35
Jill's Fund	23,105	(20,000)	-	3,105
MOJ Additional Funding	-	403	-	403
OPCC Contract	40	281	-	321
Proceeds of Crime Fund	2,599	(761)	-	1,838
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	8,719	(8,567)	-	152
Community Foundations for RADS	-	7,533	-	7,533
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	4,811	-	4,811
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	-	306	-	306
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	6,178	-	6,178
	86,352	(37,888)	-	48,464
TOTAL FUNDS	136,615	58,212	-	194,818

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	113,894	(14,160)	99,734
Designated Fund for Training and Development	917	(466)	451
Lime Culture for Truth Project	26,126	(21,249)	4,877
Merseycare	20,000	(20,000)	-
Education Service	77,239	(86,201)	(8,962)
	238,176	(142,076)	96,100
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(1,189)	(1,189)
Hoylake Holistics	40,579	(54,829)	(14,250)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	1	(1,708)	(1,707)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(63)	(63)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	1	(35)	(34)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(58)	(58)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(57)	(57)
Rape Services Funding	266,999	(264,440)	2,559
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(26)	(26)
Liverpool *	-	(17)	(17)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	(1)	(349)	(350)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	88,766	(101,276)	(12,510)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	99,839	(100,181)	(342)
Wirral CSP	-	(28)	(28)
Jill's Fund	-	(20,000)	(20,000)
MOJ Additional Funding	68,001	(67,598)	403
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	25,618	(25,618)	-
OPCC Contract	897,002	(896,721)	281
Proceeds of Crime Fund	7,500	(8,261)	(761)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	2,025	(10,592)	(8,567)
NHS Funding for Counselling	56,637	(56,637)	-
Community Foundations for RADS	7,680	(147)	7,533
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	9,623	(4,812)	4,811
Steve Morgan Foundation	10,000	(10,000)	-
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	7,334	(7,028)	306
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	46,306	(40,128)	6,178
MOJ Covid 19 funds to March 21	47,250	(47,250)	-
Smallwood Trust	9,829	(9,829)	-

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

MOJ ISVA Funding	37,051	(37,051)	-
	1,728,040	(1,765,928)	(37,888)
TOTAL FUNDS	1,966,216	(1,908,004)	58,212

19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021.

20. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating Lease Commitments

A new lease for rent for the Unit in Bootle was signed in February 2020 running to 30 September 2025.

The total rent due to be paid within one year are £42,751 (2020 £40,633)

There is a photocopier lease and the payments due in the next year are £4,504.

The total due within one year is £47,256 (2020 £45,137).

The rent due more than one year is £188,818 (2020 £192,380).

Other rents are paid on rolling contracts.

21. FUNDS

* These funds relate to historic fixed asset capital donations.

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the competitive tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for three years (April 2018 - April 2021) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs.

RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

The full service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs as well as a children's provision, pre-trial therapy, and counselling.

2062 new clients were welcomed into RASA service in this year - 1003 client cases were carried forward from the previous year - 3065 unique individuals in total were therefore seen in service in the year.

With the onset of Covid-19 in March 2020, a decision was made to extend, without re-tendering, this contract, for an additional 12 months to 31-03-2021

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

21. FUNDS - continued

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS - RAPE SUPPORT FUND

RASA achieved funding through the female Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for females over the age of 13. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to all female survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE CSE FUNDING UPLIFT

As recipients of the Rape Support Fund, RASA was pleased to accept an uplift in funding to enable us to meet the challenges of increasing numbers of adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Exploitation as a result of high-profile national media and the promotion of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

This allows us to provide additional support to adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Rape. 792 such cases were referred or self-referred in this year.

WIRRAL BOROUGH COUNCIL PUBLIC HEALTH

RASA is additionally commissioned to deliver counselling and support to adult victims of sexual violence living in Wirral. This commission was achieved in 2017 and runs from April 2017- March 2022. 553 new Wirral cases were referred in this year.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE EXTRAORDINARY COVID-19 SUPPORT

RASA was awarded funding under this emergency grant fund, to allow us to extend the ability of counsellors and ISVAs to provide effective remote support to try and keep the waiting lists and waiting times, steady throughout the pandemic. RASA used this funding to employ additional staff to provide appropriate support and assistance to those in need after becoming victims of sexual violence an abuse.

A second round of this funding was released for application and RASA was again awarded a similar value to allow sustained, enhanced and increased levels of counselling and support.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ISVA FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for additional ISVA funding on behalf of RASA and RASASC to allow us to enhance and improve our response to those individuals who wished to make reports to the police and be supported through the criminal justice system. Throughout this year, it was indeed essential to provide this additional support to such victims as justice systems were stalled and/or halted by the pandemic and survivors of rape and abuse needed considerably heightened support at this very difficult time.

OPCC COVID 19 FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for a small pot of funding to fill gaps in service required during the first 6 months of this year. RASA used this funding to provide remote, sessional counselling, allowing victims and survivors to achieve, or continue receiving, remote counselling from home.

21. FUNDS - continued

CHILDREN IN NEED

RASA is funded through Children in Need to deliver a Children's Sexual Violence Support Service. This is newly achieved funding and will build on the previous Children in Need funding that saw a Children's Service fully established for the boroughs of Sefton, Liverpool and Wirral. The service has been able to grow to meet demand.

This funding commenced on 01-10-2019 and is due to end on 30-09-2021

PROCEEDS OF CRIME FUND

Funding achieved under this grant equips parents and carers with the skills and knowledge to spot the signs a child is being sexually abused or is in danger of such and enable them to effectively encourage disclosure and act on that disclosure to support the child safely and in their best interests.

In addition, the training aims to STOP abuse before it starts by equipping adults with the skills to recognise early warnings and empowering them to act effectively and promptly to protect the child from harm. This is a twelve-month funding opportunity.

This funding was awarded in late 2018 and was extended due to Covid-19. It will be fully expended in this year.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR MERSEYSIDE

In December 2019, RASA was awarded funding to run an interim support service for clients awaiting counselling and support. The RADS (Reducing Anxiety, Depression and Stress) service uses clinical hypnotherapy in a group setting with the effect of stabilising survivors and holding them engaged in the recovery process. Due to restrictions under Covid-19, this funding has been extended to be expended in this year. This did not happen and at the close of the year, the balance remained the same.

STEVE MORGAN FOUNDATION

At the outset of Covid-19, Steve Morgan Foundation offered emergency support for charities hit by sudden change and a need to carry on service delivery. RASA successfully applied for and received this funding which allowed us to purchase equipment to immediately commence remote working with clients. This funding was received right at the end of last year and was expended swiftly at the start of this one. It allowed us to quickly equip our counsellors and ISVAs with the necessary laptops and online platforms they required to carry on with their work, but remotely.

SMALLWOOD TRUST

To assist in the recovery process and to better retain clients during restricted access times and in the aftermath of lockdown, RASA developed appropriate clinical hypnotherapy courses to be delivered on site. These sessions were warmly welcomed by clients who found strength and support from being engaged in them.

21. FUNDS - continued

MERSEYSIDE VIOLENCE REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP

This funding allowed a cohort of specifically trained counsellors to provide a trauma informed response to survivors of sexual violence, focussing on psych education, which includes physiological impact of trauma and developing an understanding how they have been impacted by the sexual violence experienced, developing positive coping strategies and resilience building. In addition to counselling, we offer Clinical Hypnotherapy, which is extremely successful at treating anxiety, depression, stress, and PTSD.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the sole aim of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum. In this year the training contributed 7% of RASA Income.

SPORT ENGLAND

RASA was awarded funding in early 2020 to run yoga courses for survivors of sexual violence. As we have been unable to carry out "in person" yoga classes in this year, we have adapted several sessions to become virtual and have requested a change in direction to allow us to provide a lasting online platform to endure beyond the limits of this grant.

JILL'S FUND

This public collection of donations is being held by RASA following the sudden and unexpected death of Jill Saward in January 2017. It has been held by RASA until such time as Jill's family determine it's most beneficial use for continuing the work Jill was unable to complete. Jill was a supported of RASA Merseyside for many years and was closely engaged, right up until the time of her death.

MERSEY CARE

This income is received from allowing sessional room hire within the RASA Centre.

LIME CULTURE FOR TRUTH PROJECT

RASA was commissioned by Lime Culture to deliver effective professional support to those individuals choosing to make representation to the IICSA.

HOYLAKE HOLISTICS

RASA opened the West Wirral Centre in 2012 with a grant from the Big Lottery with the aim of creating a social enterprise to underpin the sexual violence support work we do in West Wirral. Hoylake Holistics runs as a shop providing holistic therapies to the general public, with discreet facilities for survivors to access support. However due to the circumstances resulting from COVID in 2020 the shop is unlikely to be able to continue past 2021.

JUSTICE FOR JANE

These funds are held in trust for the family of Jane Clough. They are donated funds to be used by the family to fund awareness raising and education around rape and domestic violence. The family retired from this role at the end of year to 31-03-2020 and requested that the small remaining balance be donated to RASA to be used as appropriate.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	8,239	19,230
Other trading activities		
Shop income		40,582
Training courses	595	78,158
Room hire	50	20,000
	<u>645</u>	<u>138,740</u>
Charitable activities		
Commissioned work	-	26,125
Grants	<u>1,020,602</u>	<u>752,634</u>
	<u>1,020,602</u>	<u>778,759</u>
Total incoming resources	1,029,486	936,729
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Opening stock	8,000	7,500
Purchases	(8,000)	22,341
Wages	-	17,386
Hire of plant and machinery	4,124	5,994
Closing stock	-	(8,000)
	<u>4,124</u>	<u>45,221</u>
Charitable activities		
Wages	605,248	577,810
Rates and water	1,857	3,137
Insurance	7,059	7,246
Light and heat	6,889	10,323
Telephone	41,531	23,713
Postage and stationery	4,423	6,055
Advertising	-	7,507
Rent	59,523	70,386
Survivor travel	615	750
Travel and expenses	235	4,032
Carried forward	<u>727,380</u>	<u>710,959</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Charitable activities		
Brought forward	727,380	710,959
Training	47,095	32,762
Canteen & household costs	16,773	5,455
Awards and exam costs	-	8,415
Repairs and maintenance	7,137	4,587
Software and IT costs	22,604	25,911
Subscriptions	1,007	1,602
PPE equipment	1,042	-
Partner's payments	96,007	98,000
Freehold property	830	830
Fixtures and fittings	884	1,534
Computer equipment	4,991	4,177
Loss on sale of tangible fixed assets	2,414	258
Grants to institutions	13,130	10,000
Grants to individuals	-	677
	<u>941,294</u>	<u>905,167</u>
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	69	676
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	6,500	-
Accountancy and legal fees	<u>1,873</u>	<u>3,081</u>
	<u>8,373</u>	<u>3,081</u>
Total resources expended	<u>953,860</u>	<u>954,145</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>75,626</u>	<u>(17,416)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04538556 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1094462

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021
for
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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 31 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).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The full Trustee's Report is filed separately at Charities Commission.

Central to RASA's purpose is the principle of providing a safe, confidential place for survivors of sexual violence to be listened to, believed, and supported, with no pressure put on them. This work encompasses a helpline and email contact service, face-to-face counselling and emotional support, facilitated support groups, advocacy for those dealing with the criminal justice system (ISVA), training for survivors and for the public, family support, mindfulness and meditation, complimentary therapies, and signposting to other services.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are

1. To provide a free, confidential and non-judgemental support service for women and girls who have been victims of sexual violence in Merseyside (under the trading name RASA).
2. To raise public awareness of the damaging and life-changing effects of rape and sexual abuse.

In order to fulfil these aims, the objectives of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre are:

- * To provide a service for women and girls, which includes telephone, one-to-one and group support, in women only space at designated times and at the request of the woman or girl.
- * To provide a telephone support service for supporters of survivors, both male and female.
- * To provide information and advice to other individuals and agencies to provide training and talks to external agencies in the local community to recruit volunteers.
- * To provide adequate training, support and supervision for staff and volunteers.
- * To monitor and evaluate service provision and policies on a continual basis involving staff, volunteers and women who use the service.
- * To work with other individuals and agencies to further the aims of The Rape & Sexual Abuse (RASA) Centre to raise funds to meet the needs of the service to identify areas of unmet need and take appropriate action.
- * To provide parity of service for male survivors of sexual violence, noting that such support and counselling will not encroach on the women only space of the RASA Safe House or any of the centres where RASA works in a face to face capacity with victims of sexual violence.

RASA does not employ male staff or volunteers as we are keenly aware that the vast proportion of sexual violence is perpetrated by men against women and it would therefore be inappropriate for male workers to be evident in a professional sexual violence counselling and support service

Working from a feminist perspective: What it means for RASA

Since it was established in Birkenhead in 1986, RASA Merseyside has always had a feminist ethos, and has aimed to support survivors of sexual violence from a feminist perspective.

People have different understandings of the term 'feminism', and the social and political movements that have been called 'feminist' are diverse, sometimes taking opposing positions on particular issues.

At RASA, we embrace diverse understandings and views, while ensuring that all RASA staff and volunteers share a common set of values on sexual violence through our recruitment and training practices.

Our ethos has been shaped by our experience of working with survivors of sexual violence, and by the lived experience of the women who have volunteered and worked for RASA, over the last 33 years.

This has led to an outward-looking approach, allowing us to respond to the needs of the community we are part of. Over the years, we have moved from being a collective of women offering peer support to other women in their community via a phone line, to the professional organisation we are today, offering counselling and ISVA services to women, children and men across Merseyside.

While much has changed in the way we work, and the number of survivors we are able to help has grown, our core ethos has changed little.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

We continue to describe our ethos as feminist for the following reasons:

- * Gender inequality, specifically discrimination against and oppression of women and girls, persists in our society and around the world.
- * While gender inequality has many consequences and effects, sexual violence is among the most severe and pervasive worldwide. This is evidenced by the fact that the vast majority of incidents of sexual violence are perpetrated by a man against a woman or girl.
- * Sexual violence is a means of exerting power and control over victims, and a means of diminishing the victim's own power and control over their own life. On a societal level, it is a means of enforcing patriarchal power and control through violence against individuals, and through the fear of violence.
- * Without recognising the gendered nature of sexual violence with individual survivors and as an organisation, we cannot help survivors to recover from trauma, or find long-term strategies to address sexual violence in our community.
- * Patriarchal violence, perpetrated by overwhelmingly be men, affects men and boys, and transgendered/non-binary people, as well as women and girls. Understanding the common pattern of sexual violence as a means of power and control and recognising the specific ways people of different genders are affected, is entirely compatible with a feminist approach to supporting survivors of sexual violence.
- * Maintaining a women-only workforce and providing women-only spaces remains crucial to our ability to support all survivors effectively. The survivors who come to us tell us this consistently.

Our Ethos

- * RASA Merseyside is a women-led, women-run service founded on feminist principles. We believe that by working in an all-women environment, we challenge structures that discriminate against women, providing the opportunity to empower ourselves and claim control of our own lives.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are crimes of violence and abuse of power, not 'unwanted sex'.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are never the fault of the survivor, and we work with all survivors towards this understanding of what happened to them.
- * Rape and sexual abuse are gendered crimes - the majority of victims are women and children, and the majority of perpetrators are men. Sexual violence is both an expression of, and a means of enforcing and increasing, discrimination against women and gender inequality.
- * Because women and girls live with sexism, the degradation of the female body and the threat of sexual violence in society at large, we create and maintain women-only spaces to offer relief and safety for survivors, and for the women who work at RASA. We know that this benefits survivors and helps them to heal.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

* When children have experienced sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, they require specialist support. We strive to develop ways of working that help children recover from this trauma, and live happy and healthy lives. We reach out to families, schools and the wider community to raise awareness and help prevent the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and young people.

* We know that transgender people are at increased risk of sexual violence and abuse, as well as transphobic violence. We aim to welcome all trans and non-binary gender survivors in a safe space for them, and work with other organisations locally to ensure they get the specialist support they need.

* We work with men and boys to the same feminist principles, recognizing the different ways that sexual violence affects them, and offering men-only support groups for survivors facilitated by a RASA worker. At RASA we see all sexual violence as a cause and a consequence of the patriarchal societal structure we live in, acknowledging that almost all men and boys who experience sexual violence are abused by a man. As such, we believe a service working to feminist principles is well placed to help male survivors of sexual violence.

* Recognising the oppression that many groups experience in today's society, we aim to work in a non-oppressive, anti-discriminatory way with people of any race, class, culture, immigration status, nationality, faith, sexuality, gender identity, age, disability, or health status. We work towards making our service accessible and available to all, and actively seek to make links with the diverse communities in Merseyside.

Volunteers

RASA retains volunteers very effectively, because RASA is a great place to work but it is also due largely, we believe, to the support and development opportunities afforded within the organisation.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities

We continued to work throughout this year, despite the challenges and have remained open since the national lockdown was lifted. In July 2020 a full risk assessment was completed in both centres which led to huge changes in how we work. Screens were installed, people allocated to individual offices and working patterns changed. New contracts and agreements were put into place for clients who could no longer wait for face-to-face support.

Because of all the changes that we have instigated and put in place, we have remained open through the second and third lockdown which is something that many other organisations were unable to do. Following the initial success of our Reducing Anxiety Depression and Stress (RADS) courses, we gained funding to train all of our qualified counsellors in hypnotherapy. A total of twenty-two counsellors have received this training which has led to clinical hypnotherapy becoming a core part of our counselling service used to install stabilisation and reduce anxiety, stress, and depression.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Internal and external factors

Development, Training & Research

As we enter 20/21 now is the time to reset our services and service sustainability. Although there is much concerning us when we consider today there is much to be excited about, with additional funding to support us during the pandemic we have been able to both upskill and add to our teams, expanding the ISVA and Children's team, as well as more counsellors coming on board. I have witnessed is overwhelming supportive, strength and courage in difficult times from staff and volunteers, always keeping the client and the heart of the support we provide. Looking ahead I am hugely optimistic.

Although some service development was halted during this time, ideas were shared, and innovative service delivery continues. Research shows that accommodating clients' preferences in therapy can lead to better therapeutic alliances, lower dropout, and improved outcomes. We are endeavouring to offer access a wider choice of therapeutic interventions within in one service. That gives clients choice and a sense of autonomy in their care. To provide therapeutic care that recognises the lifelong psychological and physiological impact.

Financial review

Financial position

At the end of this year RASA holds in the region of £82,000, which is sufficient to pay necessary redundancy and to enable key members of staff to wind down the Charity and to dissolve and disperse assets and clients as appropriate.

RASA has in place a comprehensive Financial Procedure (updated and reviewed in January 2020. It is available upon request.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Principal funding sources

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for three years (April 2018 to April 2021) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs. The service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs.

RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

2179 new clients were welcomed into RASA service in this year - 902 client cases were carried forward from the previous year - 3081 unique individuals in total were therefore seen in service in the year.

With the onset of Covid-19 in March 2020, a decision was made to extend, without re-tendering, this contract, for an additional 12 months to 31-03-2022.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR FEMALE RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the female Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for females over the age of 13. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to all female survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR MALE RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

RASA achieved funding through the male Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for males over the age of 13. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to all male survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE CSE FUNDING UPLIFT

As recipients of the Rape Support Fund, RASA was pleased to accept an uplift in funding to enable us to meet the challenges of increasing numbers of adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Exploitation as a result of high-profile national media and the promotion of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

This allows us to provide additional support to adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Rape.

WIRRAL BOROUGH COUNCIL PUBLIC HEALTH

RASA is additionally commissioned to deliver counselling and support to adult victims of sexual violence living in Wirral. This commission was achieved in 2017 and runs from April 2017- March 2022.

CHILDREN IN NEED

RASA is funded through Children in Need to deliver a Children's Sexual Violence Support Service. This is newly achieved funding and will build on the previous Children in Need funding that saw a Children's Service fully established for the boroughs of Sefton, Liverpool and Wirral. The service has been able to grow to meet demand.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STRATEGIC REPORT
Financial review

This funding commenced on 01-10-2019 and is due to end on 30-09-2021.

PROCEEDS OF CRIME FUND

This project equips parents and carers with the skills and knowledge to spot the signs a child is being sexually abused or is in danger of such and will be able to effectively encourage disclosure and act on that disclosure to support the child safely and in their best interests. In addition, the training aims to STOP abuse before it starts by equipping adults with the skills to recognise early warnings and empowering them to act effectively and promptly to protect the child from harm. This is a twelve-month funding opportunity.

This funding was awarded in late 2018 and is due to be expended in this year.

JOHN MOORES FOUNDATION

RASA achieved funding for a contribution towards the post of Volunteer Coordinator and Trainer. The RASA Education Manager is an ABC accredited trainer capable of delivering nationally recognised qualifications in a variety of counselling modules. As part of this funding, RASA has been able to further develop training courses available to volunteers and staff and to increase the opportunities for self-sustainability.

RCEW DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FUND

RASA achieved funding through Rape Crisis England and Wales to make contribution towards the national Digital Transformation Project.

The main aims of the project are to:

- " Increase the number of women and girls supported, and to reach marginalised women and girls by integrating digital technologies into specialist sexual violence services and prevention.
- " Build specialist knowledge, capacity and infrastructure, and develop quality approaches to respond to technology related challenges.

THE BROOK TRUST

RASA achieved funding from The Brook Trust to cover the shortfall in funding that would have a detrimental effect and put core and essential services at risk. The aim of the fund is to protect and sustain existing services, not to fund new services or expansion. The fund is to retain existing key staff and services in the short term, enabling RASA to take measures to increase the chances of longer-term sustainability.

NHS ENGLAND HIGH VOLUME FUNDING

In November 2019 RASA received funding through NHS England to better manage the increased need for counselling and to reduce waiting times.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR MERSEYSIDE

In December 2019, RASA was awarded funding to run an interim support service for clients awaiting counselling and support. The RADS (Reducing Anxiety, Depression and Stress) service uses clinical hypnotherapy in a group setting with the effect of stabilising survivors and holding them engaged in the recovery process.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STRATEGIC REPORT **Financial review**

STEVE MORGAN FOUNDATION

At the outset of Covid-19, Steve Morgan Foundation offered emergency support for charities hit by sudden change and a need to carry on service delivery. RASA successfully applied for, and received this funding which allowed us to purchase equipment to immediately commence remote working with clients.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the sole aim of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum. In this year the training contributed 8% of RASA Income.

SPORT ENGLAND

RASA was awarded funding in this year to run yoga courses for survivors of sexual violence.

Reserves policy

RASA aims to build a reserve fund to cover 3 months running costs of the Charity. Currently such a reserve would be in the region of £250,000. As RASA works to contract budget deadlines, it is unlikely that RASA will achieve full reserve cover without substantial unrestricted donations being received as all available funding is being used to maintain and develop services for clients.

At 31st March 2021 the total funds held are £194,818 made up of Restricted Funds of £48,467 and Unrestricted Funds of £146,351.

Included in unrestricted funds is the balance of the property owned by the property held at a value of £18,260.

The total reserves not including the property is £176,558.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the 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.

Principal risks and uncertainties

During the Covid-19 pandemic, RASA were able to adapt in a responsive and flexible way to accommodate remote working to ensure staff and clients were kept safe. Existing clients were provided with the option of continuing with their sessions remotely or waiting until face-to-face support could resume. New clients started their sessions remotely either online or over the telephone. RASA checked in with clients on a weekly basis by email and text. This support was described as invaluable during what was already a difficult time for clients, which was then exasperated by the impacts of the pandemic, including isolation and limited support networks associated with the national lockdown measures. Whilst many clients were keen to have face-to-face contact, they did find remote support more accessible, reducing travel and allowing them to attend during work hours. RASA were keen to continue to provide a blended offer going forward, giving the clients the option and choice of remote or face-to-face engagement, or a mixture of the two

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

RASA is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England / Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 9 of these financial statements.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

RASA welcomes individuals who wish to be considered as a potential trustee.

Prospective trustees are recommended, self-refer or respond to advertisements on volunteer websites.

Prospective trustees progress through to appointment via the safer recruitment process under which they are interviewed by two senior staff members and/or an existing trustee.

As an accredited member of Rape Crisis England and Wales, RASA must ensure that the trustee board remains women lead. Men are welcome to apply to be trustees but will be unable to take key board positions.

Following safer recruitment process completion, prospective candidates are forwarded for election at the next AGM. At this point they must present a short biography to allow members to decide who they wish to elect. Existing elected trustees may also decide to recommend individuals to be co-opted onto the Board of Trustees. This must be carried out in line with the RASA Constitution.

Decision making

Day to day decisions are made by the operational management team consisting of Josephine Wood, Vicky Green and Lorraine Wood.

Induction and training of new trustees

Individuals must then successfully complete the RASA training for non-client focused staff. This process is carefully monitored by Education Centre staff for suitability to work with RASA.

Key management remuneration

Trustees have set the remuneration for key management.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04538556 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1094462

Registered office

15 Morpeth Close

Moreton

Wirral

CH46 6HQ

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Principal address

Units 2 and 3 Stella Nova
Washington Parade
Bootle
L20 4TZ

Trustees

K Teeboon (resigned 27.7.20)
L Pilling
P Smith
D Blaylock
J Smith

Company Secretary

J Wood

Senior Statutory Auditor

Beverley Rice

Auditors

Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd 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) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"

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.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

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, Robinson Rice Associates, 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 07-08-2022 and signed on the board's behalf by:



.....
J Smith - Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; 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 corresponding figures in respect of the prior year have not been audited.

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.
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

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 such as fraud are inherently more difficult to detect than irregularities from error but we tailor our audit to provide reasonable assurance that the accounts are free from such misstatements. Fraud and other errors could occur due to no segregation of duties so we have reviewed the charities internal controls, organisation structure and their risk assessment practices. We have discussed in detail with the management the workings of the organisation to obtain a clear understanding of the entities laws and regulations and their control procedures in the organisation. In doing so we have reviewed the effectiveness of the charities controls based on the organisations functions and through this process identified areas that we believe would be higher risk areas for misstatement. We then check our understandings by testing these systems and risk areas to enable us to draw conclusions to the accuracy of the accounts.

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
Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

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.



Beverley Rice (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Robinson Rice Associates
93 Banks Road
West Kirby
CH48 0RB

Date: 7 June 2022

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	8,239	-	8,239	19,230
Charitable activities	4				
Provision of services		85,780	934,822	1,020,602	778,759
Other trading activities	3	<u>645</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>645</u>	<u>138,740</u>
Total		94,662	934,824	1,029,486	936,729
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	-	4,124	4,124	45,221
Charitable activities	6				
Provision of services		7,677	942,059	949,736	908,924
Total		<u>7,677</u>	<u>946,183</u>	<u>953,860</u>	<u>954,145</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		86,985	(11,359)	75,626	(17,416)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		59,366	59,826	119,192	136,608
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>146,351</u>	<u>48,467</u>	<u>194,818</u>	<u>119,192</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Balance Sheet
31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	4,005	29,780	33,785	30,706
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	15	-	-	-	8,000
Debtors	16	30,780	83,070	113,850	50,375
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>120,327</u>	<u>(37,971)</u>	<u>82,356</u>	<u>54,389</u>
		151,107	45,099	196,206	112,764
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	(8,758)	(26,415)	(35,173)	(24,278)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>142,349</u>	<u>18,684</u>	<u>161,033</u>	<u>88,486</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>146,354</u>	<u>48,464</u>	<u>194,818</u>	<u>119,192</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>146,354</u>	<u>48,464</u>	<u>194,818</u>	<u>119,192</u>
FUNDS	18				
Unrestricted funds				146,351	59,366
Restricted funds				<u>48,467</u>	<u>59,826</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>194,818</u>	<u>119,192</u>

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

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 07-06-2022 and were signed on its behalf by: J Smith - Trustee



The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>40,164</u>	<u>(20,563)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>40,164</u>	<u>(20,563)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<u>(12,197)</u>	<u>(8,531)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(12,197)</u>	<u>(8,531)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>27,967</u>	<u>(29,094)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>54,389</u>	<u>83,483</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>82,356</u>	<u>54,389</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	75,626	(17,416)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	6,705	6,541
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	2,414	258
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	8,000	(500)
Increase in debtors	(63,475)	(7,914)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>10,894</u>	<u>(1,532)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u>40,164</u>	<u>(20,563)</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.21 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>54,389</u>	<u>27,967</u>	<u>82,356</u>
	<u>54,389</u>	<u>27,967</u>	<u>82,356</u>
Total	<u>54,389</u>	<u>27,967</u>	<u>82,356</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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.

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.

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.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

All splits are based on the numbers of clients served by the particular costs - or in the case of supervision - actual costs itemised in invoices. In the case of funds to be split across boroughs, funds are split in accordance with population of the borough in question (%).

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

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

Freehold property	- in accordance with the property
Improvements to property	- 33% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

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.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Donations	<u>8,239</u>	<u>19,230</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Shop income	-	40,582
Training courses	595	78,158
Room hire	<u>50</u>	<u>20,000</u>
	<u>645</u>	<u>138,740</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Commissioned work	Provision of services	-	26,125
Grants	Provision of services	<u>1,020,602</u>	<u>752,634</u>
		<u>1,020,602</u>	<u>778,759</u>

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

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Grant Income	<u>1,020,602</u>	<u>752,634</u>

5. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Opening stock	8,000	7,500
Purchases	(8,000)	22,341
Closing stock	-	(8,000)
Staff costs	-	17,386
Hire of plant and machinery	<u>4,124</u>	<u>5,994</u>
	<u>4,124</u>	<u>45,221</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities (see note 7) £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Provision of services	<u>928,163</u>	<u>13,130</u>	<u>8,442</u>	<u>949,735</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

7. GRANTS PAYABLE

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Provision of services	<u>13,130</u>	<u>10,677</u>

A grant was given to the organisation End Violence Against Women for the collected funds to hold CPS to account for their appalling failure to progress cases on a merits based approach.
<https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/justice-after-rape/>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Provision of services	<u>69</u>	<u>8,373</u>	<u>8,442</u>

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	6,500	-
Depreciation - owned assets	6,703	6,546
Hire of plant and machinery	4,124	5,994
Deficit on disposal of fixed assets	<u>2,414</u>	<u>258</u>

10. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors and their associates for the audit of the charity's financial statements	6,500	-

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

12. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>605,247</u>	<u>595,196</u>
	<u>605,247</u>	<u>595,196</u>

Salary costs include amounts paid to subcontracted workers.

They also include:

Employers National Insurance £36,673
Employer Pension Contributions £7,583

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

	31.3.21	31.3.20
Management	8	8
Counsellors and support workers	<u>19</u>	<u>16</u>
	<u>27</u>	<u>24</u>

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

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	19,230	-	19,230
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	26,125	752,634	778,759
Other trading activities	<u>98,158</u>	<u>40,582</u>	<u>138,740</u>
Total	143,513	793,216	936,729
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	1,226	43,995	45,221
Charitable activities			
Provision of services	133,180	775,744	908,924
Total	<u>134,406</u>	<u>819,739</u>	<u>954,145</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	9,107	(26,523)	(17,416)

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	50,263	86,352	136,615
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>59,370</u>	<u>59,829</u>	<u>119,199</u>

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 April 2020	41,500	16,920	23,126	43,995	125,541
Additions	-	-	-	12,197	12,197
Disposals	-	-	(1,561)	(6,114)	(7,675)
At 31 March 2021	<u>41,500</u>	<u>16,920</u>	<u>21,565</u>	<u>50,078</u>	<u>130,063</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2020	22,410	16,920	18,821	36,684	94,835
Charge for year	830	-	881	4,992	6,703
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	(823)	(4,437)	(5,260)
At 31 March 2021	<u>23,240</u>	<u>16,920</u>	<u>18,879</u>	<u>37,239</u>	<u>96,278</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2021	<u>18,260</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,686</u>	<u>12,839</u>	<u>33,785</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>19,090</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,305</u>	<u>7,311</u>	<u>30,706</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

15. STOCKS

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Stocks	<u>-</u>	<u>8,000</u>

16. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Other debtors	-	555
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>113,850</u>	<u>49,820</u>
	<u>113,850</u>	<u>50,375</u>

17. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	<u>35,173</u>	<u>24,278</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	52,706	91,227	143,933
Lime Culture for Truth Project	8,909	(1,855)	7,054
Education Service	<u>(2,249)</u>	<u>(2,384)</u>	<u>(4,633)</u>
	59,366	86,988	146,354
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	176	(44)	132
Hoylake Holistics	3,161	(3,161)	-
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	19,128	(839)	18,289
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	109	(27)	82
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	60	(15)	45
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	320	(25)	295
Liverpool City Safe *	98	(25)	73
Rape Services Funding	1,382	2,192	3,574
SARC Counselling Funding *	45	(11)	34
Liverpool *	13	(13)	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	111	(28)	83
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	1,172	(428)	744
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	578	(147)	431
Wirral CSP	47	(12)	35
Jill's Fund	13,105	(10,000)	3,105
MOJ Additional Funding	-	403	403
OPCC Contract	30	291	321
Proceeds of Crime Fund	7,099	(5,261)	1,838
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	304	(152)	152
Community Foundations for RADS	7,533	-	7,533
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	6,782	(1,971)	4,811
Steve Morgan Foundation	<u>(1,427)</u>	<u>1,427</u>	<u>-</u>
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	-	306	306
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	<u>-</u>	<u>6,178</u>	<u>6,178</u>
	<u>59,826</u>	<u>(11,362)</u>	<u>48,464</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>119,192</u>	<u>75,626</u>	<u>194,818</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. 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	94,662	(3,435)	91,227
Lime Culture for Truth Project	-	(1,855)	(1,855)
Education Service	-	(2,384)	(2,384)
	94,662	(7,677)	86,988
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(44)	(44)
Hoylake Holistics	-	(3,160)	(3,160)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(840)	(840)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(27)	(27)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(15)	(15)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(25)	(25)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(24)	(24)
Rape Services Funding	167,000	(164,808)	2,192
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(11)	(11)
Liverpool *	-	(13)	(13)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(28)	(28)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	52,015	(52,443)	(428)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	49,919	(50,066)	(147)
Wirral CSP	-	(12)	(12)
Jill's Fund	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
MOJ Additional Funding	34,000	(33,598)	402
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	25,618	(25,618)	-
OPCC Contract	448,502	(448,211)	291
Proceeds of Crime Fund	-	(5,261)	(5,261)
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	-	(152)	(152)
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	(1,971)	(1,971)
Steve Morgan Foundation	10,000	(8,573)	1,427
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	7,334	(7,028)	306
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	46,306	(40,128)	6,178
MOJ Covid 19 funds to March 21	47,250	(47,250)	-
Smallwood Trust	9,829	(9,829)	-
MOJ ISVA Funding	37,051	(37,051)	-
	934,824	(946,186)	(11,362)
TOTAL FUNDS	1,029,486	(953,860)	75,626

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	43,453	8,498	755	52,706
Designated Fund for Training and Development	304	451	(755)	-
Lime Culture for Truth Project	2,177	6,732	-	8,909
Education Service	4,329	(6,578)	-	(2,249)
	50,263	9,103	-	59,366
Restricted funds				
Justice for Jane	1,321	(1,145)	-	176
Hoylake Holistics	14,250	(11,089)	-	3,161
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	19,996	(868)	-	19,128
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	145	(36)	-	109
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	79	(19)	-	60
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	353	(33)	-	320
Liverpool City Safe *	130	(32)	-	98
Rape Services Funding	1,015	367	-	1,382
SARC Counselling Funding *	60	(15)	-	45
Liverpool *	17	(4)	-	13
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	433	(322)	-	111
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	13,254	(12,082)	-	1,172
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	773	(195)	-	578
Wirral CSP	63	(16)	-	47
Jill's Fund	23,105	(10,000)	-	13,105
OPCC Contract	40	(10)	-	30
Proceeds of Crime Fund	2,599	4,500	-	7,099
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	8,719	(8,415)	-	304
Community Foundations for RADS	-	7,533	-	7,533
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	6,782	-	6,782
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	(1,427)	-	(1,427)
	86,352	(26,526)	-	59,826
TOTAL FUNDS	136,615	(17,423)	-	119,192

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. 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	19,231	(10,726)	8,505
Designated Fund for Training and Development	917	(466)	451
Lime Culture for Truth Project	26,126	(19,394)	6,732
Merseycare	20,000	(20,000)	-
Education Service	<u>77,239</u>	<u>(83,817)</u>	<u>(6,578)</u>
	143,513	(134,403)	9,110
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(1,145)	(1,145)
Hoylake Holistics	40,580	(51,669)	(11,089)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	-	(868)	(868)
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	-	(36)	(36)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	1	(20)	(19)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	-	(33)	(33)
Liverpool City Safe *	1	(33)	(32)
Rape Services Funding	99,999	(99,632)	367
SARC Counselling Funding *	-	(15)	(15)
Liverpool *	-	(4)	(4)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	(1)	(321)	(322)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	36,751	(48,833)	(12,082)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	49,920	(50,115)	(195)
Wirral CSP	-	(16)	(16)
Jill's Fund	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
MOJ Additional Funding	34,000	(34,000)	-
OPCC Contract	448,500	(448,510)	(10)
Proceeds of Crime Fund	7,500	(3,000)	4,500
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	2,025	(10,440)	(8,415)
NHS Funding for Counselling	56,637	(56,637)	-
Community Foundations for RADS	7,680	(147)	7,533
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	9,623	(2,841)	6,782
Steve Morgan Foundation	-	(1,427)	(1,427)
	<u>793,216</u>	<u>(819,742)</u>	<u>(26,526)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>936,729</u>	<u>(954,145)</u>	<u>(17,416)</u>

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	43,453	99,734	755	143,942
Designated Fund for Training and Development	304	451	(755)	-
Lime Culture for Truth Project	2,177	4,877	-	7,054
Education Service	4,329	(8,962)	-	(4,633)
	50,263	96,100	-	146,363
Restricted funds				
Justice for Jane	1,321	(1,189)	-	132
Hoylake Holistics	14,250	(14,250)	-	-
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *	19,996	(1,707)	-	18,289
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	145	(63)	-	82
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	79	(34)	-	45
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	353	(58)	-	295
Liverpool City Safe *	130	(57)	-	73
Rape Services Funding	1,015	2,559	-	3,574
SARC Counselling Funding *	60	(26)	-	34
Liverpool *	17	(17)	-	-
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	433	(350)	-	83
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	13,254	(12,510)	-	744
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	773	(342)	-	431
Wirral CSP	63	(28)	-	35
Jill's Fund	23,105	(20,000)	-	3,105
MOJ Additional Funding	-	403	-	403
OPCC Contract	40	281	-	321
Proceeds of Crime Fund	2,599	(761)	-	1,838
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	8,719	(8,567)	-	152
Community Foundations for RADS	-	7,533	-	7,533
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	-	4,811	-	4,811
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	-	306	-	306
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	-	6,178	-	6,178
	86,352	(37,888)	-	48,464
TOTAL FUNDS	136,615	58,212	-	194,818

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	113,894	(14,160)	99,734
Designated Fund for Training and Development	917	(466)	451
Lime Culture for Truth Project	26,126	(21,249)	4,877
Merseycare	20,000	(20,000)	-
Education Service	77,239	(86,201)	(8,962)
	238,176	(142,076)	96,100
Restricted funds			
Justice for Jane	-	(1,189)	(1,189)
Hoylake Holistics	40,579	(54,829)	(14,250)
Wirral Borough Council Safe House *			
Rape Crisis Regional Funding *	1	(1,708)	(1,707)
Victims Fund Sefton (PCC from 1/10/14) *	-	(63)	(63)
Home Office Funding for ISVA *	1	(35)	(34)
Liverpool City Safe *	-	(58)	(58)
Rape Services Funding	-	(57)	(57)
SARC Counselling Funding *	266,999	(264,440)	2,559
Liverpool *	-	(26)	(26)
PCC Victims and Witnesses Fund *	-	(17)	(17)
Children In Need for CHISVA Service	(1)	(349)	(350)
Wirral Borough Council Public Health	88,766	(101,276)	(12,510)
Wirral CSP	99,839	(100,181)	(342)
Jill's Fund	-	(28)	(28)
MOJ Additional Funding	-	(20,000)	(20,000)
OPCC Additional Funding for Counselling	68,001	(67,598)	403
OPCC Contract	25,618	(25,618)	-
Proceeds of Crime Fund	897,002	(896,721)	281
RCEEW Digital Transformation Fund	7,500	(8,261)	(761)
NHS Funding for Counselling	2,025	(10,592)	(8,567)
Community Foundations for RADS	56,637	(56,637)	-
Big Lottery for Yoga Sessions	7,680	(147)	7,533
Steve Morgan Foundation	9,623	(4,812)	4,811
Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership	10,000	(10,000)	-
MOJ Covid 19 fund to October 20	7,334	(7,028)	306
MOJ Covid 19 funds to March 21	46,306	(40,128)	6,178
Smallwood Trust	47,250	(47,250)	-
	9,829	(9,829)	-

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

MOJ ISVA Funding	37,051	(37,051)	-
	1,728,040	(1,765,928)	(37,888)
TOTAL FUNDS	1,966,216	(1,908,004)	58,212

19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021.

20. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating Lease Commitments

A new lease for rent for the Unit in Bootle was signed in February 2020 running to 30 September 2025.

The total rent due to be paid within one year are £42,751 (2020 £40,633)

There is a photocopier lease and the payments due in the next year are £4,504.

The total due within one year is £47,256 (2020 £45,137).

The rent due more than one year is £188,818 (2020 £192,380).

Other rents are paid on rolling contracts.

21. FUNDS

* These funds relate to historic fixed asset capital donations.

PCC FOR MERSEYSIDE

In partnership with RASASC, RASA successfully won the competitive tender to provide counselling and support for sexual violence survivors across Merseyside. This tender, valid for three years (April 2018 - April 2021) is to provide an ageless and genderless service to all five boroughs.

RASA clients reside in Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton Boroughs.

The full service includes the provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA Service) for all five boroughs as well as a children's provision, pre-trial therapy, and counselling.

2062 new clients were welcomed into RASA service in this year - 1003 client cases were carried forward from the previous year - 3065 unique individuals in total were therefore seen in service in the year.

With the onset of Covid-19 in March 2020, a decision was made to extend, without re-tendering, this contract, for an additional 12 months to 31-03-2021

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

21. FUNDS - continued

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUND FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS - RAPE SUPPORT FUND

RASA achieved funding through the female Rape Support Fund administered by the Ministry of Justice for 3 years from April 2018 - March 2021. This allows us to work as counsellors and supporters for females over the age of 13. This valued fund compliments and ensures a full equitable service is available to all female survivors of sexual violence crimes in Wirral, Sefton and Liverpool.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE CSE FUNDING UPLIFT

As recipients of the Rape Support Fund, RASA was pleased to accept an uplift in funding to enable us to meet the challenges of increasing numbers of adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Exploitation as a result of high-profile national media and the promotion of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

This allows us to provide additional support to adult survivors of non-recent Childhood Sexual Abuse and Rape. 792 such cases were referred or self-referred in this year.

WIRRAL BOROUGH COUNCIL PUBLIC HEALTH

RASA is additionally commissioned to deliver counselling and support to adult victims of sexual violence living in Wirral. This commission was achieved in 2017 and runs from April 2017- March 2022. 553 new Wirral cases were referred in this year.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE EXTRAORDINARY COVID-19 SUPPORT

RASA was awarded funding under this emergency grant fund, to allow us to extend the ability of counsellors and ISVAs to provide effective remote support to try and keep the waiting lists and waiting times, steady throughout the pandemic. RASA used this funding to employ additional staff to provide appropriate support and assistance to those in need after becoming victims of sexual violence an abuse.

A second round of this funding was released for application and RASA was again awarded a similar value to allow sustained, enhanced and increased levels of counselling and support.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ISVA FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for additional ISVA funding on behalf of RASA and RASASC to allow us to enhance and improve our response to those individuals who wished to make reports to the police and be supported through the criminal justice system. Throughout this year, it was indeed essential to provide this additional support to such victims as justice systems were stalled and/or halted by the pandemic and survivors of rape and abuse needed considerably heightened support at this very difficult time.

OPCC COVID 19 FUNDING

Merseyside OPCC applied for a small pot of funding to fill gaps in service required during the first 6 months of this year. RASA used this funding to provide remote, sessional counselling, allowing victims and survivors to achieve, or continue receiving, remote counselling from home.

21. FUNDS - continued

CHILDREN IN NEED

RASA is funded through Children in Need to deliver a Children's Sexual Violence Support Service. This is newly achieved funding and will build on the previous Children in Need funding that saw a Children's Service fully established for the boroughs of Sefton, Liverpool and Wirral. The service has been able to grow to meet demand.

This funding commenced on 01-10-2019 and is due to end on 30-09-2021

PROCEEDS OF CRIME FUND

Funding achieved under this grant equips parents and carers with the skills and knowledge to spot the signs a child is being sexually abused or is in danger of such and enable them to effectively encourage disclosure and act on that disclosure to support the child safely and in their best interests.

In addition, the training aims to STOP abuse before it starts by equipping adults with the skills to recognise early warnings and empowering them to act effectively and promptly to protect the child from harm. This is a twelve-month funding opportunity.

This funding was awarded in late 2018 and was extended due to Covid-19. It will be fully expended in this year.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR MERSEYSIDE

In December 2019, RASA was awarded funding to run an interim support service for clients awaiting counselling and support. The RADS (Reducing Anxiety, Depression and Stress) service uses clinical hypnotherapy in a group setting with the effect of stabilising survivors and holding them engaged in the recovery process. Due to restrictions under Covid-19, this funding has been extended to be expended in this year. This did not happen and at the close of the year, the balance remained the same.

STEVE MORGAN FOUNDATION

At the outset of Covid-19, Steve Morgan Foundation offered emergency support for charities hit by sudden change and a need to carry on service delivery. RASA successfully applied for and received this funding which allowed us to purchase equipment to immediately commence remote working with clients. This funding was received right at the end of last year and was expended swiftly at the start of this one. It allowed us to quickly equip our counsellors and ISVAs with the necessary laptops and online platforms they required to carry on with their work, but remotely.

SMALLWOOD TRUST

To assist in the recovery process and to better retain clients during restricted access times and in the aftermath of lockdown, RASA developed appropriate clinical hypnotherapy courses to be delivered on site. These sessions were warmly welcomed by clients who found strength and support from being engaged in them.

21. FUNDS - continued

MERSEYSIDE VIOLENCE REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP

This funding allowed a cohort of specifically trained counsellors to provide a trauma informed response to survivors of sexual violence, focussing on psych education, which includes physiological impact of trauma and developing an understanding how they have been impacted by the sexual violence experienced, developing positive coping strategies and resilience building. In addition to counselling, we offer Clinical Hypnotherapy, which is extremely successful at treating anxiety, depression, stress, and PTSD.

RASA EDUCATION LIMITED

The RASA Centre Training division formed as a separate Limited Company in June 2019 with the sole aim of supporting the work of RASA Merseyside and developing and strengthening the Training School Curriculum. In this year the training contributed 7% of RASA Income.

SPORT ENGLAND

RASA was awarded funding in early 2020 to run yoga courses for survivors of sexual violence. As we have been unable to carry out "in person" yoga classes in this year, we have adapted several sessions to become virtual and have requested a change in direction to allow us to provide a lasting online platform to endure beyond the limits of this grant.

JILL'S FUND

This public collection of donations is being held by RASA following the sudden and unexpected death of Jill Saward in January 2017. It has been held by RASA until such time as Jill's family determine it's most beneficial use for continuing the work Jill was unable to complete. Jill was a supported of RASA Merseyside for many years and was closely engaged, right up until the time of her death.

MERSEY CARE

This income is received from allowing sessional room hire within the RASA Centre.

LIME CULTURE FOR TRUTH PROJECT

RASA was commissioned by Lime Culture to deliver effective professional support to those individuals choosing to make representation to the IICSA.

HOYLAKE HOLISTICS

RASA opened the West Wirral Centre in 2012 with a grant from the Big Lottery with the aim of creating a social enterprise to underpin the sexual violence support work we do in West Wirral. Hoylake Holistics runs as a shop providing holistic therapies to the general public, with discreet facilities for survivors to access support. However due to the circumstances resulting from COVID in 2020 the shop is unlikely to be able to continue past 2021.

JUSTICE FOR JANE

These funds are held in trust for the family of Jane Clough. They are donated funds to be used by the family to fund awareness raising and education around rape and domestic violence. The family retired from this role at the end of year to 31-03-2020 and requested that the small remaining balance be donated to RASA to be used as appropriate.

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	8,239	19,230
Other trading activities		
Shop income		40,582
Training courses	595	78,158
Room hire	50	20,000
	<u>645</u>	<u>138,740</u>
Charitable activities		
Commissioned work	-	26,125
Grants	<u>1,020,602</u>	<u>752,634</u>
	<u>1,020,602</u>	<u>778,759</u>
Total incoming resources	1,029,486	936,729
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Opening stock	8,000	7,500
Purchases	(8,000)	22,341
Wages	-	17,386
Hire of plant and machinery	4,124	5,994
Closing stock	-	(8,000)
	<u>4,124</u>	<u>45,221</u>
Charitable activities		
Wages	605,248	577,810
Rates and water	1,857	3,137
Insurance	7,059	7,246
Light and heat	6,889	10,323
Telephone	41,531	23,713
Postage and stationery	4,423	6,055
Advertising	-	7,507
Rent	59,523	70,386
Survivor travel	615	750
Travel and expenses	235	4,032
Carried forward	<u>727,380</u>	<u>710,959</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) Ltd

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Charitable activities		
Brought forward	727,380	710,959
Training	47,095	32,762
Canteen & household costs	16,773	5,455
Awards and exam costs	-	8,415
Repairs and maintenance	7,137	4,587
Software and IT costs	22,604	25,911
Subscriptions	1,007	1,602
PPE equipment	1,042	-
Partner's payments	96,007	98,000
Freehold property	830	830
Fixtures and fittings	884	1,534
Computer equipment	4,991	4,177
Loss on sale of tangible fixed assets	2,414	258
Grants to institutions	13,130	10,000
Grants to individuals	-	677
	<u>941,294</u>	<u>905,167</u>
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	69	676
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	6,500	-
Accountancy and legal fees	<u>1,873</u>	<u>3,081</u>
	<u>8,373</u>	<u>3,081</u>
Total resources expended	<u>953,860</u>	<u>954,145</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>75,626</u>	<u>(17,416)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements