

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 4603713 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1097079

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021
FOR
TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE**

Watts Gregory LLP
Chartered Accountants
Elfed House
Oak Tree Court
Cardiff Gate Business Park
CARDIFF
County of Cardiff
CF23 8RS

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

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

A summary of the objects of the charity as set out in its governing document.

1. To promote all or any purpose for the benefit of the community in the County Borough of Torfaen as defined in the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994, and surrounding areas (hereinafter called 'the area of benefit'), which are or hereafter may be deemed by law to be charitable and in particular (but not limited to) the advancement of education, the furtherance of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness.
2. To promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the above purposes, and to that end bring together in council, national and local representatives of voluntary agencies and statutory authorities engaged in the furtherance of the above purpose or any of them.

COVID 19

TVA responded to the Covid-19 pandemic through ensuring that organisational objectives continued to be met, whilst developing innovative ways to ensure the third sector, communities, local businesses, and statutory bodies were supported.

All staff showed commitment throughout this time, adapting to homeworking following initial assessment of suitability. Staff were provided equipment and permitted to take office furniture home. Health and wellbeing of all staff was monitored and the opportunity to raise any concerns or personal issues was provided.

There was an increase in activity within all areas, volunteering, governance, funding advice and support. TVA staff were, responsive, proactive, committed and dedicated and fully supported by our Board of Trustees. Through the pandemic there was an increased recognition of the value of the sector as a whole and particularly the requirement for County Voluntary Councils and the role that they play across Wales.

Torfaen Voluntary Alliance has developed new, and strengthened existing partnerships, which will continue to be the case into the next phase and into recovery.

As the County Voluntary Council (CVC) for the local area, TVA is a member of Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) which, together with the other 18 CVC's across Wales, are now known collectively as Third Sector Support Wales - <https://thirdsectorsupport.wales/> Through the TSSW partnership and the grant Service Level agreement, via Welsh Government, our work is directed through four specific areas. Known as the four pillars:

1. Volunteering

Objective - To develop active and involved citizens by enabling more people and communities to benefit from volunteering.

The pandemic provided a challenging time, but also an opportunity to highlight the contribution that voluntary roles provide to the local communities in Torfaen.

• Volunteering Resource:

The Volunteering Wales website <https://torfaen.volunteering-wales.net/> is a fully functioning and fully commissioned volunteering management site used across Wales by each County Voluntary Council and supported by Welsh Government. The platform is completely free, transparent, and open to all, bringing volunteer recruitment, management, volunteer profiles and volunteer/organisation communication to one platform. There is no 'broker' in between the organisation and the volunteer.

The Volunteering Wales platform to host the Covid-19 volunteering opportunities was very effective with high registrations of individuals offering their support to the community. However, when approaching organisations to place these volunteers, many felt they had sufficient support, and did not have the appropriate time to induct new volunteers. There was also an element of not knowing enough about the volunteers which led to a reluctance to recruit, with concerns around training requirements, DBS checking and safeguarding requirements which were an absolute necessity for the organisations. Many organisations already had volunteers in place or/and gained volunteers directly from the communities they serve.

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Volunteering

During the Covid-19 response, parts of the system such as the TVA Covid-19 Volunteering opportunity on the Volunteering Wales platform were able to capture and share activity and impact data. 168 volunteers signed up the COVID-19 volunteering Opportunity, who were shared among the voluntary organisations, giving them varied opportunities.

We saw a high number of volunteers who came forward within their own communities and were therefore used locally, being assigned based on their location in Torfaen, for example linking those individuals who live in Cwmbran with groups who are active in Cwmbran. Other routes into volunteering used were websites, social media, word of mouth and local councillors who played a role in the response, with many coordinating their own group of volunteers to support their ward. Training, advice and support was offered to these 'informal' volunteer groups.

- Torfaen Volunteer Management Network:

In compliance with the restrictions of the pandemics, the annual network event to celebrate Volunteer Managers Day on 5th November was delivered virtually through a Teams platform. The aim of was to provide a learning opportunity for those who work with, and support volunteers across Torfaen. Updates for the sector with presentations from keynote speakers to ensure that volunteer managers felt more supported and up to date with your volunteer management. 25 organisations participated in this event.

2. Good Governance

Objective: Third sector personnel, managers and trustees have the knowledge and skills to enable their organisation to operate sustainably, fairly, legally, and safely.

We continue to work with our members and the wider sector to ensure that they are kept informed of changes to legislation and requirements. We offer support around all areas and provide access to training, hold forum and network meetings. During this reporting period, we held sessions virtually through Teams or telephone. This did not impact the quality of service provided.

Good governance is not always recognised as a priority by organisations that are focusing on the delivery of their service, and it is not until something happens that they engage for support. To strengthen organisations and avoid this, we have actively engaged with organisations to raising recognition of the need to ensure that they are practicing within best practice, safeguarding their organisation and their trustees. Extensive support has been provided to several community venues across the borough and have referred to specialist advice when identified as a requirement. Q&A sessions aimed at community venues were provided virtually and recorded for future reference with 33 organisations attending. The TVA Members forum was established with over 25 attendees.

In general terms, recruiting board members who have the time to commit and have the required skills to promote and support good and strong governance is proving more difficult particularly as the age of retirement and working life increases. TVA has been very successful in recruitment and has a strong and effective board with diverse backgrounds and a wide range of skills. However, this will need to be a monitored position for future planning requirements.

- Volunteer DBS:

We recognised the importance of facilitating a direct route for volunteer DBS checks for Torfaen and responding to volunteer safeguarding requirements in a timely manner, a concern that was raised by many voluntary groups when responding to the needs of their service users and communities and worked closely with TCBC to become an authorised 3rd Party checker to process all Volunteer DBS applications in Torfaen, removing the barriers to effective volunteering.

From a safeguarding point of view DBS checking is important and making this process easier is a great aid although it was imperative that this not be prescriptive where a role doesn't legally require it, and therefore developed a DBS eligibility flow chart and scenarios in partnership with the Wales Regional Safeguarding (WRS) Outreach Officer. DBS awareness sessions were provided through virtual means for to educate organisations on DBS and safer recruitment, hosted with WRS through TVA.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

3. Sustainable Funding

Objective: Organisations secure and generate the income they need to survive.

Due to the pandemic, funding support sessions were held through webinars, continuing to provide the opportunity for organisations to meet with funding bodies to discuss initial ideas or project proposals to assess against the application process and criteria and improve their chances of success. These sessions also gave an opportunity for the funder to engage with potential applicants and ensure their understanding of the grants available to them. 5 webinars were held with various external funders, which included British Red Cross, Foyle Foundation, and the Waterloo Foundation. A total of 84 participants joined the sessions. Sessions were recorded and made available through various forms so that they could be accessible and used as a resource for future.

There continued to be a growth in organisations requesting support in budget management, financial review to ensure the planned projects remain on target and financial planning supports and ensures future sustainability. Organisations experienced increased pressure in relation to their service delivery requirements due to less capacity to seek income and growth. 54 organisations were assisted in obtaining £572,000 financial support from funding partners.

We administered and continue to administer and monitor over £88,000 of COVID-19 support grants on behalf of partners across Torfaen.

- The Leader and Deputy Leader of Torfaen CBC requested TVA's support in immediately hosting a grant that totalled £16,000. The aim of the funding was to provide financial support to organisations who provided, or proposed to provide, support to people in need across Torfaen. The projects funded varied types of support; food banks, emergency packs for young children, crisis packs and radio support, as there were no set criteria, and the process was intended to be quick and responsive.
- Through the Third Sector Support network (TSSW), we were allocated £25,000 of national level funding from Welsh Government for Voluntary Service Emergency Fund (VSEF), with a further allocation of £20,840 in late March and £26,591 from Comic Relief to support organisations in their response to Covid-19.
- Funding Resource:
 - The Funding Cymru website continues to be monitored and updated regularly with new opportunities: <https://funding.cymru/>
 - Webinars with Funders are recorded and saved on our website for future reference for applicants to refer to.

4. Engagement and Influencing

Objective: To ensure that organisations can effectively influence policy, scrutinise public services and act as a route to civic participation especially for disadvantaged and minority groups.

We continued to support, guide, and advise and provide access to training, via regular forums and networks providing opportunities to share concerns, issues, or successes along with information and shared best practice, through digital platforms despite COVID-19, as we provided sessions virtually through Teams and Zoom, the sessions were also recorded and saved on our website for future reference.

Organisations received regular updates on current legislation and requirements and were kept informed of any relevant changes. Consultations are circulated via our website, networks, and through social media with feedback shared. We regularly engaged with the Sector seeking views and opinions on varying subjects and matters of interest to ensure that content was fitting and helpful.

We continued to represent the third sector in various areas through our attendance at partnership and leadership meetings. Through our staff and networks, we gather information and views in order that the sector is actively involved in planning and delivery of services. Trust and relationships continue to be strengthened.

We also developed a dedicated area within our website for COVID-19 to share current information, volunteering opportunities, and promote organisations providing key support. Communications from partners and organisations were hosted on this area to collate service delivery into one platform.

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

4. Engagement and Influencing

We provided direct access to advice through webinars and resources on several topics via our networks and social media channels to communicate news, services, funds, and support within Torfaen. The webinars that we hosted with partners ranged from partnering with ABUHB to provide guidance for community venues and Covid compliance, to British Red Cross hardship fund for individual financial support.

Through developing a dedicated Management Volunteering Forum, we recognise that the forum should avoid being over-formalised so that people can still help people and develop an 'informal volunteering plan' with our CVC partners. This provides a route for third sector representation to establish new routes for third sector involvement and inclusion.

As active members of the TSSW, we have continued to represent on many on the Practitioner networks which focus on each of the pillars. Development meetings to review the CRM (Customer Relationship Management), a tool implemented and managed by each CVC to manage interactions with our members and partners. There are also additional forums which have been established in response to COVID-19 which included representation from Welsh Government and other CVC's Chief Officers.

• New Partnerships:

In December 2019, we lead on the formation of the Torfaen Volunteer Recovery Steering Group, which was made of representation from Torfaen Voluntary Alliance, Torfaen County Borough Council and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board to access the Volunteering Covid-19 Recovery grant funded through Welsh Government. We recognised that to strengthen volunteering, we needed ongoing dialogue, with clear accountability for the four areas that Welsh Government cite as being "levers" of effective volunteering: Accountability and Leadership; Strategy, Processes and Products; Resources and Partnerships; Effective Volunteers and Organisers.

We realised that we had each adapted our services to ensure we were responsive to the demand that was placed on the voluntary and third sector organisations, and the fund enabled us to work collaborating on strengthening volunteering with through routine weekly meetings to ensure that key partners planned effectively and provided clear and accurate information that was circulated in an integrated way.

A report was commissioned for an independent consultant to review how each of the partners responded and included organisations from outside the group, both formal and informal groups. The findings from the report will be published on our website.

• Resources:

We also established a new communication platform, Connect Torfaen, <https://connecttorfaen.org.uk/>, a local platform that aims to unite all organisations, with individuals within the community, providing easy access to a range of services and activities locally, and enable all parties, individuals, organisations, and groups to interact in a safe environment. The platform has the capability to provide a range of opportunities and will signpost to existing platforms such as, Volunteering Wales, InfoEngine and Dewis. The first modules developed and launched are:

- Community Directory - Access and manage local information, with the opportunity to make links with the community. Signposting, linkages and presence need to be worked on to ensure full coherence with other information products and platforms: the initial push is on quality of content.
- Project Teams - Opportunities to set up public or private teams' spaces to encourage community engagement and the ability to add, assign and manage tasks, as well as the ability to embed surveys and project task boards.
- Polls - Quick, easy and fun to participate in polls, giving the community a voice and capture what's important to their community or network.

This has been a great development for Torfaen and has seen us join Connect in a West Wales partnership, a collective of public and voluntary sector organisations across Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire, and Ceredigion. 'Connect Torfaen' aims to add value to the volunteering effort and support the development of effective volunteers and organisers.

The current branding and strapline for Connect Torfaen is: *'Connecting you to your community'... 'The community platform where you can meet friends, make connections and share information'.*

• Members

Review of membership is completed annually and at the end of this reporting period TVA had an actively engaged membership with 367 organisations. A total of 1,700 interactions took place.

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Charity's Grant Making Policies

TVA administers a Youth Led Grants scheme.

TVA has administered a small grants scheme via the Integrated Care Fund. This will continue.

TVA has administered a grants scheme on behalf of Comic Relief, via WCVA. Monitoring and reporting continues.

TVA has administered a grants scheme on behalf of Welsh Government, via WCVA. Monitoring and reporting continues.

The Contribution of Volunteers

Volunteering can be a good opportunity of gaining confidence and new skills and is a good vehicle for finding employment. It provides an opportunity to try something new, share skills and meet new friends to name but a few of the benefits of becoming a volunteer. The impact of volunteering has been highlighted in this reporting period, as volunteers were eager to support the activities in response to the pandemic, to ensure that local people were able to access vital support services.

Public Benefit

The organisation's trustees can confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The financial results for the year ended 31 March 2021 are shown in the attached financial statements. The results report a significant increase to income, reported at £702,992 (2020 - £358,667).

Expenditure totalled £553,864 (2020 - £375,981).

Overall, the charity generated net income on unrestricted funds of £122,853 and net income on restricted funds of £26,275.

Reserves policy

The trustees have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. They have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be between 3 and 6 months of core expenditure. This would be within the range £94,000 and £188,000.

The present level of free reserves is £230,830.

The Board are mindful that the resulting net income reported for 2021 is very much a one-off position with new income purely for just that financial year and primarily a response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Board have approved budgets for the financial year to 31 March 2022 indicating an anticipated deficit of £66,276, and further projections to 2023 and 2024 are also currently indicating further deficits. In light of this position, the Board are therefore satisfied with the current level of free reserves held.

The Finance Sub-Committee are in the process of reviewing the charity's Reserves Policy.

FUTURE PLANS

Public services face a challenging time as a consequence of a variety of factors most noticeably COVID, climate change and economic uncertainty. Hence the third sector will have an ongoing and probably more demanding role to play in a variety of areas. Hence third sector organisations in Torfaen will need ongoing support from TVA in a variety of ways, some of which may not yet be evident. Hence the need for flexibility.

At TVA, we recognise that we need to constantly evolve in response to national and local policies and initiatives that impact on the Sector, all of which presume increasing collaboration across boundaries and sectors. Note should be made of the importance of TVA supporting the goals within the Well-being of Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015 and the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, plus ongoing developments such as the Regional Public Service Board and the Gwent RPB. Where appropriate, TVA will also support, and collaborate with other CVCs in the South-East Wales area.

In recent months the Board of TVA has been significantly strengthened and now constitutes a wide diversity of backgrounds and experience. Recently, the Board undertook a short Board evaluation exercise, and two key findings were the need to clarify the strategic direction of TVA for the years ahead and to strengthen the performance management system. In a spirit of self-examination and self-criticism, to this end, the TVA Board will be holding a full day seminar in early 2022 to clarify these two important matters and to develop a plan of action.

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

FUTURE PLANS

To enhance the development and effectiveness of the Third Sector in Torfaen and surrounding areas, and to improve the design, planning and delivery of services through the engagement and involvement of the Third Sector in decision making at a local, regional, and national level, Thus, TVA will continue to provide a clear:

- statement to our members, community and Third sector organisations, active citizens, and our partners about who we are, what we believe in and how we see work of Torfaen Voluntary Alliance developing in the future.
- direction for development of the organisation and will continue to support staff and actively encourage development through formal and informal training.

As TVA continues to grow, citizen engagement and service user involvement now have equal priority to supporting community and Third Sector organisations. As well, as existing support for third sector organisations, TVA will also support the development of new 3SOs in developing areas such as, for example, climate change and sustainability.

Operational Plans have been developed in line with core funder requirements, TSSW KPI's and our member needs to clearly illustrate the activities that will be undertaken to achieve our goals.

Strengthening Volunteering with Support and Training

Through the partnership work with the Volunteering Recovery Grant group, we formalised the Torfaen Community Volunteering Bank, which following consultation with volunteers and organisations, we have been able to develop a training package, to deliver formal and informal training and awareness sessions. Training will be rolled out in 21/22 to strengthen volunteer skills and knowledge, building capacity of the volunteer reserve bank from which organisations, such as TCBC, PHW, British Red Cross can refer to for additional volunteer support.

Community Engagement

It is becoming increasingly recognised, particularly by statutory public sector agencies, that community engagement is key to ensuring that services meet the needs of the local community. To this end, TVA has strengthened its relationships with key local agencies particularly Torfaen County Borough Council and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board.

TVA has significantly increased its reach digitally, and we will continue to promote the Connect Torfaen platform which encourages local people and organisations to participate in Polls and Teams modules, giving them a voice, as they will allow partners, organisations, and community members to create quick and easy polls on specific subjects, as well as, providing the opportunities to set up public or private teams' spaces for community engagement and the ability to add, assign and manage tasks, forming community forums and working groups. In saying this, we recognise that there are some in the population who are not comfortable with digital working. Hence, we are keen to re-establish face2face network opportunities, once Covid restrictions are lifted and it is safe to do.

Partnerships

Collaboration and co-ordination are now recognised as the absolute key approach and was highlighted in the success of the Volunteering Recovery Grant: We aim to build on relationships and strengthen the Volunteer Organisation Forum to bring volunteer managers/coordinators to join a network to share best practice, form collaborations and feature guest speakers to provide professional information and advice on current themes. Recruitment of the forum continues to expand the participation, knowledge, and skills within the forum.

Although much of the work of TVA concerns collaboration with statutory public service organisations, we see it as important that we also work with partners in the private sector who provide the backbone of the Torfaen economy. As an example, the Foundational Economy scheme provided a unique opportunity for TVA and evidence what can be achieved with the Private, Public and Third Sector working together. We aim to build on this and explore further possibilities.

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document and constitution of the charity

TVA is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. The charity is controlled by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, adopted in November 2002.

Methods adopted for the recruitment and appointment of new trustees

In line with the procedures outlined in the Articles of Association nominations for membership of the Board of Directors are requested each year prior to the AGM and appointments are made from within the membership of TVA following the AGM.

TVA's governing Document allows for a representative of Torfaen County Borough Council to be an elected member of the Board.

Organisational structure of the charity and how decisions are made

TVA has a multi-skilled Board of Directors which meets bi-monthly, additionally the Senior Management Team of TVA hold regular meetings with the Chair and Vice Chair of the organisation. Day to day management of the organisation lies with the Senior Management Team whilst the governance and major decisions regarding policy and strategy are taken at Board level.

Employment of disabled persons

TVA is an equal opportunities employer. The recruitment procedure currently in place is totally inclusive and any suitable person for an advertised post would not be excluded because of having a disability.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of new trustees

After appointment, new members of the Board are given an induction pack which contains;

- A copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association
- A Staff Manual, including Policies
- A copy of the latest Annual Report
- Dates of Scheduled Board meetings
- Details of the Roles and Responsibilities of Trustees
- Organisational Structure

In addition to this, new members are met personally by the Chair and Vice Chair to identify training needs and to discuss any general issues concerning the governance of TVA.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

4603713 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1097079

Registered office

Portland Buildings
Commercial Street
PONTYPOOL
NP4 6JS

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Trustees

Prof. M J Prowle	Chair (Treasurer until 14 September 2021)	
B Holroyd	(Chair until 14 September 2021)	
R James	Treasurer (from 14 September 2021)	Appointed 23 November 2020
R Overton		
R Clark		
J L Morgan		
A Morgan-O'Sullivan		
M Jones		Appointed 10 November 2020
A Jones		Appointed 10 November 2020 - Resigned 13 July 2021
O Stacey		Appointed 12 January 2021
Prof. G Kavanagh		Appointed 13 July 2021
R A Selby		Resigned 8 September 2020
G Jones		Resigned 18 January 2021

Senior staff

A M Evans	Strategic Executive Officer
A Morris	Operational Executive Officer

Company Secretary

R Clark

Independent Examiner

Watts Gregory LLP
Chartered Accountants
Elfed House
Oak Tree Court
Cardiff Gate Business Park
CARDIFF
County of Cardiff
CF23 8RS

Bankers

LLoyds TSB
1 Gwent Square
CWMBRAN

Solicitors

Messrs Everett Tomlin Lloyd and Pratt Solicitors
Clarence Chambers
Clarence Street
Pontypool
NP4 6XP

Name, registered office and constitution of the charity

The full name of the charity is Torfaen Voluntary Alliance. The charity is also known by the name TVA.

Date of incorporation	28 November 2002
Company Registration Number	4603713
The Registered Office is	Portland Buildings, Commercial Street, Pontypool, Torfaen, NP4 6JS
Charity Registration Number	109709
The telephone number is	01495 742420

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 09.11.2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Prof. M J Prowle - Chair

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Torfaen Voluntary Alliance ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of ACCA which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

Julia Mortimer FCCA
Watts Gregory LLP
Chartered Accountants
Elfed House
Oak Tree Court
Cardiff Gate Business Park
CARDIFF
County of Cardiff
CF23 8RS

24 November 2021

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	321,499	352,463	673,962	330,408
Charitable activities	6				
General support services		9,683	-	9,683	19,445
Projects		6,946	-	6,946	7,182
Other trading activities	4	12,378	-	12,378	1,594
Investment income	5	23	-	23	38
Total		350,529	352,463	702,992	358,667
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	7				
General support services		192,444	-	192,444	195,148
Volunteering		22,547	7,647	30,194	31,285
Projects		941	278,441	279,382	97,774
Partnership development		11,744	40,100	51,844	51,774
Total		227,676	326,188	553,864	375,981
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		122,853	26,275	149,128	(17,314)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		107,977	7,758	115,735	133,049
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>230,830</u>	<u>34,033</u>	<u>264,863</u>	<u>115,735</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE (REGISTERED NUMBER: 4603713)

**BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	14	46,505	-	46,505	37,653
Cash at bank		<u>281,800</u>	<u>34,033</u>	<u>315,833</u>	<u>88,266</u>
		328,305	34,033	362,338	125,919
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(97,475)	-	(97,475)	(10,184)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>230,830</u>	<u>34,033</u>	<u>264,863</u>	<u>115,735</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>230,830</u>	<u>34,033</u>	<u>264,863</u>	<u>115,735</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>230,830</u>	<u>34,033</u>	<u>264,863</u>	<u>115,735</u>
FUNDS	17				
Unrestricted funds				230,830	107,977
Restricted funds				<u>34,033</u>	<u>7,758</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>264,863</u>	<u>115,735</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

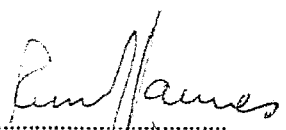
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

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.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 09.11.2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



 R James - Treasurer

The notes form part of these financial statements

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>227,544</u>	<u>(59,835)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>227,544</u>	<u>(59,835)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		<u>23</u>	<u>38</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>23</u>	<u>38</u>
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		227,567	(59,797)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>88,266</u>	<u>148,063</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>315,833</u>	<u>88,266</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	149,128	(17,314)
Adjustments for:		
Interest received	(23)	(38)
Increase in debtors	(8,852)	(30,452)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>87,291</u>	<u>(12,031)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u>227,544</u>	<u>(59,835)</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1/4/20 £	Cash flow £	At 31/3/21 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	<u>88,266</u>	<u>227,567</u>	<u>315,833</u>
	<u>88,266</u>	<u>227,567</u>	<u>315,833</u>
Total	<u>88,266</u>	<u>227,567</u>	<u>315,833</u>

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

Torfaen Voluntary Alliance is a registered charity and private company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member is limited to £10. The company is incorporated in Wales in the United Kingdom. The registered office is Portland Buildings, Commercial Street, Pontypool, NP4 6JS.

The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are disclosed in the Report of the Trustees.

The financial statements are presented in Sterling (£), the company's functional currency, and rounded to the nearest pound.

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

2. 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.

There have been no material departures from Financial Reporting Standard 102.

There financial statements have been prepared in compliance with SORP (FRS 102).

Torfaen Voluntary Alliance meets the definition of a public benefit entity as demonstrated within the Report of the Trustees

Going concern

The charity has reported net income on unrestricted funds of £122,853 and experienced a significant increase in funding, directly linked to the Covid-19 pandemic. The trustees are mindful that this result is a one-off in terms of the additional funding being solely for the year to 31 March 2021. The board have approved budgets for the financial year to 31 March 2022, indicating a potential deficit for that year of around £66,000. Given the free reserves position of the charity, the Trustees and key management personnel are satisfied that despite the Coronavirus pandemic, it is appropriate for the charity's financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis. The pandemic has resulted in a number of uncertainties arising and the Trustees have taken steps to minimise the effect on the charity and will continue to do so. In the circumstances they have concluded that no adjustments or additional disclosures are required to the financial statements at this time.

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. This includes capital grants.

Donations and legacies are accounted as incoming resources on upon receipt or when receipt is probable and amount receivable can be estimated with sufficient accuracy.

Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions. This income is recognised where there is entitlement, when the receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably. Income is deferred when the amounts received are in advance of the performance of the service or event to which they relate.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

It is not the policy of the charity to show income net of expenditure.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

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.

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

Support costs are those costs that, whilst necessary to deliver an activity, do not themselves produce or constitute the output of the charitable activity. This includes governance costs which are those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

Expenditure includes VAT as the charity is not VAT registered.

Redundancy or termination payments

Redundancy costs arising from periodic reviews of staff levels are charged against profit in the year in which employees leave the charity.

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 costs are allocated between the expenditure categories on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly; others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.

Taxation

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

Operating lease commitments

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of the ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

The benefits of lease incentives are recognised in the profit and loss account over the lease period.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their resources as appropriate.

Debtors

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

Creditors and provisions

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

Basis of recognition of liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation which commits the charity to the expenditure.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the trustees' discretion for any purpose within the objects of the charity.

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Restricted funds have been received with stipulation from the donor as to the purpose for which they may be used.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

Transfers from restricted to unrestricted funds are made when the expending of the funds has fulfilled the terms of the restriction.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and makes payments to individuals own pension schemes. Contributions payable are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Grants	<u>673,962</u>	<u>330,408</u>
Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:		
	2021 £	2020 £
Wales Council for Voluntary Action		
Core funding	305,747	160,192
Youth Led grant scheme	6,650	10,650
Torfaen County Borough Council		
Core funding	15,752	16,000
Covid-19 small grants	16,000	-
Aneurin Bevan Health Board		
BSB - Building Strong Bridges	40,100	40,100
Gwent Regional Partnership Board		
Integrated Care Fund - Small grants Fund	33,922	32,557
Comic Relief		
Project award - Gwent Region	-	70,909
COVID-19 funding	26,591	-
Welsh Government		
Coronavirus Recovery Grant for Volunteering	100,360	-
Foundational Economy Challenge Fund	83,000	-
Voluntary Sector Recovery Fund	<u>45,840</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>673,962</u>	<u>330,408</u>

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Event support income	150	575
Rental income	12,228	1,019
	<u>12,378</u>	<u>1,594</u>

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>23</u>	<u>38</u>

6. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	2021	2020
		£	£
Member services	General support services	9,683	19,445
Project administration fees	Projects	<u>6,946</u>	<u>7,182</u>
		<u>16,629</u>	<u>26,627</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Grant funding of activities (see note 8)	Support costs (see note 9)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
General support services	180,700	-	11,744	192,444
Volunteering	650	6,997	22,547	30,194
Projects	178,655	99,787	940	279,382
Partnership development	<u>40,100</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,744</u>	<u>51,844</u>
	<u>400,105</u>	<u>106,784</u>	<u>46,975</u>	<u>553,864</u>

8. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2021	2020
	£	£
Volunteering	6,997	8,868
Projects	<u>99,787</u>	<u>96,840</u>
	<u>106,784</u>	<u>105,708</u>

The volunteering grants were paid out to 5 (2020 - 8) different youth groups based within the Torfaen area. The grants ranged between £990 and £2,424.

The project grants were paid out across a number of projects as follows:

	2021
	£
Integrated Care fund project	
Mirus	8,000
Llamau	6,130
Bethlehem Church	4,812
TOGS Centre Torfaen	4,230
Torfaen People First	4,200
Able Radio	3,750
Age Connects Torfaen	<u>2,800</u>
Total number of institutions 7 (2020 - 5 institutions)	<u>33,922</u>

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

8. GRANTS PAYABLE - continued

Comic Relief Covid-19 funding	
Hope GB	5,246
Family Resource Centre Coed Eva	5,000
Congress Youth Theatre	4,690
Torfaen Sea Cadets	4,295
Blenheim Parents & Friends Association	4,025
The Hwb Torfaen	<u>3,240</u>
Total number of institutions 6 (2020 - Nil)	<u><u>26,496</u></u>

Torfaen County Borough Council Covid-19 small grants

Grants were paid to a total of 28 institutions during the financial year totalling £14,369 (2020 - Nil) all of which are organisations based in the Torfaen area. The grants ranged between £250 to £1,443. Further details can be obtained from the charity.

Voluntary Sector Recovery fund

Grants were paid to a total of 21 institutions during the financial year totalling £25,000 (2020 - Nil) all of which are organisations based in the Torfaen area. The grants ranged between £377 to £4,424. Further details can be obtained from the charity.

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Other costs £	Staff costs £	Governance costs £	Totals £
General support services	632	6,844	4,268	11,744
Volunteering	1,212	13,141	8,194	22,547
Projects	51	548	341	940
Partnership development	<u>631</u>	<u>6,844</u>	<u>4,269</u>	<u>11,744</u>
	<u><u>2,526</u></u>	<u><u>27,377</u></u>	<u><u>17,072</u></u>	<u><u>46,975</u></u>

10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Independent Examiners fees	<u><u>3,090</u></u>	<u><u>3,090</u></u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 or for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses for the year ended 31 March 2021 (2020: £Nil).

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

12. STAFF COSTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	211,100	172,718
Social security costs	14,859	12,307
Other pension costs	<u>16,625</u>	<u>15,701</u>
	<u>242,584</u>	<u>200,726</u>

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

2021	2020
<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>

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

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	176,192	154,216	330,408
Charitable activities			
General support services	19,445	-	19,445
Projects	7,182	-	7,182
Other trading activities	1,594	-	1,594
Investment income	<u>38</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38</u>
Total	204,451	154,216	358,667
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
General support services	194,498	650	195,148
Volunteering	22,417	8,868	31,285
Projects	934	96,840	97,774
Partnership development	<u>11,674</u>	<u>40,100</u>	<u>51,774</u>
Total	229,523	146,458	375,981
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(25,072)	7,758	(17,314)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>133,049</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>133,049</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>107,977</u>	<u>7,758</u>	<u>115,735</u>

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	11,758	36,772
Prepayments and accrued income	34,747	881
	<u>46,505</u>	<u>37,653</u>

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	27,076	781
Social security and other taxes	11,241	794
Other creditors	48,700	5,429
Accruals and deferred income	10,458	3,180
	<u>97,475</u>	<u>10,184</u>

16. LEASING AGREEMENTS

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

	2021	2020
	£	£
Within one year	16,300	16,300
Between one and five years	48,900	65,200
	<u>65,200</u>	<u>81,500</u>

The total lease payments recognised as an expense throughout the year amounted to £16,300 (2020 - £16,300).

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/20	Net movement in funds	At 31/3/21
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	107,977	122,853	230,830
Restricted funds			
Youth Grant Scheme	1,132	(997)	135
Comic Relief project awards	6,626	-	6,626
Coronavirus Recovery grant for volunteering	-	4,800	4,800
Voluntary Sector Recovery Fund	-	20,840	20,840
Torfaen Council COVID small grants	-	1,632	1,632
	<u>7,758</u>	<u>26,275</u>	<u>34,033</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>115,735</u>	<u>149,128</u>	<u>264,863</u>

TORFAEN VOLUNTARY ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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	350,529	(227,676)	122,853
Restricted funds			
Youth Grant Scheme	6,650	(7,647)	(997)
Building Strong Bridges	40,100	(40,100)	-
Integrated Care Fund - small grants fund	33,922	(33,922)	-
Coronavirus Recovery grant for volunteering	100,360	(95,560)	4,800
Foundational Economy Challenge fund	83,000	(83,000)	-
Voluntary Sector Recovery Fund	45,840	(25,000)	20,840
Comic Relief Covid-19 fund	26,591	(26,591)	-
Torfaen Council COVID small grants	16,000	(14,368)	1,632
	<u>352,463</u>	<u>(326,188)</u>	<u>26,275</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>702,992</u>	<u>(553,864)</u>	<u>149,128</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	133,049	(25,072)	107,977
Restricted funds			
Youth Grant Scheme	-	1,132	1,132
Comic Relief project awards	-	6,626	6,626
	-	7,758	7,758
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>133,049</u>	<u>(17,314)</u>	<u>115,735</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	204,451	(229,523)	(25,072)
Restricted funds			
Youth Grant Scheme	10,650	(9,518)	1,132
Building Strong Bridges	40,100	(40,100)	-
Integrated Care Fund - small grants fund	32,557	(32,557)	-
Comic Relief project awards	70,909	(64,283)	6,626
	<u>154,216</u>	<u>(146,458)</u>	<u>7,758</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>358,667</u>	<u>(375,981)</u>	<u>(17,314)</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Restricted funds

The Youth Grant Scheme provides grants to youth projects with the assessments being made by a youth panel. The scheme is funded through the WCVA.

Building Strong Bridges is funded by the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board with supplementary funding by Torfaen County Borough Council, in order to continue the Welsh Government initiative to strengthen partnership working between the sector and the NHS.

Integrated Care fund - Small grants is funded by the Gwent Regional Partnership Board.

Coronavirus Recovery grant for volunteering - funded by Welsh Government, the purpose of the project is to sustain volunteering and community action during the pandemic and recovery and at the same time improve or introduce new systems and support arrangements, complementing existing infrastructure, to ensure more sustainable models of volunteering.

Foundational Economy Challenge fund - funded by Welsh Government to create a voluntary alliance which will operate at enough scale to make the process of apprenticeships financially viable for the small foundational economy of SME's in the Valleys.

Voluntary Sector Recovery Fund - funding by Welsh Government to dispense as community grants.

Comic Relief Covid-19 fund - as additional funding for voluntary services emergency fund (VSEF) in Wales.

Torfaen Council COVID small grants - funding to distribute as community grants to support organisations and more targeted community venues in Torfaen.

Prior year only

Comic Relief project awards - regional funding for Gwent.

18. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and makes payments to individuals pension schemes. The assets of all schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. The pension cost charge represents contributions paid by the charity to the funds and amounted to £16,625 (2020 : £15,701). Contributions outstanding at the year end amounted to £2,058 (2020: £7,549).

19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The total key management personnel remuneration benefits paid during the year was £95,604 (2020 - £92,059).

There were no other related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021 or the year ended 31 March 2020 which required disclosure.