

Registered number: 04691516

Charity number: 1098726

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex

(A company limited by guarantee)

Unaudited

Trustees' report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

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Directors' and Trustees Report
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees of Safe in Sussex are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP2019) Accounting and Reporting by Charities FRS102, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Reference and Administration details of the Charity

Charity number: 1098726
Registered Number: 04691516
Principal Office The Rear of 1 to 7 Elm Park
Ferring
Worthing
West Sussex
BN12 5RN

Directors/Trustees

The Directors of the company are its Trustees for the purpose of Charity Law. The Trustees who served during the year were as follows:

Trustee	Trustee Role	Appointment Date	Resigned
Leslie Groves Williams	Chair	13/1/2020	
Sam Walker	Policy Trustee	14/4/2015	26/3/2024
Karen Brown	Treasurer	19/4/2021	
Tana Jackson	Company Secretary	19/7/2021	
Liz Hall	Deputy Chair	7/9/2022	
Deborah Binks-Moore	Trustee	30/11/2022	
Katrina Haines	HR Trustee	22/2/2023	
Celine Thomas	Legal Trustee	17/11/2023	26/8/2024
Manisha Patel	Property Investment	20/3/2024	
Sandra Abbey	Safeguarding	20/3/2024	
Charlotte Carp	Trustee	20/3/2024	

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Mia Motter	Trustee	19/10/2022	8/12/2023
Jennifer Ashton	Trustee	28/4/2023	17/11/2023
Suzanne Kropf	Trustee	21/11/2011	17/11/2023

Structure, governance and management

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee. It has no share capital and is therefore governed by a memorandum and articles of association which is dated 10th March 2003. The Articles and Memorandum of Safe in Sussex were reviewed and updated in 2022 and amendments were approved by the Charity Commission. The liability of each member in the event of the winding up is limited to £1.

The Charity is administered by the Trustee Board, which allows for up to 12 elected Trustees (Directors) who currently meet every six weeks. Others attend the meeting on invitation of the Trustees and are non-voting observers. The Trustees are elected by the members and hold office for three years and are eligible for re-election. The Trustees have the power to co-opt further members to serve on the Trustee Board up to a maximum of three terms.

Three new Trustees joined the Board this financial year with excellent relevant skills and experience. They replaced trustees who had reached the end of their term or who stood down for other reasons. The focus of recruitment has been on ensuring that each Board member brings a specific area of expertise required for delivery of our Strategic Plan. A skills and diversity audit was conducted in 2022 and this has continued to be used to guide recruitment as Board members retire from their roles. There is one position for a former service user on the Board (currently vacant as we seek to replace our former trustee who has timed out) and nearly all trustees bring lived experience of domestic abuse either from within their immediate family or through supporting extended family members or close friends.

Induction for new Trustees is subject to a formal procedure, targeted at the specific needs of the organisation, using REACH volunteering and local volunteer sites to attract the right candidates with the right skills and backgrounds.

The Trustees continue to work hard and make good progress regarding the review of their governance effectiveness against principles as set out in the Charity Governance Code. The charity has formally signed up to the code and will continue with an annual self-assessment at an annual away day. All trustees receive an induction and continuing development programme. One or two away days are now held each year to monitor and set the broad direction for the

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organisation, as well as to monitor the working of the Board and to provide ongoing capability building to ensure trustee knowledge and skills are kept up to date. Furthermore, we have introduced mandatory in-depth safeguarding training for trustees, alongside our existing induction training package. Trustees have also committed to making the most of free or low cost training to take one additional trustee training per year after their first year.

Trustees are responsible for the strategic direction of the organisation and the production of the overall strategic policy, in consultation with the senior management team. The Trustees ensure that any major decisions and developments are made in line with the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance, Safe in Sussex's Strategic Plan or are in sympathy with the overall aims and objectives.

Administrative procedures continue to have been improved to ensure that all decisions made and actions required are systematically followed up on both between and at each Board meeting. All Trustee decisions are minuted and tracked as an integral part of the governance process. Operational decisions are delegated to the CEO and senior management team who are required to regularly report to the Trustee Board.

The Board continues to regularly input into and review an overarching Risk Register for all areas of the organisation. A section is planned to be reviewed at each Board meeting, meaning all sections will be reviewed on an annual basis. The Board has also updated our committee/working group areas of focus to reflect changing organisational needs.

The Board has continued to conduct an annual staff engagement survey and follow up pulse survey. Feedback by staff has allowed governors and management to take appropriate actions to improve staff engagement and to improve our learning and impact. Trustees continue to review organisational policies on rotation to ensure that policies remain up to date, appropriate and relevant.

The organisation remains vigilant of any potential conflicts of interest. No conflicts of interest have arisen during this financial year.

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Objectives and activities

Established in 1977, Worthing Women’s Aid, now trading as Safe in Sussex, has the following objectives:

- 1. **Increase community knowledge** of domestic abuse and healthy relationships (service providers, businesses, schools, general public); and **increase community ability and capacity to take action to prevent and respond to domestic abuse** (including schools, frontline public service professionals)
- 2. **Increase awareness of our services** to ensure that those who need to access our services are able to get support in a timely and holistic way.
- 3. **Deliver holistic, services with a whole family approach.** This encompasses **prevention** (schools, outreach), **crisis response** (helpline, refuge), **support, including peer support**, (refuge, community groups) **and recovery** (groups)
- 4. **Improve inclusivity** of Safe in Sussex services (through reducing barriers for male and female victims/survivors, including minority ethnic communities, LGBTQ+ communities, and those with complex needs as well as through engaging clients systematically in quality assurance, and, for example, in translation of core literature).

These objectives are being reviewed in 2024 as one 3-year planning cycle comes to an end, with the next due to commence in 2025/26.

Outcomes

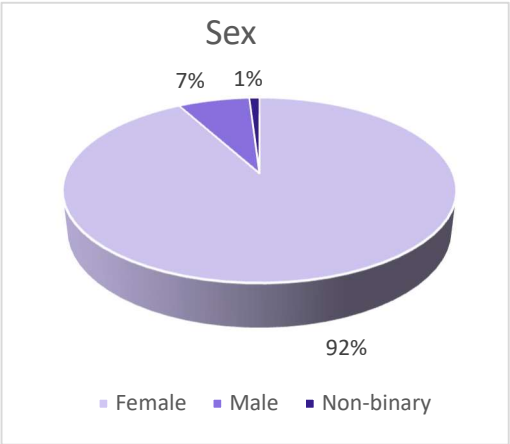
Safe in Sussex managed 1,068 referrals in 2023/24 providing ongoing support to 630 adults and children.

Demographic data

We ask our clients to provide demographic information so we can assess the extent to which our services reflect the local community and to identify any potential barriers to our service.

Sex of adults supported

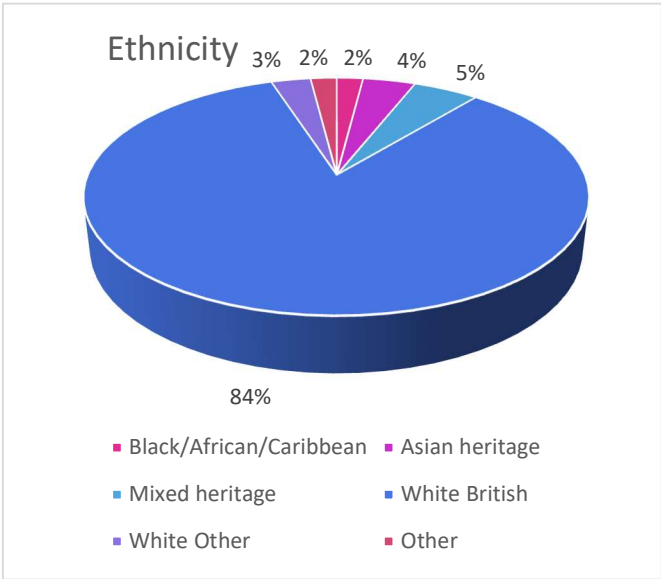
As our refuge and group services are available only to women, it is not surprising that women make up 92% of those who use our service. Our 1-2-1 community outreach service is also available to men. We work closely in partnership with other services where we cannot meet need e.g. with Mankind on



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services for men and with Paragon who provide dispersed safe accommodation in West Sussex for when our communal refuges are either full or would not effectively meet a potential resident’s needs.



Ethnic Origin

84% of those seeking help from Safe in Sussex were happy to provide data on their ethnic origin.

The profile of those we supported broadly reflects the make up of West Sussex, a county in which the 2021 census recorded that: 91% of the population was white, 4.3% of Asian heritage, 1.3% identified as Black/African/ Caribbean, 2.4% of mixed heritage and 1% other.

A 2024-25 priority is to make better links with minoritised communities and the services who support them to ensure our services are culturally appropriate and sensitive to diverse needs.

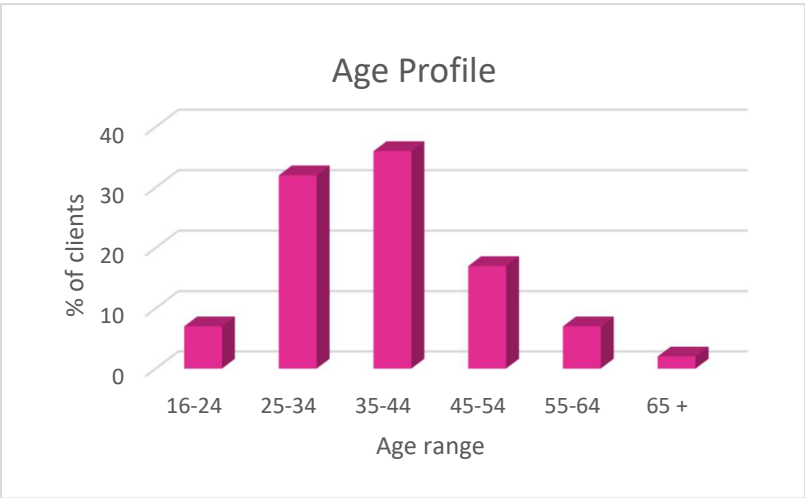
Health

There is an established link between domestic abuse as a causative factor of poor mental health. Nearly 1 in 3 of our clients reported poor mental health requiring support. 71 clients were managing poor physical health, 27 were living with a long-term disability and 40 reported a learning disability.

Age & Parenthood

The age of those who have used our services over the past year have ranged from 17 to over 80.

The majority of clients are in their 20s-40s. Between them our clients were caring for 819 children. While we only provide services directly to children within our refuges, parents benefitting from any of our services have access to



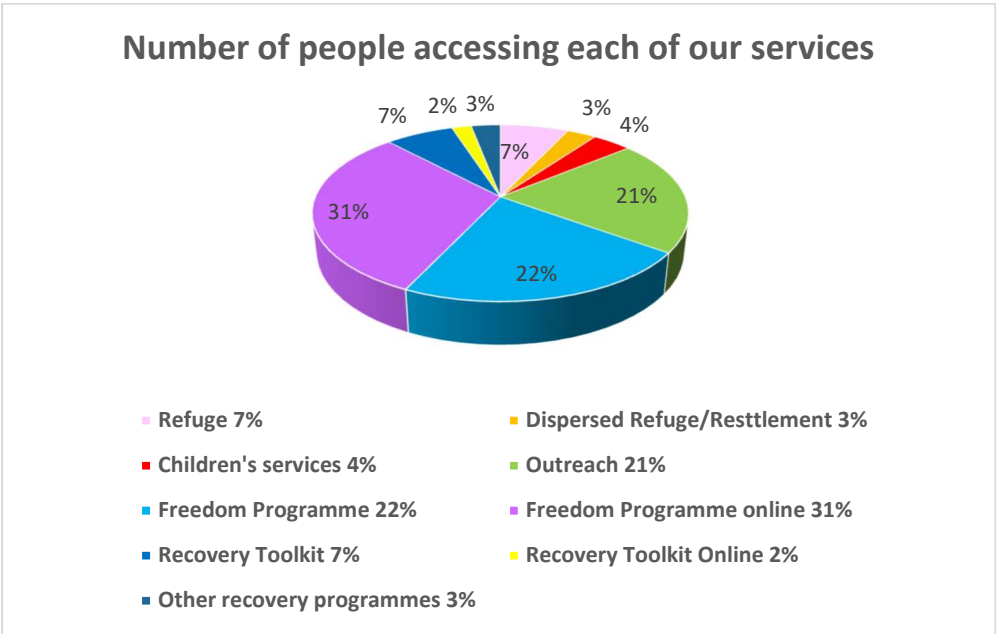
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information, advice and support on the impact of domestic abuse of children and on parenting issues.

The vast majority of those who use our services do so through our community groups – 486 people. In addition to our trained facilitators, we now have a dedicated support worker attending groups on a regular basis so that participants who need additional one to one outreach support can receive it quickly.

We supported 161 people through our 1-2-1 community outreach service and 86 women and children in our refuges.



Our strategic plan highlights the outcomes that Safe in Sussex seeks to achieve. The strategic plan is supported by a monitoring and evaluation framework that provides results indicators for each outcome. The tables below highlight the principal indicators under each of our service outcomes. The subsequent text provides qualitative and quantitative data to demonstrate progress towards meeting out strategic outcomes.

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Outcome 1: People living in West Sussex have increased knowledge about domestic abuse and healthy relationships		
Outputs	Output indicators	Numerator
People accessing SIS community group programmes report increased knowledge of domestic abuse	Percentage of Freedom programme participants who reported increased knowledge of domestic abuse and its impact and said they could now identify abusive behaviour	100%
People in the community have increased knowledge on types and impact of abusive behaviour	Number of times SIS invited to present at community groups such as WI, etc.	20

During this year we have continued to deliver our Community Group programmes across the county of West Sussex with a combination of online and face-to-face available. We will be resuming an in-person group in Mid Sussex in 2024/25.

The 10 week Freedom Programme is open to any woman who wants to find out more about domestic abuse. 412 women attended sessions in 2023/24. 100% of programme participants said the programme had helped them understand domestic abuse and its impact and enabled them to identify abusive behaviours. 95% said the programme had had a positive impact on their lives and would enable them to identify the early warning signs of an abusive relationship while 90% said that their self-esteem and confidence had improved.

Women who have completed programme evaluations told us of the positive impact they have experienced through attending the group programme:

"Mentally and emotionally I am stronger now."

"It has helped me recognise and understand domestic abuse. [There were] things I didn't realise was abuse, I just thought it was normal. Realising that things haven't been my fault"

"It has taught me some abusive behaviours I was not aware of and made me feel like I am not alone."

"I don't feel so alone. I can vocalise to friends and family and stand up for myself calmly."

After completion of the Freedom Programme, women who have left an abusive relationship may go on to attend our 12 week Recovery Toolkit sessions. 74 women attended this year. Again the response to the programme was overwhelmingly positive, with 93% of participants reporting improved confidence and self-esteem:

"I have the confidence to do things by myself now."

"I understand my feelings better and can manage difficult situations more calmly."

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"I have done things for myself and not felt guilty about it. I can set boundaries and can say no to things I don't want to do."

We have continued to be proactive in sharing understanding of domestic abuse in the local community, including awareness events at supermarkets and talks at community groups, directly engaging with over 500 people.

Outcome 2: People living in West Sussex have increased awareness about where people can go for help and that they are entitled to get help as victims/survivors		
Outputs	Output indicators	Numerator
People living in West Sussex recognise that they are in an abusive relationship and make informed choices moving forward	Number of referrals made to SIS	1068
	Number of referrals made by SIS to other DA services	70
CYP/Adults who have accessed support from SIS share their experiences across various mediums to encourage others to take up support & reduce stigma of asking for help	Number of attendees attending the Lived Experience Group of former clients who advise us on our services	8
	Survivors give permission to share anonymised stories	36
West Sussex residents know that SIS can provide help	Increased interaction on website referral page, social media, public events e.g. fundraising, knowledge of what help provided and how to access it	Facebook Reach 95,113 an increase of 191.3% over 2022/23 Followers 2,514 – a 6% increase Posts 303 – a decrease of 37.8% Median Facebook post interactions – 7, an increase of 40% Link clicks 617, increase of 48.3% Instagram Reach 1,905 an increase of 17.2% Followers 663 - an increase of 20% up from 554 Posts 216 – a decrease of 35.9% Median interactions – 5, an increase of 25%

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	West Sussex residents report knowledge of SIS services with up-to-date information on what services are provided and how to access support	Local referral sources	
		Worthing Services (Sussex County Council Domestic Abuse Service)	158
		Other Sussex Domestic Abuse services	42
		Mental Health Services	58
		Adult Social Services	7
		District Councils	3
		Sussex Voluntary sector services	7
		Children's Services	56
		GP/other health services	20
		Housing/homelessness	16
		Sussex Police	14
		Probation	5
		Self – Referral	328
		Friends / Family	16
		Other	63
		National Domestic Abuse Helpline	11

Our referral sources demonstrate that the value of our services is widely known among our partners. In addition, the high proportion of self-referrals shows that people who need support, know we are there. The high number of referrals from West Sussex County Council's high risk domestic abuse service demonstrates the value of Safe in Sussex as a step down service, with referrals to our Freedom Programme also made through the Council's single front door to its adult social care and children's services.

The high volume of referrals from both statutory and voluntary mental health services reflects the increasing complexity of mental health need we are seeing amongst those who seek our support: this will be a priority for staff training in 2024/25. Complexity of need has been a factor in the length of time residents have been staying in our refuges with residents staying on average 15% longer than in 2022/23.

While we have reduced the number of posts made on Facebook and Instagram, we have focused more on the quality such as shout outs for specific needs in our refuges and promoting events

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and services, especially the positive work done with children – this has resulted in higher levels of interaction with our content despite fewer posts.

Our Lived Experience Group of former clients who advise us on our services continues to meet quarterly. The safe dating guide the group have produced will be launched in October 2024 as part of Domestic Abuse Awareness month and the group have also fed into the development of a revised Safe in Sussex website.

Outcome 3: People living in West Sussex who have been affected by domestic abuse take action		
Outputs	Output indicators	Numerator
People in West Sussex have increased confidence & empowerment to not revert to an abusive relationship	Participants of Freedom Programme report they are able to identify the early warning signs of an abusive relationship	95% of those who completed the evaluation form stated they would be able to identify the signs of an abusive relationship
People who come through refuge and outreach services go through the judicial system	Number of applications for court orders/orders made.	Support for 24 applications for court orders was given. 18 orders were made
People affected by domestic abuse contact SIS	Number of self-referrals to SIS services	328 – this is a 22% increase on 22/23

We have seen a 22% increase in self-referrals, reflecting the prevalence of domestic abuse in West Sussex and the visibility of the charity. Self-referrals accounted for nearly all of the referrals to our 1-2-1 community outreach service.

This increase in volume has been difficult to manage and briefly required the closing of our 1-2-1 outreach service waiting list. The outreach team responded to this challenge by developing and trialing a triage process. This successfully reduced waiting times and ensured clients were directed to the right service more quickly. Partial funding has been secured from the Office of the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner to maintain the triage process for 2024/2025.

“I feel like I have had a comfort blanket of support around me. I have learnt that what I thought was normal for 30+ years, was actually abuse. I now feel empowered to actually stand up for myself and move forward.”

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"[My support worker] has been my strength my voice when I needed her, she is an inspiration to the world,.....[she] has inspired me to be strong and have my voice heard, be brave, be who I want to be and shown me the support that is available out there. No words can describe how incredibly amazing [she] is. If I'm ever feeling down I will always think of who empowered me again."

Increasing victim confidence in the criminal justice system is the area where we find it most difficult to make a positive impact, able to achieve this in only 25% of cases where clients completed an evaluation form. Issues such as a lack of prosecutions, enforcement action and court delays are all factors. We supported 100 clients with family law proceedings, 36 with civil justice outcomes and 51 with criminal justice proceedings – but only 18 orders were made. Despite an average of 7 breaches of court orders, no successful prosecutions were recorded.

Outcome 4: People living in West Sussex are able to access an effective co-ordinated statutory and voluntary service provision			
Outputs	Output indicators	Numerator	
Services in Sussex (e.g. GP, social care, housing etc.) have increased understanding on how to support people affected by domestic abuse	SIS represented at and contributes to other agency meetings	53	

We are continuing to develop our partnership working with statutory and voluntary services to promote an effective provision in West Sussex. This includes participating in the Sussex Police Victim hubs which seek to ensure there is clear leadership in the support for complex cases requiring multi-agency support and attending strategic West Sussex multi-agency meetings covering issues such as homelessness and early help.

Outcome 5: SIS is an inclusive survivor led organisation with a whole family approach		
Outputs/outcomes	Output indicators	Numerator
Clear mission statement about who SIS works with	Publicity material, social media, website with accessibility tool	Website has accessibility tool and funding secured for development of new website.

Between them our clients in 2023/24 were parenting over 800 children. Our community group programmes include sessions on parenting and the impact of domestic abuse on children. In our

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refuges our children’s workers ensure that children are treated as victims of domestic abuse in their own right, providing supported play and arts and crafts activities to help children express their feelings, come to terms with their experiences and explore coping mechanisms.

Again, feedback from clients on the impact of this support is positive:

“Mummy, I know you’re getting better, because when I talk, you look at me”

“She’s more open now – she comes to talk to me – before she kept everything bottled up”

Outcome 6: SIS has the financial (and human) resources to meet the core strategic objectives		
Outputs	Output indicators	Numerator
Repeat funding secured	Number of successful grant applications	12 (11 were repeat funders)
Independence financial stability improved	Number of paid training sessions delivered	Training Co-ordinator employed April 2023, but not maintained.

Funding from the Ministry of Justice for domestic abuse services, which we have relied on for the past 3 years, comes to an end in March 2025. Future funding levels and allocation methodology are as yet uncertain, so our priority for 2024/25 is developing a fundraising strategy, which can support the long term sustainability of the services we now offer.

We have not been able to sustain the Training Co-ordinator post. This is partly because West Sussex County Council now offer free domestic abuse awareness training to public and voluntary sector staff, along with free online advice and guidance for employers. While welcome, this move has reduced the potential pool of customers for our training offer. We are now implementing a scaled back offer which includes a quarterly online offer and the opportunity to develop bespoke courses on request, which will be delivered on a freelance basis.

We completed our plans to improve/renovate the refuges we own, with updated bathrooms and a kitchen refit now installed. Following our energy review, solar panels are now in place at both owned properties. Addressing staff capacity and capability is a priority for 2024/25 given that staff have been reporting feeling stretched on current staffing levels, especially given the increased complexity of need they are now supporting.

Priorities for 2023-24

We targeted a number of specific priorities in 2023/24

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Funding for prevention work: secure funding for our work with children and young people in schools.	We were only able to secure limited funding for this work and have had to refocus fundraising activities on maintaining our core support services.
Training: roll out our training offer to non-domestic abuse professionals, businesses, voluntary organisations and community groups.	We have had to revise our approach as employing a training officer was no longer a sustainable option financially (see above).
Refuge: purchase dispersed refuge accommodation to provide for people who may not be suitable or find communal refuge living challenging.	We have had to refocus our strategic direction on refuge provision as significant increase in the rental charges for one of our two rented properties has demonstrated that a rental model is unsustainable in the current rental market. We have therefore given notice on the rented property in question.
Client involvement: grow our Lived Experience Group and client involvement offer, including recruitment of lived experience trustees and a range of opportunities including volunteering and training.	Our lived experience group has flourished and members have developed a dating card to help people identify the early warning signs of a potentially abusive relationship. We have taken on a number of new volunteers with lived experience – whose initial focus will be on fund and awareness raising.
Governance: Continue to balance continuity and refreshment of the Board of Safe in Sussex to ensure an active and fully competent Board able to effectively lead strategy implementation and the wider governance of Safe in Sussex.	We have recruited 5 new Board members over the course of the year with expertise in: housing, the law, safeguarding and voluntary sector business development. We have expanded our training requirement for all trustees and held two Away Days. Each year we conduct a governance review and have seen consistent improvements across all performance requirements.

Priorities for 24/25

Our focus in 24/25 will be on ensuring we can manage the increasing demand we have seen in the first part of the 2024/25 financial year, along with the increased complexity of our clients' needs.

- **Making our service offer clear, inclusive and widely understood within the local community:** this will include the development of a new website and promotional

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materials, along with a proactive strategy for stakeholder engagement and partnership development.

- **Developing and maintaining a sustainable funding** model – this is particularly important given the current uncertainty around not only the amount but also the delivery approach of any funding from central government
- **Developing the capacity, capability and welfare of our team:** this will include improved training, communication and ensuring supervision time is adequately prioritized.
- **Developing, resourcing and implementing a single front door to our service** – as work by our community outreach team on a more effective initial triage service has drastically reduced waiting times to access our services.
- **Identifying and opening a new communal refuge** to replace the bed spaces we are losing by not renewing the lease on one of our two rented refuges.
- **Evaluating our Strategic Plan**, which comes to an end in 2025 and using the findings to inform the development of our next Strategic Plan.

Financial Situation

We are pleased to report that we have ended the year with a healthy positive result, having budgeted for a small surplus.

Once again, the generosity of individuals and local organisations who have contributed through donations and fundraising continue to surprise us even in these challenging economic times. Very special thanks goes to The Wickens Family Foundation who continue to support us and to Helen Hitchcock, our Patron, who promotes our charity and has raised thousands of pounds in doing so. Our Fundraising team continue to build relationships in the community and have increased our social media presence.

Our community group work has continued through the support from the MOJ. When this support draws to a close, we will continue to fund this vital work from our reserves for a limited period of time, if we are unable to fund this from other sources.

The children's refuge service funding from Children in Need is drawing to a close early 2025. This provides for two salaried staff to support the children in the refuge. We are very grateful for Children in Need's continuing support and hope that they will be able to fund us for a further 3 years.

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At the start of 2024 we began the process of looking into securing a new property to provide refuge accommodation to replace an existing rented refuge which was not going to be financially viable due to a large rent increase. It became clear that our ambition to provide dispersed refuge accommodation or independent facilities in the west of the county would have to take a back seat for the time being. The Trustee Board are always conscious of the temporary time-limited nature of our funding streams and continue to be aware of the constant need for vigilance and caution in their spending plans. Although our financial reserves are secure, we have prepared for a large deficit budget in 2024 in our unrestricted funds. This takes into account a short delay in refuge service provision while one refuge is wound down for closure and the next is ready to take clients. The uncertain financial and political climate at the start of the year make future service delivery of projects dependent on statutory funding beyond 31 March 2025 extremely difficult to predict. The Trustee Board is mindful of managing our resources prudently and for best value during this uncertain period.

After preparing the budget for 2024/25 and reviewing the organisation's financial results for the first six months of the year (to 31st August 2024), the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the next twelve months. Although the budget is anticipating a net deficit and results to date are in line with this, the Charity has sufficient free reserves to fund the difference between income and expenditure. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

The remuneration of the organisation's senior leadership team was externally benchmarked in 2022. The senior leadership team's pay is reviewed in line with the rest of the organisation. Every 3 - 5 years the salaries will be benchmarked again to ensure they remain in line with market trends.

The Board are committed to paying for key strategic services from our unrestricted reserves for up to six months until alternative funding can be secured. If those outcomes do occur, it will absorb some of the surplus achieved in previous years. The Board are very aware of this and the continually changing situation and are looking at our long-term plan to develop other unrestricted funding streams to provide resilience in our finances.

The Trustees are very grateful to all the organisations, groups and individuals who have raised funds and given donations during this financial year.

Conclusion: The board of Trustees would like to express their sincere gratitude to all the staff and volunteers who work so hard to ensure the delivery of a safe and high-quality professional service. The enthusiasm and commitment of both staff and volunteers is appreciated by the

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Board of Trustees and reflected in the overwhelmingly positive feedback received from service users through our evaluations.

Financial Review

The results of the year are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 20 A surplus of £76,921 (2023 £52,452) was earned in the general unrestricted fund. A deficit of £7,326 (2023 £39,298 surplus) occurred in the restricted funds

Reserves Policy

The agreed basis of the reserves policy of Safe in Sussex is that it should protect the continuity of our core work if funding streams, especially short-term grants, are not renewed. This is to give our staff and service users confidence that the charity can continue to provide services. It is also intended to ensure that the organisation can continue to operate during periods of general financial instability such as high wage and cost inflation. Finally, the policy also considers the long-term objectives of the charity to hold designated funds for expanding services and investing in assets.

To achieve these aims, the reserves requirement is split into several categories (see table 1). This includes a designated reserves category the "Capital Purchase Fund" (CPF) which is a ring-fenced amount set aside for a deposit on a new communal refuge to replace the rental property we have given notice on.

In the year-end report to March 2023 the CPF had been ringfenced to fund a project to purchase a dispersed accommodation. However, as mentioned earlier in this report the previous rental property in the west of the county is no longer financially viable due to the increase in rent proposed by the landlord, the Board have agreed that the priority for the organisation should be to purchase a new multiple occupancy refuge in a similar area.

The total reserves requirement calculated for 2024/25 based on the annual budget and the longer term planned spending commitments is £410,067. This is split into general requirements of £210,067 and designated requirements of £200,000.

The unrestricted fund as at 31st March 2024 totalled £1,282,378 (2023 £1,205,457) of which £747,901 (2023 £704,320) was invested in tangible fixed assets. The charity therefore had free reserves of £534,477 (2023 £501,137) of which £200,000 has been designated to future projects. The charity therefore has operational reserves of £534,477 (2023 £501,137), £334,477 allowing for the designated fund. This is greater than the calculated requirement for the year commencing 1st April 2024, so the Trustees are satisfied that the level of reserves

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is sufficient. Whilst the reserves exceed the calculated requirement, the Trustees do not consider this excessive due to the potential uncertainty over future income streams.

Reason	What might happen?	Level of reserves required	Value for 2024/25
Unforeseen emergencies	Properties need significant maintenance; need to employ extra staff due to sickness etc	General fund suggested	£10,000
<i>Budget deficit / budget contingency</i>	The current budget does not cover the expected expenditure;	The full value of current deficit to be maintained	£106,769
	Annual salary review (planned for 1st October 2024) cannot be funded from income	3% of salary costs	£12,150
	Costs increase during the year vs budget	Keep 5% of expenditure budget as a contingency	£30,248
<i>Future income uncertainty</i>	WSCC contract income ends	Contract now extended to 31/03/2026	£0
	Refuge housing benefit & service charge income is lower than expected	Current occupancy in budget is 81%. 10% contingency of £309k	£30,900
	Grants are not renewed leading to need to fund activity from reserves	For grants of less than 12 months duration, keep a further 6 months in reserve. All grants as at 1 st April 2024 are over 12 months duration	£0
Refuge maintenance	Further maintenance of buildings needed over and above budget	Significant work has been done in 2023/24. Maintain reserves of £20k due to potential damp rectification	£20,000
SUB-TOTAL GENERAL EXPENDITURE RESERVES REQUIRED			£210,067

Worthing Women's Aid (trading as Safe in Sussex)
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Directors' and Trustees Report
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Capital purchase	Purchase communal refuge building	Designated fund to enable organisation to purchase a communal refuge instead of renting	£200,000
SUB-TOTAL DESIGNATED RESERVES REQUIRED			£200,000
TOTAL RESERVES REQUIRED AS AT APRIL 2024			£410,067
RESERVES BALANCE AS AT 31 ST MARCH 2024			£534,477
SURPLUS / (SHORFALL) IN REQUIRED RESERVES			£124,410

Risk Management: As part of the extra governance meetings held, the Trustees have continued to identify the major risks to which the charity is exposed and constantly review the systems which are in place to mitigate those risks. The over-riding risk management policy document and risk register has been updated to include a more comprehensive operational, governance and financial risk policy document, which is regularly reviewed.

Public Benefit: The current activities of the charity are detailed in the Annual Report. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the company's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Trustees' Financial Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also Directors of Worthing Women's aid for the purpose of company law) are responsible for preparing the Directors' and Trustees report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (generally accepted accounting practice).

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether UK 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 assume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

**Worthing Women's Aid (trading as Safe in Sussex)
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Directors' and Trustees Report
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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

Approval

The report of the Directors and Trustees has been prepared taking advantage of the small company exemption in Section 415A of the Companies Act 2006

The report was approved by the Trustees on 27th November 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Leslie Groves Williams

Leslie Groves-Williams (Chair of Trustees)

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent examiner's report
For the year ended 31 March 2024

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex ('the company')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the company (and 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 the company's accounts 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

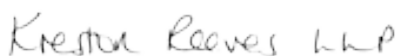
Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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.

This report is made solely to the company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: 

Dated: 5 December 2024

Lucy Hammond

BSc FCA

Kreston Reeves LLP

Chartered Accountants
9 Donnington Park, 85 Birdham Road, Chichester, PO20 7AJ

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Grants, Donations and Legacies	3	114,860	305,588	420,448	420,764
Charitable activities	4	488,115	-	488,115	484,938
Other trading activities	6	35,672	-	35,672	40,941
Investments	7	11,587	-	11,587	5,141
Total income		650,234	305,588	955,822	951,784
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		45,625	-	45,625	59,091
Charitable activities	8	527,688	312,914	840,602	800,943
Total expenditure		573,313	312,914	886,227	860,034
Net movement in funds		76,921	(7,326)	69,595	91,750
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		1,205,457	194,843	1,400,300	1,308,550
Net movement in funds		76,921	(7,326)	69,595	91,750
Total funds carried forward		1,282,378	187,517	1,469,895	1,400,300

Included within unrestricted funds are £200,000 of designated funds, please see note 17 for more detail.

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 25 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered number: 04691516

Balance sheet
As at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	747,901	704,320
		747,901	704,320
Current assets			
Debtors	14	22,362	24,213
Cash at bank and in hand		720,309	780,472
		742,671	804,685
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(20,677)	(108,705)
Net current assets		721,994	695,980
Total assets less current liabilities		1,469,895	1,400,300
Total net assets		1,469,895	1,400,300
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	16	187,517	194,843
Unrestricted funds	16	1,282,378	1,205,457
Total funds		1,469,895	1,400,300

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered number: 04691516

Balance sheet (continued)
As at 31 March 2024

The company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

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

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Karen Brown

Treasurer

Date: 27th November 2024

The notes on pages 25 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	18	(15,746)	178,249
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		11,587	5,141
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(56,004)	(7,188)
Net cash used in investing activities		(44,417)	(2,047)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayments of borrowing		-	(115,478)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		-	(115,478)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(60,163)	60,724
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		780,472	719,748
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	19	720,309	780,472

The notes on pages 25 to 43 form part of these financial statements

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

1. General information

The charity is a private company, limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales within the United Kingdom. The Trustees of the company are the members of the company named on page 1. 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 Rear of 1-7 Elm Park, Ferring, Worthing, West Sussex, BN12 5RN.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Worthing Women's Aid trading as Safe In Sussex meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 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 for 12 months from authorising these financial statements

2.3 Income

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

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the company of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the charity is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount it would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the company and include project management carried out at Headquarters.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the charity's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the company apportioned to charitable activities.

2.5 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of financial activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £1,500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- 2% straight line
Office equipment	- 25% straight line
Property improvements	- 20% straight line

Freehold land is carried at cost and is not depreciated.

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.8 Debtors

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

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.11 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 settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.12 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the company to the fund in respect of the year.

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations	26,002	480	26,482
Grants	88,858	305,108	393,966
	<u>114,860</u>	<u>305,588</u>	<u>420,448</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	45,956	-	45,956
Grants	13,952	360,856	374,808
	<u>59,908</u>	<u>360,856</u>	<u>420,764</u>

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Refuge and Community Groups	<u>488,115</u>	<u>488,115</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Refuge and Community Groups	<u>484,938</u>	<u>484,938</u>

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

5. Analysis of income from charitable activities by type of income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Refuge - Housing Benefit	340,944	340,944
Refuge - other income	5,181	5,181
Training income	1,440	1,440
Service charge	17,241	17,241
West Sussex County Council Contract	123,309	123,309
	<hr/> 488,115	<hr/> 488,115
	 Unrestricted funds 2023 £	 Total funds 2023 £
Refuge - Housing Benefit	304,388	304,388
Service charge	14,396	14,396
Refuge - Household Support	39,274	39,274
West Sussex County Council Contract	126,880	126,880
	<hr/> 484,938	<hr/> 484,938

6. Income from other trading activities

Income from fundraising events

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Fundraising income	35,672	35,672
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	 Unrestricted funds 2023 £	 Total funds 2023 £
Fundraising income	29,916	29,916
Charity shop income	11,025	11,025
	<hr/> 40,941	<hr/> 40,941
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	11,587	11,587

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	5,141	5,141

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Refuge and Community Groups	527,688	276,463	804,151
Children support services	-	36,451	36,451
	527,688	312,914	840,602

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Refuge and Community Groups	478,843	289,911	768,754
Children support services	-	32,189	32,189
	478,843	322,100	800,943

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Refuge and Community Groups	418,228	385,923	804,151
Children support services	1,952	34,499	36,451
	420,180	420,422	840,602

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Refuge and Community Groups	378,964	389,790	768,754
Children support services	1,179	31,010	32,189
	380,143	420,800	800,943

Analysis of direct costs

	Refuge and Community Groups 2024 £	Children support services 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	399,210	-	399,210
Sundry	2,711	-	2,711
Office expenses	2,279	-	2,279
Travel	3,971	-	3,971
Training	7,757	-	7,757
Outings/Activities	-	1,302	1,302
Supervision	2,300	650	2,950
	418,228	1,952	420,180

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs (continued)

	Refuge and Community Groups 2023 £	Children support services 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	364,862	-	364,862
Office expenses	1,536	-	1,536
Travel	4,611	-	4,611
Training	5,885	-	5,885
Outings/Activities	-	709	709
Supervision	2,070	470	2,540
	378,964	1,179	380,143

Analysis of support costs

	Refuge and Community Groups 2024 £	Children support services 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	118,011	33,657	151,668
Depreciation	12,423	-	12,423
Telephone	12,048	152	12,200
Legal fees	4,854	-	4,854
Establishment costs	87,710	469	88,179
Light and heat	28,106	-	28,106
Insurance	7,202	-	7,202
Repairs and maintenance	58,440	-	58,440
Cleaning	2,922	-	2,922
Computer costs	23,663	-	23,663
Printing, postage and stationery	3,957	-	3,957
Equipment	9,154	-	9,154
Office expenses	7,758	-	7,758
Travel	4,408	221	4,629
Governance costs	5,267	-	5,267
	385,923	34,499	420,422

During the year, of total costs £312,914 were restricted (2023: £321,558).

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs (continued)

	Refuge and Community Groups 2023 £	Children support services 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	116,936	30,809	147,745
Depreciation	9,707	-	9,707
Telephone	12,657	151	12,808
Legal fees	13,076	-	13,076
Establishment costs	89,217	115	89,332
Light and heat	20,878	-	20,878
Insurance	6,216	-	6,216
Repairs and maintenance	54,967	-	54,967
Cleaning	3,079	-	3,079
Computer costs	25,877	-	25,877
Printing, postage and stationery	3,131	-	3,131
Equipment	15,294	-	15,294
Office expenses	5,020	-	5,020
Travel	6,040	32	6,072
Training	-	(97)	(97)
Loan interest	2,923	-	2,923
Governance costs	4,772	-	4,772
	<u>389,790</u>	<u>31,010</u>	<u>420,800</u>

10. Independent examiner's remuneration

The independent examiner's remuneration amounts to an independent examiner fee of £2,880 (2023 - £2,640).

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

11. Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	541,058	511,581
Social security costs	34,665	34,097
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	18,331	16,815
	594,054	562,493

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Total	28	28

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The total remuneration of key management personnel was £48,442 (2023 - £46,530).

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2023 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 March 2024, expenses totalling £155 were reimbursed or paid directly to 5 Trustees (2023 - £NIL).

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Office equipment £	Property Improvements £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 April 2023	749,276	17,297	38,061	804,634
Additions	-	5,567	50,437	56,004
At 31 March 2024	749,276	22,864	88,498	860,638
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2023	54,262	14,487	31,565	100,314
Charge for the year	6,294	1,048	5,081	12,423
At 31 March 2024	60,556	15,535	36,646	112,737
Net book value				
At 31 March 2024	688,720	7,329	51,852	747,901
At 31 March 2023	695,014	2,810	6,496	704,320

14. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Due within one year		
Other debtors	15,564	16,775
Prepayments and accrued income	6,798	7,438
	22,362	24,213

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	8,829	7,907
Other creditors	5,541	97,606
Accruals and deferred income	6,307	3,192
	20,677	108,705

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

16. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
Designated funds				
Capital Purchase Fund	200,000	-	-	200,000
General funds				
General Funds	1,005,457	650,234	(573,313)	1,082,378
Total Unrestricted funds	1,205,457	650,234	(573,313)	1,282,378
Restricted funds				
Children's Support Service	5,317	34,673	(32,770)	7,220
The 7 Stars Foundation	-	2,500	(136)	2,364
Children in Need Covid Response	10,875	-	(10,875)	-
Another Way Women	-	3,890	(2,200)	1,690
Garfield Weston	-	25,000	(19,000)	6,000
PCC Intervention & Recovery Programme	76,779	110,943	(105,740)	81,982
PCC Safe Spacing Funding	-	10,468	(10,468)	-
Sussex Community Foundation	9,952	-	-	9,952
Eaton Fund	3,191	5,000	(5,692)	2,499
PCC - Community groups	15,855	-	(15,855)	-
PCC Womens IDVA	21,665	39,000	(39,756)	20,909
The Big Give	10,287	6,160	(10,287)	6,160
PCC IDVA Provision	40,922	67,954	(60,135)	48,741
	194,843	305,588	(312,914)	187,517
Total of funds	1,400,300	955,822	(886,227)	1,469,895

Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
Designated funds				
Capital Purchase Fund	200,000	-	-	200,000
General funds				
General Funds	953,005	590,928	(538,476)	1,005,457
Total Unrestricted funds	1,153,005	590,928	(538,476)	1,205,457
Restricted funds				
Children's Support Service	1,618	35,888	(32,189)	5,317
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Grant	41,450	-	(41,450)	-
Children in Need Covid Response	23,497	-	(12,622)	10,875
Lloyds Bank Foundation	16,897	-	(16,897)	-
PCC Intervention & Recovery Programme	-	110,944	(34,165)	76,779
PCC Safe Spacing Funding	6,252	-	(6,252)	-
Sussex Community Foundation	-	9,952	-	9,952
Society of the Holy Child Jesus CIO	15,275	-	(15,275)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	5,831	(5,831)	-
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	2,259	-	(2,259)	-
Eaton Fund	-	5,000	(1,809)	3,191
PCC - Community groups	-	20,000	(4,145)	15,855
PCC - Women's Specialist Worker	4,701	-	(4,701)	-
PCC Womens IDVA	-	40,000	(18,335)	21,665
The Screwfix Foundation	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
RSA Community Grants	2,757	-	(2,757)	-
The Big Give	-	10,287	-	10,287
PCC IDVA Provision	40,839	67,954	(67,871)	40,922
WSCC	-	50,000	(50,000)	-
	155,545	360,856	(321,558)	194,843

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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Total of funds	<u>1,308,550</u>	<u>951,784</u>	<u>(860,034)</u>	<u>1,400,300</u>
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Worthing Women's Aid Trading as Safe In Sussex
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Designated Fund

The designated fund represents £200,000 for a Capital Purchase Fund. This is to fund the purchase of a property to be used as refuge accommodation.

Restricted Funds

Children's Support Service

BBC Children in Need - We were delighted to have a further 3 year grant awarded to fund this service which will take us up to 31 January 2025. The service is aimed at supporting the children at the refuges, and the grant covers in the main the salaries and other staffing costs for two child support workers as well as a contribution towards some of the outings and activities the staff carry out with the children.

This fund also represents other donations etc given towards the running of the children's service, but in particular to fund larger activities and toys and equipment for the playroom.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Grant

This grant has been used to fund our Womens Groups delivered in the community, and has now ended.

Children in Need Covid Response

This is a fund of money given to support children and young people in the community who are affected by domestic abuse and as a result of the pandemic. This project was finished in the year.

Lloyds Bank Foundation

This grant enables us to continue employing a Refuges manager, and provides a significant contribution towards her salary costs. This grant is now complete.

Police and Crime Commissioner - Safe Space Funding

This was a grant awarded and spent in the year that enabled us to have specific training on management development, enhance our database and provide some laptops for our staff.

Sussex Community Foundation

This grant is for one year to provide for a sessional children's worker across our refuges.

Society of the Holy Child Jesus CIO

The society has very kindly supported us with a grant for one year for a refuge support worker. The grant has now finished.

Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust

This funding has enables some additional hours to be specifically dedicated to trust and grant funding applications. The grant is now complete.

Eaton Fund

We are delighted to continue with the purpose of this grant which enables us to buy essential items for the women that we work with. A second amount of £5,000 was secured, and we are very fortunate to secure a third amount of £5,000 in May 2024.

Police and Crime Commissioner - Community Groups

This was given to us as a one-off grant to support our community group work. This was completed in the year.

Police and Crime Commissioner - Women's Specialist Worker

The funding for a Women's specialist worker on domestic abuse has now finished.

Police and Crime Commissioner - Women's IDVA

Our local Police and Crime Commissioner has granted us a final one year of funding in August 2023 to enable us to employ a Women's IDVA.

The Screwfix Foundation

We were delighted to receive this grant which has greatly helped in the refurbishment of the kitchen at one of our refuges.

RSA Community Grants

This grant will be used to assist women and children coming into or moving on from our refuges, and is now finished.

The Big Give

The Christmas 2022 campaign enabled us to cover some the costs for a refuge worker for one year. This was used up in the year. We were successful in another campaign for 2023 and this time we have secured some funding for our Community Groups which will be used from April 2024.

Police and Crime Commissioner - IDVA provision

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Notes to the financial statements
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16. Statement of funds (continued)

The grant provides for 2 specialist IDVA positions and to support our work in the Community. The funding has been agreed until March 2025.

WSCC

This was given to us a one-off to support our community group work. This is now complete.

Police and Crime Commissioner - Intervention & Recovery Programme

This grant funds our IDVA led outreach service and supports our work in the community. The funding has been agreed until March 2025.

The 7 Stars Foundation

We were grateful to receive this grant which means we can support our families to undertake exciting activities outside of the refuge.

Another Way Womens' Foundation

This grant was to enable us to train some of our staff to deliver a specific Domestic Abuse programme to support the women in the refuge. We will train the last few members of staff in Autmn of 2024.

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	747,901	-	747,901
Current assets	555,154	187,517	742,671
Creditors due within one year	(20,677)	-	(20,677)
Total	1,282,378	187,517	1,469,895

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	704,320	-	704,320
Current assets	609,842	194,843	804,685
Creditors due within one year	(108,705)	-	(108,705)
Total	1,205,457	194,843	1,400,300

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Notes to the financial statements
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18. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	69,595	91,750
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	12,423	9,707
Interest received	(11,587)	(5,141)
Decrease in debtors	1,851	17,233
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(88,028)	64,700
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	(15,746)	178,249

19. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash in hand	720,309	780,472
Total cash and cash equivalents	720,309	780,472

20. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	780,472	(60,163)	720,309
	780,472	(60,163)	720,309

21. Capital commitments

	2024 £	2023 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Property improvements	2,700	-

22. Pension commitments

The company operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held

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22. Pension commitments (continued)

separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £18,331 (2023 - £16,815). Contributions totalling £nil (2023 - £nil) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet.

23. Operating lease commitments

At 31 March 2024 the company had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Not later than 1 year	45,016	65,938
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	98,471	119,190
	<u>143,487</u>	<u>185,128</u>

24. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year that require disclosure under SORP 2019 (FRS 102).