

Company registration number: 04925281

Charity registration number: 1102489

# Living Options Devon

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024



**WESTCOTTS**

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
& BUSINESS ADVISERS

**Living Options Devon**

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## Living Options Devon

### Reference and Administrative Details

**Chairman** A Barge

**Trustees** S Fallon  
R Manley  
S Hyde  
C R Holmes  
C Radclyffe  
T G Naldrett

**Company secretary** D King

**Charity Registration Number** 1102489

**Company Registration Number** 04925281

**Registered Office** The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.  
Units 3-4 Cranmere Court  
Lustleigh Close  
Matford Business Park  
Exeter  
EX2 8PW

**Auditor** 80 Oxford Street  
Burnham-on-Sea  
TA8 1EF

**Solicitors** Kitson LLP  
The Forum  
Barnfield road  
Exeter  
Devon

**Bankers** Lloyds  
234 High Street  
Exeter  
EX4 3NL

# Living Options Devon

## Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

### Trustees and officers

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

Trustees:	S Fallon
	R Manley
	S Hyde
	B Imeson (resigned 27 September 2023)
	C R Holmes
	C Radclyffe
	T G Naldrett

Chairman:	A Barge
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Secretary:	D King
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### Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are to provide relief to inhabitants of Devon who have need because of mental or physical disability, and to educate the public about the needs of those with a mental or physical disability.

The Living Options Strategic Plan 2021-2026 was approved by the Board of Trustees which sets the direction for the Charity, describing a clear vision for the future. It provides a realistic structured plan to guide is to achieve our strategic aims. It includes the views of all of our main stakeholders, and most importantly, the view of service users and carers. The plan was ambitious and challenged our thinking and how we operate but was achievable because it builds on the good reputation that LOD has rightly earned. This new strategic plan is based around service user need, incorporating a new Digital Strategy alongside our Marketing and Fundraising strategy. Our new Digital Strategy promotes accessible digital opportunities for all.

Living Options Devon re-designed our existing services and developed new ones in response to the needs of local disabled and Deaf people during the COVID 19 pandemic, so that we can continue to support disabled and Deaf people as we move through the response and into the recovery phase and learn to live with COVID and the other challenges of our time.

### Our Vision

People with disabilities and Deaf people have the same life chances and opportunities to be active and equal members of society.

### Our Values

Our values underpin everything that we do. They have not changed since 1990 and shape our behaviour both as an organisation and as people working with and for Living Options Devon.

We believe in a fully accessible society where all people can enjoy freedom of choice and equality of opportunity.

We are user-led in all we do, enabling people with disabilities and Deaf people to influence and manage our full range of services and projects.

We believe we deliver the highest standards of service to all the people with whom we work.

We operate a culture of open communication, empowerment and development, where individual abilities are respected, and people are encouraged to achieve their full potential.

### Our Mission

Living Options Devon (LOD) is a user-led organisation which seeks to ensure that people with disabilities and Deaf people across Devon and the United Kingdom (UK) have the opportunity to live the life they choose.

### Trustees' Report

Some examples of the challenges continuing to face disabled people drawn from a variety of research reports:

- Disabled people aged 16 to 64 years had poorer ratings than non-disabled people on all four personal well-being measures - life satisfaction, happiness, worthwhileness and anxiety. Average anxiety levels were higher for disabled people at 4.6 out of 10, compared with 3.0 out of 10 for non-disabled people (year ending June 2021). (ONS, 2022)
- Disabled people are more likely to report feelings of loneliness "often or always" (15.1%) than non-disabled people (3.6%) (year ending March 2021). : The proportion of disabled people who felt lonely "often or always" in 2021 has increased compared with 2014 (ONS, 2022)
- In the first quarter of 2023, the employment rate of disabled people was 53.7% compared to 82.7% for people who are not disabled. disabled people with severe or specific learning difficulties, autism and mental illness had the lowest employment rates (House of Commons Library, 2023)
- The proportion of disabled people with no qualifications is nearly three times that of non-disabled people (ONS, 2022)
- Disabled people are more likely to experience poverty and unemployment, have lower incomes, and face extra living costs. These economic challenges mean disabled people are particularly vulnerable to the rising costs of living. (House of Lords Library, UKParliament, December 2022)
- 3 out of 4 disabled people (72%) have experienced negative attitudes or behaviour in the last 5 years. 9 out of 10 disabled people (87%) who had experienced negative attitudes or behaviour said it had a negative effect on their daily lives. 44% of disabled people said they feel less equal to others because of the attitudes and behaviours they experience. (Scope, 2022)
- Disabled people remain far less likely to feel that they have the opportunity to be as active as they want to be (41% vs 70% of non-disabled people). This "activity gap" has remained consistent in previous years, showing an ongoing unmet need. (Alliance, 2023)
- Disabled adults are more likely to be victims of crime (20.8%) than other adults (19.0%), and disabled children aged 10 to 15 (12.0%) are almost twice as likely to be victims of crime than other children (6.3%). Disabled women are more likely to experience domestic abuse and sexual assault than non-disabled women. (National Disability Strategy update, December 2022)
- The UK Disability Survey found that 28% of disabled people had difficulty accessing public spaces 'all the time or 'often'. 2 in 5 disabled people had experienced difficulties shopping around for products or services, with reported barriers including a lack of appropriate facilities (16%), difficulty using public transport (15%), and difficulty moving around premises (13%) (Disability Unit , 2021)
- People with a long-term illness or health conditions are around 25% less likely to have enjoyed nature in the past 14 days than others (Disability Unit, 2021)

## **Living Options Devon**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **What is Living Options Devon doing to address this?**

- Promoting the needs and rights of disabled people
- Providing Peer Support
- Information, advice and support
- Training disabled and Deaf people
- Supporting independence
- Advocacy
- Engagement services
- Supporting deaf people to gain employment
- Counselling for Deaf and disabled people
- Support for victims of crime
- Improving access to services and leisure facilities
- Promoting activities to support health and wellbeing

#### **How Does this help? (Our interim outcomes)**

- People will be provided with emotional and peer support; feel listened to and less alone; more resilient and empowered to make positive changes in their lives.
- People will feel more informed; more equipped to manage their circumstances; and more able to make choices which meet their needs
- People will feel more connected, addressing loneliness and isolation
- People will be safeguarded, supported and empowered to express their views and wishes and involved in decisions being made about their lives
- People will gain or maintain independence
- People will have increased skills and confidence
- People will be enabled to live more active lives
- People will have the opportunity to share their experiences and views; to highlight issues that matter to them, and help to shape more inclusive services
- A wider range of places, services and organisations will have improved awareness, accessibility and inclusivity

#### **What are we aiming for? (Long term impact)**

**People with disabilities and Deaf people have the same life chances and opportunities to be active and equal members of society.**

Every two years a comprehensive Impact Report is produced which outlines the wider outcomes that the charity has delivered for our beneficiaries. The frequency of this report has been determined by the Board to ensure best value for money. This report, whilst very informative for Trustees and external stakeholders, is not considered cost effective to produce annually. The Report for 2022-24 will be published in due course.

Board members take part in an annual Development Day which offers an opportunity to review and discuss the achievements of the Charity against their stated aspirations and objectives for the period.

## **Living Options Devon**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Review of activities**

The Board of Trustees meets four times a year together, with online meetings as and when required.

The Strategic Plan which sets out the Charity's Mission, Aims and Strategic Objectives is developed and approved by the Board in full consultation with our service users, beneficiaries, funders and other stakeholders. Once the Strategic Plan has been agreed, the CEO has delegated responsibility from the Board for delivery of the strategic objectives as set out in the Strategic Plan. Annually, the CEO puts a proposal to the Board outlining the measures that they will be measured against that will demonstrate the Charity is moving towards achievement of the Strategic Plan. Once approved by the Board, the CEO reports against those measures at each quarterly Board meeting. Annual financial, fundraising and performance targets are developed by the Executive Team who report through quarterly reports to the Board. (e.g. management accounts, compliance with reserves policy, accident reporting, RAG rating for all projects and service areas against delivery targets, equality data monitoring, complaints and compliments etc).

The Strategic Plan has been reviewed by the Board ensuring that it is still relevant and appropriate for the needs of Living Options Devon. Service user and stakeholder views continue to be gathered as part of this review process.

Underpinning the Strategic Plan is the Business Plan which is updated annually and outlines how The Strategic Plan will be achieved. The Board plan to review future activities against the SMART objectives set out in the business plan.

#### **Strategic Report**

The following sections for achievements and performance and financial review form the strategic report of the charity.

#### **Financial review**

The net surplus for the year amounted to £45,667 (2023: deficit of £67,224) of which £10,436 (2023: deficit of £14,729) related to restricted funds and £35,231 (2023: deficit of £58,126) was attributable to unrestricted funds. On 31 March 2024 total funds were £281,978 (2023 £236,311). Unrestricted funds were £265,911 (2023: £230,680) and restricted funds were £16,067 (2023: £5,631). Net current assets were £233,433 (2023: £187,244). We have continued to deliver our services to more beneficiaries year on year.

Living Options Devon applies for funding from grant makers and trusts, tenders for contracts and runs fundraising campaigns. The Strategic Plan contains a Fundraising Strategy outlining strategic objectives. The CEO has delegated authority to identify how these Strategic Objectives will be delivered at an operational level. They work with the Fundraising team to develop annual targets which are embedded into the budget for the following year. The Board are provided with a quarterly summary of all fundraising applications against progress and success rates. Fundraising targets are an integral part of the management accounts/budget setting process. All projects and services for which funds are secured ensure their monitoring regimes are in accordance with funders requirements. Data collection for monitoring purposes is centrally supported and regulated through our Research and Monitoring function.

Living Options Devon is registered with and follows the standards of the Fundraising Regulator, and the Fundraising Lead is a member of, and follows the standards of, the Chartered Institute of Fundraising.

Living Options Devon has a proven track record in relation to our on-going sustainability over many years. We have developed a reputation for high quality and reliable service provision. So, whilst individual funding streams may ebb and flow, we have a solid pipeline of potential funders who want to support our work, and in the competitive world of commissioning, we offer excellent value for money due to a highly committed staff team combined with efficient systems and processes. This has resulted in being awarded 2nd and 3rd contract terms. We believe our success factors are a truly User Led Ethos, combined with a focus on outcome measurement for our beneficiaries. Our services are always designed around service user need, having people with lived experience involved at every level of the Charity. The COVID pandemic created a range of challenges, but also a huge demand for our services which provides us with an opportunity for future growth. We plan to continue identifying what our service users and stakeholders need from us moving forwards, identifying appropriate funding sources that match the Charity's aims and objectives.

## **Living Options Devon**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Structure, governance and management**

##### ***Governing document***

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 8 October 2003 and registered as a charity on 4 March 2004. The charity was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute up to £10.

##### ***Recruitment and appointment of trustees***

The directors of the company, who are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law, who served during the year are listed under legal and administrative information on page 1.

A board of trustees of at least 5 members, who meet quarterly, administers the charitable company. A Chief Executive is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charitable company.

The CEO has full delegated authority for all aspects of the Charity's performance. The CEO's pay is determined via the Remuneration Committee of the Board which consists of the Chair of Trustees together with two other nominated Trustees as needed. When invoked, the remuneration committee are informed using available external benchmarking and the Charity's performance and financial data. The CEO is responsible for setting competitive, fair and equitable pay scales for other members of the Executive and staff team. This is done in discussion with the Executive Team and Trustees as appropriate, and with reference to the NJC scales and other Job Evaluation schemes as appropriate. There is a policy in place outlining our approach to pay which has been approved by the Board and along with all other policies are reviewed on a minimum 3-years basis.

Not less than 75% of the total number of trustees shall be persons with a disability and/or Deaf (who use British Sign Language (BSL) as their first or preferred language).

The Board of Trustees are comprised of individuals who possess a range of skills and experience that will enable them to effectively fulfil their individual roles on the Board. Recruitment is by open advertisement or via a recruitment agency. We provide a Job Description and Person Specification for Trustee roles. Selection being against the requirements of the published person specification via an interview process attended by 2 members of our Trustee Board. Appointment of people with the necessary skills set is informed by a regular Board skills audit. There is a comprehensive induction process and checklist. Board training needs are identified formally at annual individual Trustee performance reviews. Annual Board Development days provide whole board training.

A Chairman is appointed by the trustees from the elected members. The trustees also appoint a Secretary to the Company and fix the remuneration for the post.



# Living Options Devon

## Trustees' Report

### *Reserve policy*

The Trustees recognise that Living Options Devon is currently in a secure financial position with plans for further income generation from a variety of sources and effective processes for monitoring expenditure.

However, the trustees also recognise that the Charity needs to hold reserves for the following principal reasons:

- To produce income to be used for funding such as deficits as arise from the Charity's operations;
- To meet any deficits not covered by income in any one year;
- To meet major items of unforeseen expenditure;
- Pay redundancy costs if services are reduced;
- To enable the charity to continue its core operations for a period of at least 3 months, even in the event of major withdrawal of external funding;
- Winding up the charity in the event of closure.

The Charity will therefore endeavour to maintain a level of reserves appropriate to the financial climate in which it is operating, with particular reference to potential major financial risks (such as loss of funding) and the charity's commitment to the many people it serves.

The trustees hereby resolve that they shall seek to build up and maintain from grant income, unrestricted surpluses, investment income and fundraising, an adequate level of reserves, to be monitored bi-annually, in order to protect the Organisation in relation to the areas of opportunity and risk set out above.

They further resolve that the level of free reserves, which stand at £217,366 (unrestricted reserves of £265,911 less unrestricted fixed assets of £48,545) as of 31 March 2024, that the Organisation seeks to establish will cover the potential winding-up costs of the charity which stands at £312,000. The Trustees' stated aim is to return surpluses over the next 5 years to reach this target by 2029.

### *Risk management*

The Trustees conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and a Risk Management policy is in place. A risk register has been long established and is updated quarterly. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces. The Strategic Plan and Business Plan 2021-2026 which set a clear direction for the Charity also mitigates external risks to funding by allowing for the diversification of funding and activities. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, clients, and visitors.

Principle risks have been identified as Reputational Damage, Financial/Litigation Risks, COVID related risks including challenges with staff recruitment and continued cyber security risks, all of which have clear risk mitigation plans in place. We understand that the nature of risk is ever changing and strive to keep a clear focus on risk identification and effective risk management.

# Living Options Devon

## Trustees' Report

### *Investment Policy*

During the year the Trustees reviewed their investment policy and continue to utilize the existing interest paying bank account. The investment policy and potential opportunities will continue to be kept under review to ensure that the charity responds positively to any changing circumstances.

### *Public Benefit*

Public benefit is the legal requirement of every organisation set up for one or more charitable aims to be able to demonstrate that its aims are for the public benefit if it is to be recognised and registered as a charity in England and Wales. Living Options continues to raise awareness of the needs of disabled and Deaf people to a range of organisations across Devon and develop user-led services which promote and support choice and independent living. Service users are also encouraged and supported to participate in the planning, delivery and evaluation of local, regional and national services. During 2023/24 Living Options Devon has delivered a number of projects/services for the public benefit including:

- A general holistic advocacy service across Devon for vulnerable people leading a consortium of four other charities to deliver the service. This includes statutory Care Act Advocacy (including Prisoner advocacy); the Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy and Deprivation of Liberty safeguarding service, the Independent Mental Health Act Advocacy and Health Complaints advocacy service working with Rethink Mental Illness.
- A range of Deaf Led services run by and for the Devon Deaf community including advocacy, wellbeing services, BSL counselling for Deaf people and supporting Deaf people with other aspects of their daily lives.
- A Victim support service for disabled and Deaf people who have been victims of crime.
- The Devon Engagement service in which Living Options Devon leads a partnership of other charities to ensure that those who are hardest to reach are consulted when decisions are being made by the local authority and health in relation to disabled people's health and wellbeing.
- A Big lottery Funded Wellbeing Service, which included the continuation of the 'Time to Talk' project to tackle loneliness and isolation amongst Devon's disabled people, a telephone help line, Peer Support Volunteers, and Deaf Counselling.
- Accessibility Services to improve the lives of disabled people including Access auditing, training and consultancy.
- The See Hear Centre premises (now operating out of the Roundswell Centre, Barnstaple) offering information, advice and equipment for sight and hearing loss and signposting to additional support services locally for disabled people and members of the Deaf Community.
- Countryside Mobility South West providing accessible equipment at countryside locations to offer more accessible services for people with disabilities and their families.
- Provision of disability, Deaf Awareness and BSL training; and access audits to public, private and VCSE organisations. Provide Exeter City Council with support around disability issues in relation to their planning and consultation processes. We have Mindful Employer accreditation and Disability Confident Leader (level 3).

## Living Options Devon

### Trustees' Report

- Represent vulnerable people's views on a range of strategic meetings include Devon, Torbay and Plymouth Safeguarding Boards and Devon CC Health and Wellbeing Board, etc.
- Equality Reference Group contract funded through Devon County Council to represent disability at a strategic level.
- Both disabled and Deaf Counselling Services are provided
- Our business focused website [www.ouraccessibilitymatters.org](http://www.ouraccessibilitymatters.org) supports local businesses and individuals to be more disability and Deaf aware, through our training, consultancy and access audits.
- Waiting Well Project to support people on Elective Care waiting lists by connecting them with community-based support to improve their quality of life and independence.
- Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training on Learning Disability and Autism for all NHS health and social care staff across Devon.

The Trustees have paid due regard to the guidance provided by The Charity Commission on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

#### Plans for the future

During 2024/25 we will continue to progress towards our Operational Objectives set out in our Strategic Plan:

##### Operational Objective 1

To enable disabled and Deaf people to have a voice and receive the services they need, by continuing to provide advocacy, information and advice, victim support and engagement services.

##### Operational Objective 2

To continue to provide services which support wellbeing, independence and address loneliness and isolation.

##### Operational Objective 3

To aid recovery from the Covid 19 pandemic, whilst promoting wellbeing more generally, we will extend our Deaf led specialist counselling service to cover all disabilities, increasing capacity to support more beneficiaries.

##### Operational Objective 4

To strengthen the voice of disabled and Deaf people in South West care settings, we will recruit and support a team of Experts by Experience.

##### Operational Objective 5

To develop more holistic, integrated and cost-effective services, we will create the LOD Hub so we can develop clear referral pathways across our Charity.

##### Operational Objective 6

To provide a more equitable service across Devon, we will ensure support is embedded within all four Devon -wide localities including West Devon and Plymouth and South Devon and Torbay localities.

##### Operational Objective 7

To turn our strapline 'Accessibility Matters' into a reality we will market our Accessibility products (access auditing, disability and Deaf training, easy read and other accessible formats, mystery shopper services etc.) to more partners across the South West.

Our Strategic Plan 2021-2026 sets our plans for future periods to ensure that these targets will be achieved. However, we also constantly aim to identify, tender for and monitor more projects in which our experience and expertise would be beneficial.

## Living Options Devon

### Trustees' Report

Living Options was successful in re-tendering the contract to provide Adult advocacy Services (Care Act Advocacy across Devon and Torbay, IMHA, IMCA and NHS Complaints advocacy) and Paid Representative support. This contract will now run to March 2027 with options to extend for a further 3 years.

The Healthwatch (Lot 2) - Engagement Service contract (via Devon County Council) runs on a plus one basis for a further two years having been secured for the next financial year, covering all hard to reach/protected groups.

We secured a new 4-year Big Lottery Funded Wellbeing Service, to continue our Time To Talk project, reducing loneliness and isolation for disabled and Deaf people across Devon; a new Volunteer Coordinator to provide Peer Support volunteers, supporting disabled people to attend community based services; and Access Audits and training for community based services to promote access to services and educate how to support disabled and Deaf people in the community.

The successful continuation funding of the NHS Waiting Well Project for another year to support people on a wider range of waiting lists across Devon, Torbay and Plymouth by connecting them with community-based support to improve their quality of life.

We will continue with projects including support for disabled victims of crime; support and advice service for people in North Devon who have a sensory loss; ongoing funding for our Countryside Mobility project, funding for the Equality Reference Group contract funded through Devon County Council to represent disability at a strategic level, and we will continue our User-Led Counselling Service, building on the learning of our Deaf led Counselling service, funded through a range of independent charitable Trusts and Foundations.

Being part of the strategic partnership of the new VCSE Assembly to champion the voice of disabled and Deaf people across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay.

We will continue to deliver the Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training on Learning Disability and Autism to NHS Health and Social Care staff across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay. Central funding from NHS England currently runs to March 2025, after which local providers and Devon ICB will fund the ongoing mandatory training.

We have secured funding for some exciting new projects and services for 2024/25 including:

- Travelling with Confidence Project - a two year Motability funded project to increase disabled peoples' confidence using public transport across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay; in partnership with another local charity, Devon Communities Together.

#### Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Living Options Devon for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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

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

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

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

## Living Options Devon

### Trustees' Report

#### Auditor

Each of the persons who is a trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

The auditor is deemed to have been re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 4.12.24 and signed on its behalf by:



A Barge  
Chairman

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Living Options Devon

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Living Options Devon (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

#### Basis for opinion

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

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

#### Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Living Options Devon

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

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

#### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities (set out on page 10), the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

#### Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

- We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience and through discussion with the directors and other management. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team, and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- The company is subject to laws and regulations that govern the preparation of the financial statements, including financial reporting legislation, and other companies legislation. The company is also subject to other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material impact on the amounts or disclosures within the financial statements, including employment, anti-bribery, anti-money laundering.
- Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. In any audit, there remains a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control.

Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.

## Living Options Devon

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Living Options Devon

Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

#### Use of our report

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

Westcotts (SW) LLP

David Wright (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Westcotts (SW) LLP  
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor  
80 Oxford Street  
Burnham-on-Sea  
TA8 1EF

Date: 18.12.24



## Living Options Devon

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

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Donations and legacies	3	8,138	-	8,138
Charitable activities	4	1,964,818	168,993	2,133,811
Investment income	5	3,054	-	3,054
Other income		2,120	-	2,120
Total income		1,978,130	168,993	2,147,123
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	6	(1,942,899)	(158,557)	(2,101,456)
Total expenditure		(1,942,899)	(158,557)	(2,101,456)
Net income		35,231	10,436	45,667
Net movement in funds		35,231	10,436	45,667
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		230,680	5,631	236,311
Total funds carried forward	17	265,911	16,067	281,978
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Donations and legacies	3	10,977	1,133	12,110
Charitable activities	4	1,801,117	118,096	1,919,213
Investment income	5	377	-	377
Other income		266	-	266
Total income		1,812,737	119,229	1,931,966
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	6	(1,870,863)	(128,327)	(1,999,190)
Total expenditure		(1,870,863)	(128,327)	(1,999,190)
Net expenditure		(58,126)	(9,098)	(67,224)
Net movement in funds		(58,126)	(9,098)	(67,224)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		288,806	14,729	303,535
Total funds carried forward	17	230,680	5,631	236,311

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

## Living Options Devon

(Registration number: 04925281)  
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	11	48,545	49,067
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	12	530,024	402,362
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>401,978</u>	<u>397,717</u>
		932,002	800,079
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	13	<u>(698,569)</u>	<u>(612,835)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>233,433</u>	<u>187,244</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>281,978</u>	<u>236,311</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Restricted income funds</b>			
Restricted funds		16,067	5,631
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>265,911</u>	<u>230,680</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	17	<u>281,978</u>	<u>236,311</u>

The financial statements on pages 15 to 31 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 4/12/24, and signed on their behalf by:

  
A Barge  
Chairman

## Living Options Devon

### Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash income/(expenditure)		45,667	(67,224)
<b>Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items</b>			
Depreciation		29,423	35,507
Investment income	5	<u>(3,054)</u>	<u>(377)</u>
		72,036	(32,094)
<b>Working capital adjustments</b>			
Increase in debtors	12	(127,662)	(202,896)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	13	13,473	(28,752)
Increase in deferred income		<u>72,261</u>	<u>388,575</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>30,108</u>	<u>124,833</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Interest receivable and similar income	5	3,054	377
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	11	(28,978)	(22,062)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		<u>77</u>	<u>(266)</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>(25,847)</u>	<u>(21,951)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		4,261	102,882
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>397,717</u>	<u>294,835</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u>401,978</u>	<u>397,717</u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Charity law prohibits the use of net cash inflows on any endowment or other restricted fund to offset net cash outflows on any fund outside its own objects, except on special authority. In practice, this restriction has not had any effect on cash flows for the year.

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### 1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Units 3-4 Cranmere Court  
Lustleigh Close  
Matford Business Park  
Exeter  
EX2 8PW

#### 2 Accounting policies

##### Statement of compliance

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

##### Basis of preparation

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

##### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

##### Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

##### Income and endowments

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Income from training and access audits is included as income in the period in which the relevant training session or audit visit takes place.

##### Donations and legacies

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, is included when these are receivable, except as follows:

·When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.

·When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included until the pre-conditions for use have been met.

·When donors specify that donations and grants, including capital grants, are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in restricted funds when receivable.

##### Training and access audits

Income from training and access audits is included as income in the period in which the relevant training session or audit visit takes place.

## Living Options Devon

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### **Deferred income**

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

#### **Other income**

Interest is recognised when receivable by the charity.

#### **Expenditure**

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

#### **Charitable activities**

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

#### **Support costs**

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

#### **Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

#### **Government grants**

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are not recognised until there is reasonable assurance that the charity will comply with the conditions attaching to them and the grants will be received.

Where the grant does not impose specified future performance-related conditions on the recipient, it is recognised in income when the grant proceeds are received or receivable. Where the grant does impose specified future performance-related conditions on the recipient, it is recognised in income only when the performance-related conditions have been met. Where grants received are prior to satisfying the revenue recognition criteria, they are recognised as a liability.

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £0.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

#### **Depreciation and amortisation**

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

##### **Asset class**

Leasehold property  
Fixtures and fittings  
Equipment  
Website

##### **Depreciation method and rate**

- straight line over the life of the lease
- 3 years straight line
- 5-15 years straight line
- 10 years straight line

#### **Impairment of fixed assets**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

#### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

#### **Defined contribution plans**

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

#### **Financial instruments**

##### ***Classification***

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

##### ***Recognition and measurement***

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

##### ***Impairment***

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

##### ***Debt instruments***

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

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

3 Income from donations and legacies

		Unrestricted funds	Total
		General	2024
		£	£
Donations		8,138	8,138
		<u>8,138</u>	<u>8,138</u>
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds
		General	2023
		£	£
Donations		10,977	1,133
		<u>10,977</u>	<u>1,133</u>
		<u>10,977</u>	<u>1,133</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Grants	95,456	168,993	264,449
Fees and contracts	1,869,362	-	1,869,362
	<u>1,964,818</u>	<u>168,993</u>	<u>2,133,811</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Grants	250,173	118,096	368,269
Fees and contracts	1,550,944	-	1,550,944
	<u>1,801,117</u>	<u>118,096</u>	<u>1,919,213</u>

## 5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Bank interest receivable	3,054	3,054
	<u>3,054</u>	<u>3,054</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Bank interest receivable	377	377
	<u>377</u>	<u>377</u>

## 6 Expenditure on charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Service provision	3,683	8,271	11,954
Support costs	1,939,216	150,286	2,089,502
	<u>1,942,899</u>	<u>158,557</u>	<u>2,101,456</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Service provision	-	15,087	15,087
Support costs	1,870,863	113,240	1,984,103
	<u>1,870,863</u>	<u>128,327</u>	<u>1,999,190</u>



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

Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Direct costs £	Support costs £	Total funds 2024 £
Service provision	11,954	2,070,563	2,070,563
Governance costs	-	30,893	30,893
	<u>11,954</u>	<u>2,101,456</u>	<u>2,101,456</u>

	Direct costs £	Support costs £	Total funds 2023 £
Service provision	15,087	1,958,432	1,973,519
Governance costs	-	25,671	25,671
	<u>15,087</u>	<u>1,984,103</u>	<u>1,999,190</u>

## 7 Analysis of governance and support costs

### Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Premises	67,843	55,399
Telephone	16,150	20,741
Bank charges	541	314
Enablement costs	33,866	30,089
Travel	43,715	29,937
Office costs	110,809	117,093
Recruitment	7,438	4,654
Training	10,732	14,679
Service provision fees	443,894	494,139
Publicity	3,772	737
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs	29,423	35,507
Sundries	6,086	7,598
Volunteers' expenses	1,633	837
User costs	4,978	3,756
Auditors' remuneration	6,645	5,580
Legal fees	24,248	20,091
Wages and salaries	1,146,158	1,021,778
Social security costs	87,571	80,866
Pension costs	44,000	40,308
	<u>2,089,502</u>	<u>1,984,103</u>

## 8 Net incoming/outgoing resources

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>29,423</u>	<u>35,507</u>

## 9 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year no Trustees (2023: no) made donations or paid for services provided to them by the charitable company worth a total of £nil (2023: £nil).

During the year, no expenses were incurred (2023: £nil) in providing services to any of the Trustees (2023: nil) to enable them to undertake their duties (both as Trustees and Non-Trustees delivering project work).

Also during the year, no expenses (2023: £nil) were reimbursed to any of the Trustees (2023: nil), of which £nil (2023: £nil) related to the attendance at various meetings.

## Living Options Devon

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### 10 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	1,146,158	1,021,778
Social security costs	87,571	80,866
Pension costs	44,000	40,308
	<u>1,277,729</u>	<u>1,142,952</u>

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

The key management personnel are considered to be the Chief Executive Officer, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer and the Finance Manager. The total benefits paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity were £150,904 (2023: £145,890).

#### 11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Website £	Equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 April 2023	92,267	72,730	34,517	444,871	644,385
Additions	-	7,945	6,750	14,283	28,978
Disposals	-	(3,277)	(14,867)	(5,230)	(23,374)
At 31 March 2024	<u>92,267</u>	<u>77,398</u>	<u>26,400</u>	<u>453,924</u>	<u>649,989</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 April 2023	88,102	65,954	20,685	420,577	595,318
Charge for the year	4,165	6,702	2,640	15,916	29,423
Eliminated on disposals	-	(3,277)	(14,790)	(5,230)	(23,297)
At 31 March 2024	<u>92,267</u>	<u>69,379</u>	<u>8,535</u>	<u>431,263</u>	<u>601,444</u>
<b>Net book value</b>					
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>8,019</u>	<u>17,865</u>	<u>22,661</u>	<u>48,545</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>4,165</u>	<u>6,776</u>	<u>13,832</u>	<u>24,294</u>	<u>49,067</u>

#### 12 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	394,788	285,314
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>135,236</u>	<u>117,048</u>
	<u>530,024</u>	<u>402,362</u>

## Living Options Devon

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### 13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	36,916	44,109
Other taxation and social security	21,441	18,681
VAT	49,997	30,013
Other creditors	-	10,416
Accruals	23,610	15,272
Deferred income	566,605	494,344
	<u>698,569</u>	<u>612,835</u>

#### 14 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

##### Operating lease commitments

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	65,471	40,680
Between one and five years	167,837	3,807
	<u>233,308</u>	<u>44,487</u>

#### 15 Deferred income

	2024 £	2023 £
B/fwd	494,344	105,769
Amount released to income	(494,344)	(105,769)
Amount deferred in year	566,605	494,344
C/fwd	<u>566,605</u>	<u>494,344</u>

#### 16 Pension and other schemes

##### Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £44,000 (2023 - £40,308).

## Living Options Devon

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### 17 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
NHS Charities Together	5,631	16,237	(21,868)	-
Devon Community Foundation Household Support Grant	-	9,405	(9,405)	-
BLF Community Fund Wellbeing Service	-	121,298	(105,560)	15,738
Peter Harrison Foundation	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
Travel With Confidence	-	935	(606)	329
David Family Foundation	-	2,000	(2,000)	-
BLF Community Fund Deaf Counselling	-	9,118	(9,118)	-
	<u>5,631</u>	<u>168,993</u>	<u>(158,557)</u>	<u>16,067</u>

## Living Options Devon

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Big Lottery Fund- Time to Talk Reaching Communities	558	15,085	(15,643)	-
NHS Charities Together	14,171	41,944	(50,484)	5,631
Deaf Work Club	-	833	(833)	-
Devon Community Foundation Household Support Grant	-	6,796	(6,796)	-
Skills for Care Workforce Development Fund for Individual Employers	-	7,370	(7,370)	-
Big Lottery Fund- Wellbeing Service	-	12,366	(12,366)	-
Devon Community Foundation DCC Food, Fuel and More	-	12,835	(12,835)	-
Peter Harrison	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
James Tudor	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Devon Community Foundation Community Grant	-			
Framing Nature	-	2,000	(2,000)	-
Devon Community Foundation Devonian Grant Scheme	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
	<u>14,729</u>	<u>119,229</u>	<u>(128,327)</u>	<u>5,631</u>

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	48,545	-	48,545
Current assets	905,591	26,411	932,002
Current liabilities	(688,224)	(10,345)	(698,569)
Total net assets	265,912	16,066	281,978

  

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	49,067	-	49,067
Current assets	778,514	21,565	800,079
Current liabilities	(596,901)	(15,934)	(612,835)
Total net assets	230,680	5,631	236,311

#### 19 Analysis of charitable funds

##### **Heritage Lottery Fund - Heritage Ability**

Aims to improve customer experience at Heritage sites for people with limited mobility, learning disability/autism and for those from the Deaf community (using British Sign Language) so they can better understand and interpret their local Heritage. The fund is a surplus at the year end due to funds being used to purchase capital items, the fund will decrease as the assets depreciate over their useful economic life.

##### **Big Lottery Fund Reaching Communities Time to Talk**

Providing a range of support options including telephone support and a Deaf Counselling service and locality based forums to combat loneliness and isolation for Devon based disabled and Deaf people.

##### **NHS Charities Together Community Partnership Grant Programme Options for Living Project**

Funding to train a team of community vaccine champions to increase Devon's Covid-19 vaccine uptake in higher risk communities & to improve support for patients coming home after a stay in hospital from harder to reach groups and people with protected characteristics.

##### **Deaf Work Club (European Union European Social Fund) /Petroc Community Grants 2022 The Bif Lottery 2021)**

A project for Deaf British Sign Language users to develop employability skills and knowledge through peer support and training so that more people can fulfil their potential.

##### **Devon Community Foundation 2022**

Funding to employ a redesign officer to work on the development of the sight and hearing loss information and advice service in Northern Devon, while a face to face service was not possible.

##### **National Emergencies Trust (NET) DPO's Emergency Covid Fund**

Funding for the provision of a counselling service and specialist advisor.

##### **The National Lottery Community Fund**

To offer free accessible counselling service and specialist advisor.

##### **Devon Community Foundation Household Support Grant**

Funding to support disabled and Deaf people that are experiencing financial hardship.

##### **Skills for Care Workforce Development Fund for Individual Employers**

Providing training to personal assistants and individual employers across Devon.

##### **Livewell**

Plymouth Deaf Keep Active - Funding to increase participation in physical activity for Deaf British Sign Language (BSL) users, helping to address the impact of Covid-19 on people's activity levels and health and wellbeing.

##### **Devon Community Foundation DCC Food, Fuel and More**

The provision of immediate cost of living support for disabled and deaf people, across Devon.

##### **Big Lottery Fund - Wellbeing Service**

Includes the continuation of the 'Time to Talk' project to tackle loneliness and isolation amongst Devon's disabled people, a telephone helpline, Peer Support Volunteers and Deaf Counselling.

##### **Workforce Development Fund for Individual Employers**

The provision of immediate cost of living support for disabled and deaf people, across Devon

##### **Peter Harrison**

Towards the cost of the implementation of the 'Get Active Together' programme across Devon and the Southwest.

##### **James Tudor**

Towards the accessible counselling service.

##### **Devon Community Foundation Community Grant Framing Nature**

6 week photography project for disabled and deaf people.

##### **Devon Community Foundation Devonian Grant Scheme**

Towards the refurbishment of mobility scooters (Trampers) for our Countryside Mobility project.



20 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.