

THE HOPE CENTRE ST HELENS

England & Wales · Charity number 1103903

Details

Other names	THE HOPE CENTRE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	05089663
Registered	2004-05-24
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Christian Life Centre Atherton Street St. Helens WA10 2DT
Phone	01744617148
Email	info@hopecentre.org.uk
Website	www.hopecentre.org.uk

Activities

Objects:) "TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF BELIEF APPEARING IN THE SCHEDULE HERETO IN ST HELENS AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT AND IN SUCH DOING TO FULFIL SUCH OTHER PURPOSES WHICH ARE EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF ENGLAND AND WALES AND ARE CONNECTED WITH THE CHARITABLE WORK OF THE TRUST.II) TO PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY PREVENTING PEOPLE FROM BECOMING SOCIALLY EXCLUDED, RELIEVING THE NEEDS OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE SOCIALLY EXCLUDED AND ASSISTING THEM TO INTEGRATE INTO SOCIETY. A) FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLAUSE 'SOCIALLY EXCLUDED' MEANS BEING EXCLUDED FROM SOCIETY, OR PARTS OF SOCIETY, AS A RESULT OF ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING FACTORS: UNEMPLOYMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP, YOUTH OR OLD AGE; ILL HEALTH (PHYSICAL OR MENTAL); SUBSTANCE ABUSE OR DEPENDENCY INCLUDING ALCOHOL OR DRUGS; POOR EDUCATIONAL OR SKILLS ATTAINMENT; RELATIONSHIP AND FAMILY BREAKDOWN; HOMELESSNESS OR POOR HOUSING (THAT IS HOUSING THAT DOES NOT MEET BASIC HABITABLE STANDARDS).III) TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY IN ST HELENS BY PROVIDING EDUCATION; TRAINING AND SUPPORT SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS IN NEED".

Activities: The Centre provides, assessment, information, advice and guidance through personally tailored action plans. The Training Department offers1. Computer Training2. Breathe Wellbeing Programme (Confidence, Assertiveness and Mentoring)3. Advice, Advocacy and Support for Homeless People4. Christmas Homeless Shelter

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** IN ST. HELENS AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT
- St Helens

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£472,212	£393,585	-	-
2024-03-31	£381,036	£303,356	-	-
2023-03-31	£381,036	£303,356	-	-
2022-03-31	£377,144	£127,848	-	-
2021-03-31	£391,230	£238,703	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
JOHN FRANCIS RYAN	Chair	
Brendan McDonagh		2023-07-16
John Sweeney		2023-07-16
Rev Craig Lawrenson		2019-03-05
Thomas Kelly		2015-06-09
William Schafer		2023-07-16

Accounts

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Charity number 1103903

A Company limited by guarantee number 05089663

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2025



The Hope Centre - St Helens

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees		Position	Dates
	Mr J Ryan	Chair	
	Rev C Lawrenson	Vice Chair	
	Mr T Kelly	Treasurer	
	Williams Schafer		
	Brendon McDonagh		
	John Sweeney		
Project Director	Mrs A Metcalfe		
Company Secretary	Erin Scott		
Charity Number	1103903		
Company Number	05089663		
Principal address	The Hope Centre St Helens Christian Life Centre Atherton Street St Helens Merseyside WA10 2DT		
Bankers	Virgin Money 6 Bridge Street St Helens WA10 1NF		
Independent Examiner	Jane Williams MAAT Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service Halton & St Helens Voluntary and Community Action Beacon Building College Street St Helens WA10 1TF		

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Contents	Page
Report of the Board of Trustees	2 to 13
Independent Examiners Report	14
Statement of financial activities	15 to 16
Balance sheet	17
Statement of cash flows	18
Notes to the financial statements	19 to 27

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

THE TRUSTEES:

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Mr J Ryan
Mr T Kelly
Rev Craig Lawrenson
Mr Bill Schafer
Brendon McDonagh
John Sweeney

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS:

Reference and administrative details are shown in the schedule of members of the board and professional advisers on page 1 of the financial statements

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT:

The Hope Centre is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. As such its activities are overseen by a board of trustees who are also directors of the company. However the day to day running of the charity is overseen by the Hope Centre Director and the Chair of Trustees.

The date of incorporation of the charity was 31 March 2004 and the date of appointment of the first Trustee was 4 April 2004. Currently the Board is made up of five members. The Hope Centre continues to rent its office and training accommodation from St Helens Christian Life Centre. In addition Hope House, The Homeless Day Centre is rented from Green Pastures.

Trustees on appointment are provided with the Charity Commission documentation for trustees, outlining roles and responsibilities. In addition briefing papers are provided from the management to all new trustees.

Trustees are normally appointed for a period of 3 years after which they must be re-elected at the next annual meeting. The Trustees Board has met on four occasions during this year for full Board meetings with a further 3 meetings for Business Planning strategy meetings.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE:

A Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for determining the Hope Centre's strategic direction, approving capital and revenue expenditure and monitoring performance and is comprised of a Chair, and six other Trustee Board Members.

The trustees of the Charity are drawn from a range of backgrounds with some being members of the founding church whilst others are not. Trustees members are drawn from within the third sector, the financial and business sectors. All the Trustees give their time voluntarily.

An Executive Management Team is comprised of the Chair of Trustees and the Project Director who assume overall responsibility, with support from staff team leaders, for executing the strategic and financial plan.

Finance and Administration is managed by the Hope Centre Director with the support of two volunteers and finance issues are reported to the Management Team and Trustees.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Finance and Administration staff manage the day to day financial position of the Charity as well as producing end of year accounts, liaising with banks and auditors. All monitoring of service users/learners achievement of project targets and completion of monitoring reports are carried out by this team. Major reports for funders are collated and produced. The significant volunteer data base is also managed within the team as are new applications for funding under the direction of the Hope Centre Director.

Operational Management is delegated by the trustees to the Project Director and 3 Project Leads responsible for Hope House homeless services, the Training department, the Foodbank, Hope Pantry and BabyBasics projects. The Project Director has overall responsibility for the operational and performance management and quality framework and responsibility for priorities through specific project development, service delivery, tailored interventions and training, service improvements, joint networking practices and general administration.

Four Operational Teams of staff and volunteers support the Project Director. Training, Advice, Advocacy and Support Services, Hope House - Homeless Provision; Engage Community Projects; St Helens Foodbank. Finance and administrative staff who report directly to the Hope Centre Director. Regular operational meetings take place with the Project Director & Team Leaders who then report to the Executive Management Team (E.M.T). General staff meetings take place monthly and staff training away days bi-annually.

RELATED PARTIES:

The Hope Centre was established by the St Helens Christian Life Centre (Elim Pentecostal Church) from which the Charity rents its accommodation and to whom a contribution is made for facilities, such as copiers, and utilities. In addition the Church makes donations to support the work of the Charity.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

The Management Team and Trustees continually consider the impact of our financial position and stability at their regular Trustee meetings. Attention continues to be focused on reviewing the current strategies and planning effectively for the future. New services and training opportunities continue to be a focus as is promoting the work in order to attract longer term funding. The Trustees, in conjunction with the Director, identify and review major risks which may affect the stability and successful operation of the Charity. Action is then planned and implemented, as far as possible, to minimise or remove the identified risk. The Trustees, together with the Director continue to review the long-term future viability of the Charity, particularly with a view to reducing dependence on a single stream of funding and report to trustees. Long term sustainability continues to be a challenge as longer term funding opportunities and increased donation income are sought. Financial viability is continually monitored and addressed throughout the year in management team meetings and at trustee's meetings.

Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and anti-fraud policies. Measures are also in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users, learners and visitors.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

OBJECTS, ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE:

Public Benefit Statement

The principal aim of the Hope Centre – St Helens is to improve the lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the borough of St Helens.

The Trustees believe that the services provided by the Hope Centre - St Helens are compliant with the Charities Commission Guidance on Public Benefit and the public benefit is further exemplified in the following statements of Activity and Performance, and Future Development Plans.

Objects of The Hope Centre - St Helens

The Charity's objects (revised December 2011) contained within the governing document are:

1. to advance the christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the statement of belief appearing in the schedule hereto in St. Helens and in such other parts of the United Kingdom as the Trustees may from time to time think fit and in so doing to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the laws of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Trust
2. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society.
 - a) For the purpose of this clause 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, as a result of one or more of the following factors: unemployment; financial hardship; youth or old age; ill health (physical or mental); substance abuse or dependency including alcohol and drugs; poor educational or skills attainment; relationship and family breakdown; homelessness or poor housing (that is housing that does not meet basic habitable standards).
3. to prevent or relieve poverty in St. Helens by providing: education, training and support services to individuals in need

Hope Centre Strategic Objectives

The Hope Centre, in partnership where appropriate, will work with vulnerable and/or disadvantaged people to:

1. empower them for positive behaviour change and improved life choices
2. improve their social, economic, physical, psychological and spiritual well-being
3. prepare them for and help sustain their independent living
4. encourage their responsible participation in society

The Hope Centre employs an inclusive approach and provides relevant social care services and training for vulnerable and disadvantaged young people and adults, and does not discriminate on the grounds of gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion, belief or age.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Chair and Vice Chairs Report

As Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees, it is our privilege to reflect on the past year and offer our sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to the continued growth, resilience, and impact of The Hope Centre.

This year has brought both new opportunities and ongoing challenges. Against a backdrop of social and economic uncertainty, The Hope Centre has remained a vital source of support, compassion, and transformation for those in our community most in need. Whether through practical aid, emotional development, the work of the charity continues to exemplify hope in action.

Our staff and volunteers have once again shown exceptional dedication, adaptability, and empathy. We are continually inspired by their commitment to delivering high quality support with dignity and respect. We are also grateful to our partners, funders, and local supporters, without whom our work simply would not be possible.

The board has worked diligently to ensure strong governance, sound financial management, and strategic oversight. This has included focusing on sustainability, exploring new funding avenues, and investing in our people and infrastructure. We are proud of the charity's achievements this year, including, Hope House fed and supported 433 people with 34, 481 interventions. St. Helens foodbank fed 8,149 people across all hubs in St. Helens. Hope Pantry supported 562 families. Baby Basics supported 88 families. The Breathe course supported the mental health and wellbeing of 30 individuals. The Restore project supported 90 families, fulfilled 33 commissioned projects, had 15 tons of furniture donated and helped 20 families with full house free furniture donations and we remain ambitious about the road ahead.

We would like to express our deepest thanks to our fellow trustees for their time, wisdom, and unwavering commitment to the values of The Hope Centre. Together, we continue to work towards a future where everyone has access to the support they need to thrive.

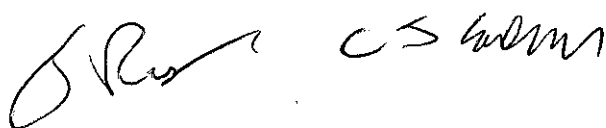
As we look ahead, our priorities remain clear to serve with integrity, to adapt with courage, and to lead with hope. We believe that with continued collaboration, transparency, and heart The Hope Centre will remain a beacon for those navigating life's most difficult circumstances.

With heartfelt thanks,

John Ryan – Chair

Criag Lawrenson – Vice Chair

On behalf of the Board of Trustees Hope Centre



The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Funding Update

Report Produced by: Sarah McDonagh – Funding & Quality Manager

The following update is for Hope Centre Projects

Monies Received directly: cash or cheque.

Breakdown by project

1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025	
Hope Centre	£40,048
FoodBank:	£14,688.94
Hope House:	£6,457.50
Hope House: Sleep out	£17,000.00
Hope Pantry:	£7,118.70
Baby Basics	£1,524.09
Hope House Christmas	
Total	£86,927.23

1 Includes

- a. £24,092.63 internal bank transfer from Virgin Money closed account
- b. £3,000 Funding from Ford Trust
- c. £10,000 from Geoffrey & Pauline Martin

2 Includes £1,000 ASDA

PayPal Remittance FY 24-25

£2,474.60 – includes £712.80 for Christmas provision.

Strip: FY 24-25:

£3,025 – includes £1,275 for Christmas provision

Captured comment on Stripe: *The work you all do is absolutely incredible, hope this goes towards making a difference to some people x*

Funder	Value offered
Medicash	£4,500.00
Rainhill Rotary	£900.00
Rainhill Rotary	£400.00
LF Foundation	£5,000.00
Sainsbury's - Neighbourly	£500.00
St Helens Council -CommUnity Scheme	£6,125.00
Ford Trust	£3,000.00
St Helens Together VCA	£5,000.00
St Helens Together VCA	£5,000.00
St Helens Together VCA	£5,000.00
ASDA Foundation	£1,000.00
Arnold Clark Community Fund	£1,000.00
Geoffrey & Pauline Martin	£10,000.00
St Helens Council Ward Member Grant	£893.00
CHCP - Smoke Free St Helens	£5,000.00
Riverside	£5,525.00
St Helens Together VCA	£3,000.00
PHE	£6,119.00

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

In House Fundraising Event:

Hope Centre's inaugural sleep out event was held 26/4/2024 and raised not only Hope House's profile but £17,000.

St Helens Social Inclusion & Disability Network

Continues to be a vibrant networking platform where local third sector and statutory organisations share concerns, best practices, and support for our beneficiaries.

Project Name: Hope House



Key Aims of The Project:

Hope House is a drop-in service running Monday – Friday every week and providing Christmas holiday provision.

It provides a basic needs and personal care service for local homeless and those at risk of homelessness and offers advice, advocacy, and support to support those in need. Our aim is to move our service users towards independence and help them reach their personal goals, ranging from, accessing food, personal care, benefits, and accommodation.

This year brought both unexpected change and inspiring resilience. Despite facing a building relocation, rising demand, and a changing client landscape, Hope House continued to provide vital, human-centred support to people experiencing homelessness. Our work grew to include asylum support, emergency cold weather shelter, and the continuation of trusted traditions like our annual Christmas provision, ensuring nobody feels forgotten during the hardest times of the year.

Service Delivery

Hope House IMS data- yearly report 01-04-2024 to 31-03-2025

Interventions Summary

Total Interventions = 30,081 Recorded Interventions (1 Intervention = 1 single interaction)

Year In Review

New Building Development/Relocation due to CPO

In early 2024, Hope House was served with a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) by the local authority as part of a wider urban regeneration scheme. While the relocation was unexpected and initially disruptive, it also presented a critical opportunity for growth and renewal.

After months of urgent searching, support from the Local Authority, and negotiations, we secured a new premises in Crab Street, and successfully relocated by September 2024. Though challenging, this move has ultimately enhanced our ability to serve.

Key improvement in the new building include:

- Increased capacity, with space for 50 seated clients,
- Four private consultation rooms for confidential casework, health support and counselling.
- Separate, accessible shower and laundry facilities.

Despite the pressure of forced relocation, the experience has strengthened our project, improved service quality, and future proofed Hope House.

SWEP (Severe Weather Emergency Protocol)

Winter 2024 marked the first time Hope House directly delivered SWEP provision, and it proved to be a success. With temperatures dropping below freezing, we swiftly mobilized our team, opened our doors overnight, and provided emergency shelter, hot meals, warm clothing, and support to those sleeping rough.

Duration of SWEP Activation

SWEP was operational for a total of 3 periods of cold weather. The activation period was determined based on weather forecasts and the associated risks to individuals sleeping rough.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Service User Feedback

"Service was good, appreciate what you have done for me. There is nothing else you could have done for me. The only thing I could raise is I think there should be something on weekends, when we have to leave Hope House the days can be very long, and I feel like I'm constantly looking at the clock to get some warmth and to talk to someone."

"The service is amazing, even the building was a great building to sleep in. A warm safe space"

"I can't ask for anymore from the Hope House staff and the love and care they show us from coming in on an evening, to us leaving in the morning. Little things like waking up to a warm smile and warm brew make the world of difference when you're homeless. But I would love if this was something that we could have on weekend daytimes, weekdays are fine as we can stay in Hope House all day but come weekends we are back out there in the cold."

"Brilliant – couldn't ask for a better place to be with all that is going on in my life at the moment. Yes, it's not ideal being on the streets but knowing that SWEP is on in Hope House gives you a little light because you know you're going somewhere."

Refugee and Asylum Seeker Support

This year saw a notable increase in the number of migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers accessing our service, many facing complex barriers such as no resource to public funds (NRPF), language challenges, and trauma. In response, we strengthened our provision securing 10 hours per week of funding from the Refugee Resettlement Team, enabling one of our homeless prevention officers to focus specifically on migrant support.

This dedicated resource allowed us to offer more consistent and culturally sensitive casework, support clients in navigating the asylum process, and advocate for access to housing, healthcare, and banking needs.

With this funding and role in place, we were able to support 46 migrant clients, helping many stabilise their circumstances and access the help they need to begin rebuilding their lives.

Partnerships and Collaboration

Partnership working has been central to our success this year, enabling us to provide holistic and coordinated support to those facing homelessness. We've continued to strengthen relationships with key organisations, ensuring clients can access wraparound care beyond what we can offer. This includes close collaboration with: The Councils Rough Sleeper Initiative Team (RSI), Whitechapel, Housing Options, Housing First, Homeless Health, DWP, CAB, Diabetes Clinic Team, Sexual Health Team, Merseyside Police, Mersey Care, Café Laziz, Refugee Resettlement Team, Maximum Edge and CGL.

Volunteers:

17 active volunteers supported daily operations.

3000 Volunteer Hours Given

Christmas Provision

Christmas 2024 – Figures

Volunteer Hours

Over the Christmas period around 100 volunteer hours were given. Volunteers dedicated their time and energy to preparing meals, distributing gifts, and offering companionship to our service users.

Wednesday 25th December 2024 = **40 hours (8 Volunteers)**

Thursday 26th December 2024 = **24 hours (8 Volunteers)**

Friday 27th December 2024 = **6 hours (2 Volunteers)**

Monday 30th December 2024 = **21 hours (7 Volunteers)**

Tuesday 31st December 2024 = **9 hours (3 Volunteers)**

Total Hours Given = **100 Hours**

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Staffing Hours

Wednesday 25th December 2024 = 10 hours (2 Staff)

Thursday 26th December 2024 = 6 hours (2 Staff)

Friday 27th December 2024 = 6 hours (2 Staff)

Monday 30th December 2024 = 6 hours (2 Staff)

Tuesday 31st December 2024 = 6 hours (2 Staff)

Total Staffing Hours = 34 Hours

Total Christmas Breakfast's Served on Christmas Day = 28

Total Christmas Dinner's Served (including Dessert) = 30 Dinner's.

Service User – Case Study (Service user will be named as 'Male' to remain anonymous)

In December 2024, Male was referred to Hope House after being found sleeping in a bin shed with visible leg injuries. He reported feeling unsafe in his flat due to neighbour issues and had become street homeless, leading to serious physical health decline, poor mental health, and increased alcohol use. Male began using SWEP accommodation and received regular wound care from Homeless Health. While initially reluctant to engage with services, he found consistency and trust at Hope House. Over time, he opened about wanting to address his drinking and housing situation. With support, Male connected with CGL and began engaging with a key worker. A return to his flat was necessary for detox eligibility, but he had lost his keys and fob. Hope House liaised with Torus Housing, who acted quickly to replace them and address safety concerns. Even after regaining access, Male hesitated to return due to a lack of utilities. With help from Whitechapel, we identified his suppliers and secured £40 in energy tokens to restore electricity and gas. Male moved back into his flat. Since then, he has shown visible improvements, clean, sober in the mornings, and hopeful. While still drinking, he's reduced his intake and is actively pursuing detox through CGL. Male's story highlights the importance of trauma-informed, consistent, and collaborative support. By meeting him where he was, Hope House helped create a pathway from crisis to renewed stability and self-worth.

Project Name: Hope Pantry

Key Aims of The Project:

Hope Pantry has been operating for now for 2 years and 9 months.

The key aims of Hope Pantry focus on ensuring that everyone has access to nutritious food while fostering a sense of community. The pantry achieves this by not only addressing immediate food needs but also promoting mental and physical well-being among its members. By providing a space where individuals can connect, form new friendships, and renew old ties, it helps combat isolation.

In addition to its community-building efforts, Hope Pantry plays a role in restoring dignity to users by offering support in a respectful, empowering way. A major aim is also to reduce food waste, keeping it from ending up in landfills, contributing to sustainability efforts.

Furthermore, members have expressed that using the pantry has positively impacted their household finances and has helped prevent hunger, showcasing its wide-reaching benefits beyond just food provision.

Activity Figures for the Year Impact:

2,466 Member Visits for the year.

We have supported 165 families at the pantry. Of this number 86 were adults and 79 children.

Volunteer Hours

We currently have 12 volunteers with us at the pantry. This includes a driver, for collections from Fare Share in Knowsley and The Brick in Wigan.

Total Volunteer Hours - 3311

What Worked Well

The partnership with the Food Alliance and The Brick (Wigan) has been beneficial, especially with the non-food items. Offering essentials like washing powder and shampoo through the Hearts and Diamond system adds value for pantry members and supports their overall well-being.

Good News Stories/ Testimonies:

" I really appreciate the help and support I get from the staff and volunteers and coming to the pantry gives me the opportunity to meet new people "



The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees



Project Name: St.Helens Foodbank

Key Aims of The Project:

To provide food parcels that will enable the client to make meals for themselves and anyone who lives with them for a total of 3 days. The clients ask one of the services for a voucher – this is due to the service knowing more about the client and they can give any extra needs that they may need. The client should only have 3 in six months but, this has increased with the cost of living and changing of benefits.

Activity Figures for the Year Impact:

This year we have given out a total of 3452 vouchers.

This fed a total of 5,077 Adults and 2,764 Children.

This number has decreased over the year due to the opening of the Pantry's as we now guide them to use the pantry in future.

Any Challenges?

The challenges I have faced have been shortages in food donations. I think that this is due to the rise in the cost of living.

Good News Stories/ Testimonies:

St.Helens Foodbank has attended Saints Home games along with the Mobile Pantry and we have collected a total of 853kg. We have regulars donating food and also calling into Tesco to buy food to donate when we have given out our shopping lists. At Christmas we had a lot of donations from firms brought into CLC. This included Alfred Knight who brought in a total weight of 412kg. The schools also donated at Christmas and Easter – this included Cowley with 704kg and Rainford High 736kg. They also weighed their donations in, dated them and then sorted into Trays ready for the warehouse. The Cowley Vaults have also run a Couple of charity weekends for the foodbank and have raised over £2,000.

Feedback from Foodbank User:

"I would like to thank you for the help you gave me today. I received my parcel by delivery, and it helped me out of an empty stomach hole. Thanks again. This is probably not what this service is about but, I wanted to show my gratitude."

Volunteers

Across the project we have around 120 volunteers who on average cover 3+ hours. We also have volunteers coming in from Ascent College along with support staff who cover around 2 hours per week. At Food drives I have had a lot of support from Firms including – Aluma Roofing.

In total our volunteers have contributed over 18,000 hours across the Projects. Comprising of Foodbank Hubs, Food Drives, Foodbank Drivers, Hope House, Baby Basics and Restore.

This year we have had a lot of volunteering for the extra food drives and sorting donations especially at Christmas.



Project Name: Baby Basics

We completed a total of 78 baskets for the year in Baby Basics. This also includes a lovely hamper for the new mum with gifts for her.

Councillor Lynne Clarke donated money to purchase books to the project. We had a meeting with the Bookshop in St. Helens and placed an order for some lovely books and a book is placed into each basket so, hopefully the parents will read to their children.

In March we held our first POP UP Event at Saints Church in Ellamsbridge Road, St.Helens. At this we invited parents to book a ticket and come along to choose clothes and other items free of charge. The response was amazing, and the parents were grateful to receive the items of clothing. We also had a family call in with a newborn baby who was unsettled in the mum's arms, we gave her a pram and when she laid, the baby settled to sleep. The Mum was grateful.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Project Name: Restore St.Helens: Changing Communities

Volunteer Hours

Hours totalled 5761.5



Free Furniture

We supported 14 families/tenants to set up home by providing furniture in the Sutton, Parr, Newton-Le-Willows, and Town Centre areas.

Warmth Packs

With huge support from DUNELM, we were able to distribute over 100 packs to local churches and elderly people last Oct/Nov.

Tenant Support Packs

30 given out alongside the Welfare Assistance Vouchers to people setting up home from scratch. Usually as a result of domestic abuse and having to leave their home and possessions.

Supporting Other Local Groups

1. All Saints Church – Potting Station made by a volunteer plus 2 hosepipes.
2. Blossom Tree Nursery -Seesaw and Rocking Horse – upcycled by a volunteer.
3. Green Town CIC – Seed Library made at ReStore – now in World of Glass.
4. Tamsin McKie (Tiggs) – weekly collection of unwanted items is collected and distributed amongst various other charities i.e., Kitten Carers, Bold Initiatives, Wonderland CIC, and the Facebook page "Supporting Our Community."

Wool Appeal

Wool continues to be donated on a regular basis and this is forwarded to a lady in supported accommodation who crochets blankets for our Warmth Packs.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

The Charity's principal source of income continues to be grant funding. Trustees and the management team aim to maintain financial stability and considerable attention has therefore been given to identifying new income sources as well as encouraging one-off donations.

Like most charities, the Hope Centre's major challenge is to secure grant funding. This obviously affects the services it can provide. The Trustees have been aiming to achieve a balanced budget and to increase our current level of unrestricted reserves. This will provide a safety net that will allow us to maintain basic services.

INVESTMENT POLICIES:

The charity currently has no investments, or investment income.

RESERVES:

The charity has an agreed reserves policy. In addition to Unrestricted Funds, it has Restricted Funds and monies invested in fixed assets. Trustees have noted Charity Commission guidance, and the ambition is to hold at least three months' (13 weeks) running costs in Unrestricted Funds. This has been achieved for 2024-25, and our aim is to maintain a healthy level of reserves. At year-end, our Unrestricted Funds were £209,631.

RESULTS:

The results for the year and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements. The key result is that the Charity has a deficit of £14,202 for the financial year, and this has decreased the level of restricted Funds available.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The Charity appointed Jane Williams of Greater Merseyside Accountancy Service as its examiner for this year, subject to annual review.

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities
For the year ended 31st March 2023

Statement of Directors' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of The Hope Centre - St Helens for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

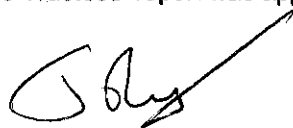
In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- 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 UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 12 December 2025.



Mr John Ryan
Chair

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Independent Examiner's Report to the members of
The Hope Centre - St Helens
for the year ended 31 March 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Hope Centre - St Helens for the year ended 31 March 2025.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

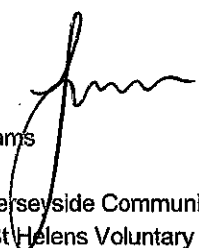
Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity'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 the Association of Accounting Technicians, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I can 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 charity 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.



Jane Williams
MAAT
Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service
Halton & St Helens Voluntary and Community Action
Beacon Building
College Street
St Helens
WA10 1TF

12 December 2025

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	(2)	13,983	157,374	171,357	128,395
Charitable activities	(3)	87,016	95,918	182,934	139,808
Other income		25	117,886	117,911	32,869
Investment income	(4)	11	-	11	24
Total		101,034	371,178	472,212	301,096
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	-(5)	(113,931)	(381,357)	(495,288)	(397,677)
Net (expenditure) / income		(12,897)	(10,179)	(23,076)	(96,581)
Transfers between funds	(15)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(12,897)	(10,179)	(23,076)	(96,581)
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		237,746	178,915	416,661	513,242
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		224,849	168,736	393,585	416,661

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	(2)	2,458	125,937	128,395
Charitable activities	(3)	43,890	95,918	139,808
Investments	(4)	32,869	-	32,869
Other Income		24	-	24
Total		79,241	221,855	301,096
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	(5)	(59,669)	(338,008)	(397,677)
Net (expenditure) / income		19,572	(116,153)	(96,581)
Transfers between funds	(15a)	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		19,572	(116,153)	(96,581)
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		218,174	295,068	513,242
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		237,746	178,915	416,661

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	(10)	91,520	103,035
Total fixed assets		<u>91,520</u>	<u>103,035</u>
Current Assets			
Debtors and prepayments	(12)	37,868	37,333
Cash at bank and in hand		268,080	291,486
Total current assets		<u>305,947</u>	<u>328,819</u>
Current liabilities:			
amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors and accruals	(13)	3,883	15,193
Total current liabilities		<u>3,883</u>	<u>15,193</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)		<u>302,065</u>	<u>313,626</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>393,585</u>	<u>416,661</u>
Funds			
Restricted Funds	(15)	168,736	237,746
Designated Funds		-	-
Unrestricted funds		224,849	178,915
		<u>393,585</u>	<u>416,661</u>

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) confirm that for the year ended 31 March 2025

the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, and

the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, the the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The notes on pages 15 to 24 form an integral part of these accounts.

These accounts, which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, were approved by the trustees on 12 December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



John Ryan (Chair)
Trustee

Company registration number 05089663

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income/(expenditure) per SOFA	(23,076)	(96,581)
Depreciation	11,515	11,515
Investment Income	(11)	(24)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(535)	76
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(11,310)	15,193
Capital	-	(25,561)
	<u>(23,417)</u>	<u>(95,382)</u>
 Cash flows from investing activities:		
Investment income	<u>11</u>	<u>24</u>
 Net increase/(decrease) in cash:	(23,406)	(95,358)
Total cash as at 1 April 2024	<u>291,486</u>	<u>386,844</u>
Total cash as at 31 March 2025	<u>268,080</u>	<u>291,486</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity Information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Hope Centre, St Helens Christian Life Centre, Atherton Street, St Helens, WA10 2DT.

1.1 Accounting convention

These accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, "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 Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006 as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The accounts are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.3 Charitable funds

- (a) Unrestricted funds are those that can be expended at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the objects of the charity.
- (b) Restricted funds are those that may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor, or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

1.4 Incoming resources

- (a) Income is recognised and included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the income; receipt is probable; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- (b) Where income has related expenditure (e.g. Foodbank), the income and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.
- (c) Bank interest is recognised when credited to the account.
- (d) Income, which is subject to conditions that the charity has yet to fulfil, or which is specifically for use in a future accounting period, is treated as deferred income.

1.5 Resources expended

- (a) Expenditure is recognised on the accruals basis.
- (b) The charity is not registered for VAT, thus all costs are shown inclusive of VAT charged.
- (c) Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay out resources.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

- (a) Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at their value on receipt. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the costs less estimated residual value or its expected useful life, as follows:

Long Leased property	10 years straight line basis
Fixtures & fittings	10 years straight line basis
Office Equipment	3 years straight line basis

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.7 Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the charity transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

2 Donations and legacies

	2025	2025	2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	£
Donations	13,983	125,509	139,492	94,890
Donations from CLC	-	1,865	1,865	3,505
Donation from Local Authority	-	30,000	30,000	30,000
	<u>13,983</u>	<u>157,374</u>	<u>171,357</u>	<u>128,395</u>
For the year ended 31 March 2024	<u>2,458</u>	<u>125,937</u>	<u>128,395</u>	
Grants receivable for core activities				
St Helens Borough Council	-	30,000	30,000	30,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

3a Charitable activities	Centre Activities	Foodbank	Training & Outreach	Homeless Shelter	Food Pantry	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Performance related grants & Contracts							
LCVS: Impact Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,785
Halton & St Helens VCA	4,925	6,500	-	6,810	6,500	24,735	7,400
St Helens MBC: SWEP	1,430	-	-	-	-	1,430	-
St Helens MBC: Refugee Resettlement	893	-	-	13,597	-	14,490	-
St Helens MBC: Ways to Work	10,808	-	-	-	-	10,808	-
John Moores Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
The Trussell Trust	-	76,440	-	-	-	76,440	47,125
Liverpool City Region: LCR Cares	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,500
HM Government: Cost of Living Support	-	-	-	-	-	-	42,150
VOLA Consortium	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,009
Other small grants							
Arnold Clarke	-	1,000	-	-	-	1,000	-
Neighbourly Foundation	-	-	-	500	500	1,000	1,500
Save the Children	1,200	-	-	-	-	1,200	-
Albert Hunt	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,000
CRH Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,955
Riverside Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,395
Torus Foundation	-	2,500	-	-	2,500	5,000	5,000
Other Income							
HMRC Gift Aid	3,762	3,794	-	431	-	7,986	2,500
Services Provided	7,508	-	-	31,337	-	38,845	2,489
	<u>30,525</u>	<u>90,233</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,675</u>	<u>9,500</u>	<u>182,934</u>	<u>139,808</u>
Other Income							
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	24	-	170	117,317	399	117,911	32,869
	<u>30,549</u>	<u>90,233</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>169,993</u>	<u>9,899</u>	<u>300,845</u>	<u>32,869</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

5a Expenditure on Charitable activities	Centre Activities	Foodbank	Training & outreach	Homeless Shelter	Food Pantry	Total	
						2025	2024
	£	£	£	£		£	£
Wages and salaries	108,276	35,499	-	82,672	23,385	249,832	190,282
Staff Travel	315	259	1,153	512	435	2,675	1,201
Rent	2,365	14,351	-	33,412	500	50,628	54,377
Light and heat	-	1,786	-	10,941	-	12,726	4,931
Repairs and maintenance	2,010	348	-	1,114	-	3,472	1,910
Insurance	2,207	1,018	-	1,123	260	4,608	4,850
Other premises costs	-	500	-	3,143	-	3,643	1,549
Other motor/travel costs	60	3,860	-	-	76	3,996	1,090
Legal and professional fees	2,635	55,111	3,000	18,043	872	79,661	75,078
Telephone	1,630	1,081	-	2,808	741	6,260	5,096
Other office costs	985	1,095	4,810	3,930	737	11,557	4,875
Depreciation	60	850	-	10,605	-	11,515	11,515
Consumables	579	10,808	-	6,731	14,265	32,384	29,167
Materials, equipment and resources	15	827	-	6,002	2,302	9,145	1,541
Promotional activities	537	381	20	879	114	1,931	4,209
Volunteer expenses	203	258	41	26	142	669	622
Training & outreach - tutor costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sundry Expenses	7,279	806	186	2,153	161	10,586	5,384
Governance Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total resources expended	129,156	128,839	9,211	184,093	43,989	495,288	397,677

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

5a Expenditure on Charitable activities	Centre Activities	Foodbank	Training & outreach	Homeless Shelter	Food Pantry	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£		£	£
Wages and salaries	108,276	35,499	-	82,672	23,385	249,832	190,282
Staff Travel	315	259	1,153	512	435	2,675	1,201
Rent	2,365	14,351	-	33,412	500	50,628	54,377
Light and heat	-	1,786	-	10,941	-	12,726	4,931
Repairs and maintenance	2,010	348	-	1,114	-	3,472	1,910
Insurance	2,207	1,018	-	1,123	260	4,608	4,850
Other premises costs	-	500	-	3,143	-	3,643	1,549
Other motor/travel costs	60	3,860	-	-	76	3,996	1,090
Legal and professional fees	2,635	55,111	3,000	18,043	872	79,661	75,078
Telephone	1,630	1,081	-	2,808	741	6,260	5,096
Other office costs	985	1,095	4,810	3,930	737	11,557	4,875
Depreciation	60	850	-	10,605	-	11,515	11,515
Consumables	579	10,808	-	6,731	14,265	32,384	29,167
Materials, equipment and resources	15	827	-	6,002	2,302	9,145	1,541
Promotional activities	537	381	20	879	114	1,931	4,209
Volunteer expenses	203	258	41	26	142	669	622
Training & outreach - tutor costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sundry Expenses	7,279	806	186	2,153	161	10,586	5,384
Governance Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total resources expended	129,156	128,839	9,211	184,093	43,989	495,288	397,677

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

6 Governance costs	2025	2024
	£	£
Independent Examination	-	-
Administration	-	-
Trustee expenses	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

7 Trustee remuneration and expenses	2025	2024
	£	£
Total amount paid	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

During the year no trustees received any remuneration or expenses (2024: 0)

8 Employees	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	232,855	181,100
Employer's NI	12,524	5,160
Pension	4,453	4,022
	<u>249,832</u>	<u>190,282</u>

Number of employees	2025	2024
The average monthly number of employees during the year was:	Number	Number
	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

	2025	2024
Key management of the charity received employee benefits (including pension contributions) totalling	<u>24,169</u>	<u>27,810</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

9 Tangible assets	Land and buildings	Vehicle	Fixtures and fittings	Equipment	Total
<u>Cost</u>	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2024	170,000	8,500	129,999	47,478	355,977
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>170,000</u>	<u>8,500</u>	<u>129,999</u>	<u>47,478</u>	<u>355,977</u>
<u>Depreciation</u>					
At 1 April 2024	170,000	850	34,614	47,478	252,942
Charge for year	-	850	10,665	-	11,515
At 31 March 2025	<u>170,000</u>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>45,279</u>	<u>47,478</u>	<u>264,457</u>
<u>Net book value</u>					
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>6,800</u>	<u>84,720</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>91,520</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>7,650</u>	<u>95,385</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>103,035</u>
10 Financial Instruments				2025	2024
Carrying amount of financial assets				£	£
Debt instruments measured at cost				<u>305,947</u>	<u>328,819</u>
Carrying amount of financial liabilities					
Measured at cost				<u>3,883</u>	<u>15,193</u>
11 Debtors and prepayments				2025	2024
				£	£
Trade debtors				15,457	15,687
Prepayments and accrued income				-	-
Other debtors				<u>22,411</u>	<u>21,646</u>
				<u>37,868</u>	<u>37,333</u>
15 Cash at bank and in hand				2025	2024
				£	£
Bank Current Account				264,785	265,259
Yorkshire Savings				-	24,082
Hope Centre Special Projects				309	309
Cash in hand				<u>2,987</u>	<u>1,837</u>
				<u>268,080</u>	<u>291,486</u>
12 Creditors and accruals				2025	2024
				£	£
Trade creditors				-	15,193
Accruals and deferred income				<u>3,883</u>	-
				<u>3,883</u>	<u>15,193</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

13 Retirement benefit schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

14 Restricted funds

The Income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes: The charity supports the shortfall of funding on these programmes from reserves to ensure continuity of service.

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
Food Bank	94,784	125,395	(128,839)	-	91,340
Baby Basics	3,524	11,701	(15,225)	-	-
Hope House Homeless Centre	(1,750)	-	-	-	(1,750)
Hope House 2	102,151	214,219	(184,093)	-	132,277
Training Fund	543	170	(9,211)	-	(8,498)
Food Pantry	(20,337)	19,693	(43,989)	-	(44,633)
	<u>178,915</u>	<u>371,178</u>	<u>(381,357)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>168,736</u>

14a Comparative Movement in funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2024
Food Bank	138,827	118,291	(162,334)	-	94,784
Baby Basics	5,651	2,731	(4,858)	-	3,524
Hope House Homeless Centre	47,536	66,099	(115,385)	-	(1,750)
Hope House 2	115,061	-	(12,910)	-	102,151
Training Fund	(3,013)	8,014	(4,458)	-	543
Food Pantry	(8,994)	26,720	(38,063)	-	(20,337)
	<u>295,068</u>	<u>221,855</u>	<u>(338,008)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>178,915</u>

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	764	90,466	91,230
Current assets / (liabilities)	<u>224,085</u>	<u>78,270</u>	<u>302,355</u>
	<u>224,849</u>	<u>168,736</u>	<u>393,585</u>
Comparative at 31 March 2024			
Current assets / (liabilities)	<u>237,746</u>	<u>178,915</u>	<u>416,661</u>

16 Transactions with trustees and related parties

The company was set up by The Hope Centre - St Helens to deliver certain community projects. As the majority of the company's board members are either trustees or employees of The Hope Centre - St Helens, it is considered to be a related party to The Hope Centre.

The Hope Centre administers the payroll and a small number of other payments (totalling £41,665) on behalf of this company. At the year end, £57,041 was owed to The Hope Centre (In 2023/24: £15,687).

The directors of the Company and the directors of the Hope Centre have agreed that Changing Communities CIC should become part of the Hope Centre charity. This will be completed during 2024/25.

18 Company limited by guarantee

The Hope Centre - St Helens is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act. The liability of the members is limited to £1.

Accounts

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Charity number 1103903

A Company limited by guarantee number 05089663

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024



The Hope Centre - St Helens

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees		Position	Dates
	Mr J Ryan	Chair	
	Rev C Lawrenson	Vice Chair	
	Mr T Kelly	Treasurer	
	Williams Schafer		appointed 16 July 2023
	Brendon McDonagh		appointed 16 July 2023
	John Sweeney		appointed 16 July 2023
Project Director	Mrs A Metcalfe		
Company Secretary	Niamh Twist		
Charity Number	1103903		
Company Number	05089663		
Principal address	The Hope Centre St Helens Christian Life Centre Atherton Street St Helens Merseyside WA10 2DT		
Bankers	Virgin Money 6 Bridge Street St Helens WA10 1NF		
Independent Examiner	Jane Williams MAAT Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service Halton & St Helens Voluntary and Community Action Beacon Building College Street St Helens WA10 1TF		

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Contents	Page
Report of the Board of Trustees	2 to 13
Independent Examiners Report	14
Statement of financial activities	15 to 16
Balance sheet	17
Statement of cash flows	18
Notes to the financial statements	19 to 27

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

THE TRUSTEES:

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Mr J Ryan
Mr T Kelly
Rev Craig Lawrenson
Mr Bill Schafer
Brendon McDonagh
John Sweeney

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS:

Reference and administrative details are shown in the schedule of members of the board and professional advisers on page 1 of the financial statements

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT:

The Hope Centre is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. As such its activities are overseen by a board of trustees who are also directors of the company. However the day to day running of the charity is overseen by the Hope Centre Director and the Chair of Trustees.

The date of incorporation of the charity was 31 March 2004 and the date of appointment of the first Trustee was 4 April 2004. Currently the Board is made up of five members. The Hope Centre continues to rent its office and training accommodation from St Helens Christian Life Centre. In addition Hope House, The Homeless Day Centre is rented from Green Pastures.

Trustees on appointment are provided with the Charity Commission documentation for trustees, outlining roles and responsibilities. In addition briefing papers are provided from the management to all new trustees.

Trustees are normally appointed for a period of 3 years after which they must be re-elected at the next annual meeting. The Trustees Board has met on four occasions during this year for full Board meetings with a further 3 meetings for Business Planning strategy meetings.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE:

A Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for determining the Hope Centre's strategic direction, approving capital and revenue expenditure and monitoring performance and is comprised of a Chair, and six other Trustee Board Members.

The trustees of the Charity are drawn from a range of backgrounds with some being members of the founding church whilst others are not. Trustees members are drawn from within the third sector, the financial and business sectors. All the Trustees give their time voluntarily.

An Executive Management Team is comprised of the Chair of Trustees and the Project Director who assume overall responsibility, with support from staff team leaders, for executing the strategic and financial plan.

Finance and Administration is managed by the Hope Centre Director with the support of two volunteers and finance issues are reported to the Management Team and Trustees.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Finance and Administration staff manage the day to day financial position of the Charity as well as producing end of year accounts, liaising with banks and auditors. All monitoring of service users/learners achievement of project targets and completion of monitoring reports are carried out by this team. Major reports for funders are collated and produced. The significant volunteer data base is also managed within the team as are new applications for funding under the direction of the Hope Centre Director.

Operational Management is delegated by the trustees to the Project Director and 3 Project Leads responsible for Hope House homeless services, the Training department, the Foodbank, Hope Pantry and BabyBasics projects. The Project Director has overall responsibility for the operational and performance management and quality framework and responsibility for priorities through specific project development, service delivery, tailored interventions and training, service improvements, joint networking practices and general administration.

Four Operational Teams of staff and volunteers support the Project Director. Training, Advice, Advocacy and Support Services, Hope House - Homeless Provision; Engage Community Projects; St Helens Foodbank. Finance and administrative staff who report directly to the Hope Centre Director. Regular operational meetings take place with the Project Director & Team Leaders who then report to the Executive Management Team (E.M.T). General staff meetings take place monthly and staff training away days bi-annually.

RELATED PARTIES:

The Hope Centre was established by the St Helens Christian Life Centre (Elim Pentecostal Church) from which the Charity rents its accommodation and to whom a contribution is made for facilities, such as copiers, and utilities. In addition the Church makes donations to support the work of the Charity.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

The Management Team and Trustees continually consider the impact of our financial position and stability at their regular Trustee meetings. Attention continues to be focused on reviewing the current strategies and planning effectively for the future. New services and training opportunities continue to be a focus as is promoting the work in order to attract longer term funding. The Trustees, in conjunction with the Director, identify and review major risks which may affect the stability and successful operation of the Charity. Action is then planned and implemented, as far as possible, to minimise or remove the identified risk. The Trustees, together with the Director continue to review the long-term future viability of the Charity, particularly with a view to reducing dependence on a single stream of funding and report to trustees. Long term sustainability continues to be a challenge as longer term funding opportunities and increased donation income are sought. Financial viability is continually monitored and addressed throughout the year in management team meetings and at trustee's meetings.

Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and anti-fraud policies. Measures are also in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users, learners and visitors.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

OBJECTS, ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE:

Public Benefit Statement

The principal aim of the Hope Centre – St Helens is to improve the lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the borough of St Helens.

The Trustees believe that the services provided by the Hope Centre - St Helens are compliant with the Charities Commission Guidance on Public Benefit and the public benefit is further exemplified in the following statements of Activity and Performance, and Future Development Plans.

Objects of The Hope Centre - St Helens

The Charity's objects (revised December 2011) contained within the governing document are:

1. to advance the christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the statement of belief appearing in the schedule hereto in St. Helens and in such other parts of the United Kingdom as the Trustees may from time to time think fit and in so doing to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the laws of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Trust
2. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society.
 - a) For the purpose of this clause 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, as a result of one of more of the following factors: unemployment; financial hardship; youth or old age; ill health (physical or mental); substance abuse or dependency including alcohol and drugs; poor educational or skills attainment; relationship and family breakdown; homelessness or poor housing (that is housing that does not meet basic habitable standards).
3. to prevent or relieve poverty in St. Helens by providing: education, training and support services to individuals in need

Hope Centre Strategic Objectives

The Hope Centre, in partnership where appropriate, will work with vulnerable and/or disadvantaged people to:

1. empower them for positive behaviour change and improved life choices
2. improve their social, economic, physical, psychological and spiritual well-being
3. prepare them for and help sustain their independent living
4. encourage their responsible participation in society

The Hope Centre employs an inclusive approach and provides relevant social care services and training for vulnerable and disadvantaged young people and adults, and does not discriminate on the grounds of gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion, belief or age.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

I am pleased to present the Chair of Trustees report for 2024.

This has been a year of resilience, growth, and commitment to our mission. Despite challenges, our organisation has continued to make strides towards maintaining The Hope Centre's Mission.

The Centre was born out of the overall vision of the St. Helens Christian Life Centre, to be effective Christians in our local community.

The Hope Centre adopts a holistic approach to engaging vulnerable adults and young people of the community of St. Helens.

To ensure that all have an equal opportunity to progress to their greatest potential enabling them to become fully integrated into the community by the most effective means possible.

PROJECT AIMS

The key aims of the Hope Centre – St. Helens

- To provide an emphatic Christian witness in the community and enhance the spiritual, moral and ethical as well as the physical and psychological development of an individual, and therefore the community.
- The enhancement of the life for all who are socially excluded.
- The encouragement and development of local resources of skills and abilities in individuals through education and training provisions
- To develop social awareness and to promote responsible citizenship.
- To encourage equality of opportunity for all irrespective of race, gender, ability, and social background
- To provide a resource centre for community life, where individuals are both accepted and valued and are able to contribute to their own wellbeing and their local community.
- Offering advice, guidance, vocational and personal development in life skills training and offering Social Care, advocacy and mentor support to help individuals become valuable members of their community.

Our achievements this year reflect the hard work and dedication of our talented staff, committed volunteers, generous donors, and trustees. Together, we have worked diligently to address both the immediate and long-term needs of our organisation, ensuring that we remain a steadfast and impactful presence in the community.

Throughout the year, the board has focused on: -

Hope House Homeless Day Centre – to identify new premises with which to deliver our services.

Focus on financial stability with fundraising efforts, grants and increased personal giving targets to ensure financial stability for the coming years.

We have strengthened our governance practices and taken steps to support sustainable growth, ensuring that we are equipped to fulfil our mission well into the future.

Our team exemplifies resilience and innovation, continuously driving the development of our charity through fund raising, service delivery and collaboration with local agencies. Together we strive to identify better ways of working and ensure the charity remains a vital part of the not-for-profit and voluntary sector. Above all, we are dedicated to meeting the needs of this intelligence communities in the most effective and appropriate ways possible.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Looking forward, we are excited about the opportunities ahead. We are committed to building on our successes, addressing emerging challenges, and staying true to the mission of The Hope Centre St Helens.

With the ongoing support of our community, we are confident in our ability to navigate the future and continue making a meaningful impact.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you – our supporters, our team, and my fellow trustees. Your dedication and belief in our mission make our accomplishments possible.

I am deeply honoured to serve as the Chair of this incredible charity for another year. Together with everyone involved I look forward to continuing our progress, supporting our communities, and achieving greater success in making a positive difference.

John Ryan

John Ryan
Chair of Hope Centre Trustees

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees



Project Name: Hope House

Key Aims of The Project:

Hope House is a drop-in service running Monday – Friday every week and providing Christmas holiday provision.

It provides a basic needs and personal care service for local homeless and those at risk of homelessness and offers advice, advocacy, and support to support those in need. Our aim is to move our service users towards independence and help them reach their personal goals, ranging from, accessing food, personal care, benefits, and accommodation.

Activity Figures for the Year Impact:

Please note, although most of our data is recorded, it is difficult to provide a completely accurate representation of our current case load.

Clients By Gender:

Males = 337

Females = 96

Clients by Age Group:

Under 18 = 0

18-24 Years Old = 15

25-34 Years Old = 72

35-44 Years Old = 53

45-59 Years Old = 152

60+ = 41

Take Out food provided: Winter Weekend Food Provision: 2160 Hot meals provided.

Over this period, it can be highlighted that positive relationships have been formed between asylum seekers/ refugees, other local agencies such as the DWP, CAB, CGL, Merseyside Police, Homeless Health Team, Sexual Health Team, Diabetes Nurses, Whitechapel, Housing First, Housing Options, Maximum Edge, Local Authority.

The Hope House team have been extremely blessed with an amazing volunteer group. These individuals significantly help with the day-to-day running's of Hope House and support both the Hope House staff team and service users incredibly!

Good News Story:

A Young Man first presented to our service having spent numerous weeks rough sleeping within the borough. On first presentation he presented as quite a reserved gentleman who was reluctant to reach out and access support from our service. He presented daily for several days accessing interventions around Personal Care i.e., Showers, Laundry, Breakfast/Dinner while he continued to rough sleep within the town centre. Following a conversation with one of our Homeless Prevention Officers to access support around his housing, benefits, and access to local organisations such as Housing Options, St Helens Way to Work and Homeless Health. Cameron supported him to complete his induction to Housing Options to present as a rough sleeper. Cameron consulted numerous alternative agencies to make them aware of his current situation and the location of where he was sleeping with the intention of an emergency bed being allocated in the RSI provision provided by the YMCA or Salvation Army. He was then allocated a mainstay assessment to get a further understanding of his situation and any barriers he felt he was facing currently.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

TRAINING DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

The Hope Centre continues to deliver its Breathe Mental Health course to individuals living with mild to moderate mental health conditions such as anxiety, depression, feelings of overwhelm and stress.

The staff supporting this course recognise the continued positive impact the course has as learners move on into volunteering and work.

Good News Story:

My Name is I am 26 and I attended the course due to mental health, anxiety, and depression.

When I first started the course, I was hesitant on going due to my anxiety being so high. At the time I also started talking therapies.

When I arrived on the course, all of the staff and volunteers there were very welcoming and, made me feel comfortable. when I met other peers in the group it was nerve racking but eventually in that session it was easier to be more open and ourselves.

Eventually I felt comfortable Within the group and also outside the group which helped with communication outside of the course. I also felt that I could share anything with the group and feel safe.

I was quite overwhelmed when I first see the workbook and went into overdrive. However, after the first session I felt more confident that I could complete the work and still ask for help and not feel embarrassed for needing it.

My favourite part of the course was when we had to exchange our books with other peers and write things about them that we liked, or thought were their strengths. I feel this shows that not everyone who you walk past, or meet will automatically think that you are these negative words that you are thinking. 99.9% of the strengths written about us were positive and if we didn't think they were the group would help encourage you to believe they are.

I think that the course is run in an environment which is warm, welcoming, supportive, and non-judgmental. There wouldn't be anything in the course that I believe, and think could be improved or changed, I think it's amazingly ran as it is.

When I left the course, I asked to volunteer as a mentor within the course. Having done 1 course as a mentor it has made me see how much of a change it can make in someone else's life but also yours. You can see the improvement of people when they leave the course, and they are so grateful to be able to be themselves again and go back to living their life and not just existing for some.

I am going to continue to be a mentor within the course and I'm excited to see the next group and their future progress. I couldn't thank the breathe course enough for the opportunity they have given me to volunteer and help change life's but mostly, the help and support that I have received from everyone.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Although explained he was finding his time rough sleeping very difficult, he expressed reluctance in accepting any offers of emergency accommodation because he had concerns on the repercussions of residing in either hostel. He frequently spoke about his children and mentioned how he would love to have a safe, stable environment to rekindle his relationship with his children. Although he had opted not to accept his offer of emergency accommodation, he continued to access our service receiving support with Personal Care showering and eating frequently for a few weeks.

He frequently visited Hope House to maintain contact with Hope House team. Having considered alternative forms of accommodation such as BrightStart, Your Housing Group Cameron helped him complete an application to UnderOneRoof to apply for properties within the local area compiling information around his previous address history, medical records etc. Following numerous discussions with multiple different organisations Julie and Cameron enquired about the possibility of a Green Pasture's tenancy for him as our team felt this tenancy would be the most suitable accommodation to foster stability into his life.

He was supported thoroughly by Green Pastures and our Homeless Prevention officers as he moved into the property. Green pastures and Hope House worked together to turn his flat into a home, assisting with furniture removal and decorating. He accessed support from the Restore project with the help of Julie Waring where he was provided with furniture including a wardrobe, fridge/freezer, couches etc. Cameron helped complete a White Goods Referral through St Helens Council and liaised and advocated on his behalf to offer him support in his new tenancy.

He has now been living in his current address for a couple of months and has frequent communication with our Homeless Prevention Officers to address any concerns he may be facing in his current tenancy. He presents to our service now as a completely different man to his first presentation. It is clear to see the work of our service has been a great impact on this man's life supporting him thoroughly when he felt he was at his lowest. He has expressed interest in any volunteering opportunities at Hope House to provide him with experience in a working environment having been unemployed for an extended period. He often expresses sincere appreciation and thanks to our team and has explained he would like to give back to the people who have invested so much time into him.

Project Name: St. Helens Foodbank



Key Aims of The Project:

To provide 3 days emergency food parcels. The clients ask one of the services for a voucher – this is due to the service knowing more about the client and they can give any extra needs that they may need.

Activity Figures for the Year Impact:

This year with have given out a total of 4,387 vouchers.

This fed a total of 6,347 Adults and 3,462 Children.

Good News Story

I have attended Saints Home games along with the Mobile Pantry and we have collected a total of 732.8kg. We have regulars donating food, and also calling into Tesco to buy food to donate when we have given out our shopping lists.

At Christmas we had a lot of donations from local organisations.

Eg Amazon, Forge Fitness, British Gas and BocBoc.

Volunteers

Across the project we have around 120 volunteers who on average cover 3+ hours. We also have volunteers coming in from Ascent College along with support staff who cover around 2 hours per week. At Food banks we have had several volunteers helping from the NatWest Bank using their volunteering days given to them by the NatWest.

In total our volunteers have contributed 18,571 hours across the Hope Centre projects.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Project Name: Baby Basics



Key Aims of The Project:

Baby Basics is a volunteer-led project aiming to support new mothers and families who are struggling to meet the financial and practical burden of looking after a new baby. The baby basics teamwork alongside a wide range of frontline health and social care professionals. There is an ever-increasing network of Baby Basics centres across the country each staffed by a committed team of volunteers.

Activity Figures for the Year Impact:

From April 2023 to March 2024 Baby Basics have provided 101 baby baskets to new parents across St. Helens.

Baby Basics main local partnerships are Whiston Hospital Midwives, St Helens Social Services, St Helens CAHMS, Community Health Teams, The Refugee resettlement Programme and Café Laziz and also Enhancing Families Team.

Volunteer Roles:

Kath and Kev Lawrenson – taking clothes home to wash and to iron, as well as cleaning and repairing prams.

Lynn – general baby basics duties. Creating baskets, tidying, and sorting clothes, managing stock.

Diane Kelly – general baby basics duties and also managing the online Baby Basics system.

Pauline Parry – Creating toiletry packs (both purchasing and making up items.)

Unfortunately, the Baby Basics team lost a very loved and well valued volunteer Janet Heath. The team miss her very much but are so very grateful for all she gave to the project.

Good News Story

“Baby Basics were an absolute lifesaver for me when I was pregnant! I would love to repay all the help they gave me. Wonderful people, cant thank them enough!”

– Baby Basics Beneficiary.



Key Aims of The Project:

The key aims of Hope Pantry focus on ensuring that everyone has access to nutritious food while fostering a sense of community. The pantry achieves this by not only addressing immediate food needs but also promoting mental and physical well-being among its members. By providing a space where individuals can connect, form new friendships, and renew old ties, it helps combat isolation.

In addition to its community-building efforts, Hope Pantry plays a role in restoring dignity to users by offering support in a respectful, empowering way. A major aim is also to reduce food waste, keeping it from ending up in landfills, contributing to sustainability efforts.

Furthermore, members have expressed that using the pantry has positively impacted their household finances and has helped prevent hunger, showcasing its wide-reaching benefits beyond just food provision.

Activity Figures for the Year Impact:

Member Visits - 1840

Volunteer Hours

We currently have 16 volunteers with us at the pantry. This includes the Thursday pantry, a driver, and a driver's mate for collections from Fare Share in Speke.

Total volunteer hours for the year is 2326

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

CHANGING COMMUNITIES – CIC

The CIC was officially formed on 30th March 2017.

The vision statement is “We will positively help change communities and improve people’s lives”, with the tag line “Changing Communities – one life at time”.

The mission statement is “We shall positively support people and communities to help them develop their sense of belonging, increase local involvement and help them have the confidence to make new life choices”.

Re-Store – St Helens project is key to alleviating resource poverty within St Helens.

The Project has 3 aims which are;

1. Providing volunteer and mentoring opportunities to socially excluded individuals who live locally, they will up skill and learn how to re store second hand furniture.
2. Providing affordable furniture for low income families, vulnerable individuals with a new tenancy and individuals who are leaving street homelessness to secure their own properties.
3. Re-store donated furniture items for re sell which will reduce landfilling, reduce energy use and reduce carbon footprint.

The project will engage with vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals within the Borough who face barriers including unemployment, risk of homelessness, mild to moderate mental health, in recovery from substance misuse and have no or low qualifications.

These individuals often suffer from a lack of skills and confidence and there are few opportunities for them to gain real work experience. The project will provide placement opportunities and will build skills through the restoration of furniture and home furnishings which will reduce the waste produced by our 'throw away' culture and will in turn provide furniture which is in good condition to those transitioning into their own properties.

This in turn will increase the chances of sustaining their tenancies as the properties will become their own personal spaces, increasing their value to the individual.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

The Charity's principal source of income continues to be grant funding. Trustees and the management team aim to maintain financial stability and considerable attention has therefore been given to identifying new income sources as well as encouraging one-off donations.

In addition to grants from local Council, local and national funders are approached to invest in our projects. Major funders in 2023-2024 include: St Helens Council, Trussell Trust, Liverpool City Region, John Moores Foundation, Torus Foundation, HM Government's Cost of Living Support, Liverpool Charity and Voluntary Services, Halton and St Helens Voluntary and Community Action, VOLA Consortium, Neighbourly Foundation, Albert Hunt, CRH Charitable Trust and the Riverside Foundation. Many thanks to these and the many smaller donors who have supported us during the year. This includes a large number of individuals who have made regular and one-off donations.

Like most charities, the Hope Centre's major challenge is to secure grant funding. This obviously affects the services it can provide. The Trustees have been aiming to achieve a balanced budget and to increase our current level of unrestricted reserves. This will provide a safety net that will allow us to maintain basic services.

INVESTMENT POLICIES:

The charity currently has no investments, or investment income.

RESERVES:

The charity has an agreed reserves policy. In addition to Unrestricted Funds, it has Restricted Funds and monies invested in fixed assets. Trustees have noted Charity Commission guidance, and the ambition is to hold at least three months' (13 weeks) running costs in Unrestricted Funds. This has been achieved for 2022-23, and our aim is to maintain a healthy level of reserves. At year-end, our Unrestricted Funds were £237,746.

There have been no serious incidents to report in this financial year. Our auditors have worked closely with us to minimise risk and strengthen financial processes and procedures.

RESULTS:

The results for the year and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements. The key result is that the Charity has a deficit of £96,581 for the financial year, and this has decreased the level of restricted Funds available.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The Charity appointed Jane Williams of Greater Merseyside Accountancy Service as its examiner for this year, subject to annual review.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

For the year ended 31st March 2023

Statement of Directors' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of The Hope Centre - St Helens for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, 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 UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 3rd December 2024

Mr John Ryan
Chair

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Independent Examiner's Report to the members of
The Hope Centre - St Helens
for the year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Hope Centre - St Helens for the year ended 31 March 2024.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity'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 the Association of Accounting Technicians, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I can 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 charity 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.

Jane Williams
MAAT
Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service
Halton & St Helens Voluntary and Community Action
Beacon Building
College Street
St Helens
WA10 1TF

3rd December 2024

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	(2)	2,458	125,937	128,395	173,039
Charitable activities	(3)	43,890	95,918	139,808	176,608
Other income		32,869	-	32,869	31,365
Investment income	(4)	24	-	24	24
Total		79,241	221,855	301,096	381,036
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	-(5)	(59,669)	(338,008)	(397,677)	(303,356)
Net (expenditure) / income		19,572	(116,153)	(96,581)	77,680
Transfers between funds	(15)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		19,572	(116,153)	(96,581)	77,680
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		218,174	295,068	513,242	435,562
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		237,746	178,915	416,661	513,242

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes			2023
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds
		£	£	£
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	(2)	57,347	115,692	173,039
Charitable activities	(3)	98,779	77,829	176,608
Investments	(4)	27,101	4,264	31,365
Other Income		24	-	24
Total		<u>183,251</u>	<u>197,785</u>	<u>381,036</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	(5)	(66,271)	(237,085)	(303,356)
Net (expenditure) / income		<u>116,980</u>	<u>(39,300)</u>	<u>77,680</u>
Transfers between funds	(15a)	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>116,980</u>	<u>(39,300)</u>	<u>77,680</u>
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		101,194	334,368	435,562
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		<u>218,174</u>	<u>295,068</u>	<u>513,242</u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	(10)	103,035	106,050
Total fixed assets		<u>103,035</u>	<u>106,050</u>
Current Assets			
Debtors and prepayments	(12)	37,333	20,348
Cash at bank and in hand		291,486	386,844
Total current assets		<u>328,819</u>	<u>407,192</u>
Current liabilities:			
amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors and accruals	(13)	15,193	-
Total current liabilities		<u>15,193</u>	<u>-</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)		<u>313,626</u>	<u>407,192</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>416,661</u>	<u>513,242</u>
Funds			
Restricted Funds	(15)	178,915	218,174
Designated Funds		-	-
Unrestricted funds		237,746	295,068
		<u>416,661</u>	<u>513,242</u>

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) confirm that for the year ended 31 March 2024

the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, and

the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, the the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The notes on pages 15 to 24 form an integral part of these accounts.

These accounts, which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, were approved by the trustees on 3rd December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

John Ryan (Chair)
Trustee

Company registration number 05089663

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income/(expenditure) per SOFA	(96,581)	77,680
Depreciation	11,515	12,970
Investment Income	(24)	(24)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	76	(1,013)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	15,193	-
Capital	(25,561)	(25,561)
	<u>(95,382)</u>	<u>64,052</u>
 Cash flows from investing activities:		
Investment income	<u>24</u>	<u>24</u>
 Net increase/(decrease) in cash:	(95,358)	64,076
Total cash as at 1 April 2023	<u>386,844</u>	<u>322,768</u>
Total cash as at 31 March 2024	<u>291,486</u>	<u>386,844</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity Information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Hope Centre, St Helens Christian Life Centre, Atherton Street, St Helens, WA10 2DT.

1.1 Accounting convention

These accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, "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 Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006 as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The accounts are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.3 Charitable funds

- (a) Unrestricted funds are those that can be expended at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the objects of the charity.
- (b) Restricted funds are those that may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor, or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

1.4 Incoming resources

- (a) Income is recognised and included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the income; receipt is probable; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- (b) Where income has related expenditure (e.g. Foodbank), the income and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.
- (c) Bank interest is recognised when credited to the account.
- (d) Income, which is subject to conditions that the charity has yet to fulfil, or which is specifically for use in a future accounting period, is treated as deferred income.

1.5 Resources expended

- (a) Expenditure is recognised on the accruals basis.
- (b) The charity is not registered for VAT, thus all costs are shown inclusive of VAT charged.
- (c) Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay out resources.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

- (a) Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at their value on receipt. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the costs less estimated residual value or its expected useful life, as follows:

Long Leased property	10 years straight line basis
Fixtures & fittings	10 years straight line basis
Office Equipment	3 years straight line basis

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.7 Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the charity transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

2 Donations and legacies

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	£
Donations	2,458	92,432	94,890	119,572
Donations from CLC	-	3,505	3,505	2,455
Donation from Local Authority	-	30,000	30,000	51,012
	<u>2,458</u>	<u>125,937</u>	<u>128,395</u>	<u>173,039</u>
For the year ended 31 March 2022	<u>57,347</u>	<u>115,692</u>	<u>173,039</u>	
Grants receivable for core activities				
St Helens Borough Council	-	30,000	30,000	24,186
	<u>-</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>24,186</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts continued for the year ended 31 March 2024

3a Charitable activities	Centre Activities	Foodbank	Training & Outreach	Homeless Shelter	Food Pantry	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Performance related grants & Contracts							
The Steve Morgan Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,870
LCVS: Impact Fund	1,785	-	-	-	-	1,785	2,000
Halton & St Helens VCA	-	7,400	-	-	-	7,400	1,000
Pilkington Charity	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,000
Torus Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,300
John Moores Foundation	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
The Trussell Trust	-	47,125	-	-	-	47,125	100,923
Awards for All	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,000
Liverpool City Region: LCR Cares	-	-	3,500	-	-	3,500	7,713
Julia & Hans Rausing Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,342
WEA Breathe	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,896
HM Government: Cost of Living Support	42,150	-	-	-	-	42,150	-
VOLA Consortium	-	-	7,009	-	-	7,009	-
Other small grants							
Coalfields	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
Arnold Clarke	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,500
Hedley Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,255
M McCormack	-	-	-	-	-	-	500
Groundwork	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
Neighbourly Foundation	-	1,500	-	-	-	1,500	500
Albert Hunt	-	-	-	7,000	-	7,000	-
CRH Charitable Trust	1,955	-	-	-	-	1,955	-
Riverside Foundation	-	5,395	-	-	-	5,395	-
Torus Foundation	-	2,500	-	-	2,500	5,000	-
Other Income							
HMRC Gift Aid	2,500	-	-	-	-	2,500	1,526
Services Provided	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,924
	-	-	-	-	2,489	2,489	1,359
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	48,390	63,920	10,509	12,000	4,989	139,808	176,608
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	28,715	3,405	-	545	204	32,869	31,365
	28,715	3,405	-	545	204	32,869	31,365

Other Income

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts continued for the year ended 31 March 2024

5a Expenditure on Charitable activities	Centre Activities	Foodbank	Training & outreach	Homeless Shelter	Food Pantry	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£		£	£
Wages and salaries	59,476	47,478	2,200	60,487	20,641	190,282	150,607
Staff Travel	441	534	-	136	90	1,201	1,083
Rent	5,000	33,431	-	15,946	-	54,377	32,203
Light and heat	-	-	-	4,931	-	4,931	5,205
Repairs and maintenance	10	-	-	1,900	-	1,910	1,951
Insurance	936	2,978	-	624	312	4,850	3,181
Other premises costs	-	-	-	1,544	5	1,549	-
Other motor/travel costs	-	988	-	7	95	1,090	3,265
Legal and professional fees	1,820	60,252	2,000	10,660	346	75,078	34,298
Telephone	1,450	1,259	-	1,803	584	5,096	6,541
Other office costs	1,523	1,550	84	1,213	505	4,875	15,229
Depreciation	60	850	-	10,605	-	11,515	12,970
Consumables	352	10,226	-	4,421	14,168	29,167	21,919
Materials, equipment and resources	201	811	-	20	509	1,541	1,609
Promotional activities	2,348	1,139	165	332	225	4,209	301
Volunteer expenses	114	101	-	200	207	622	2,858
Training & outreach - tutor costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sundry Expenses	3,705	737	9	557	376	5,384	9,011
Governance Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,125
6 Total resources expended	77,436	162,334	4,458	115,386	38,063	397,677	303,357

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

6 Governance costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent Examination	-	1,125
Administration	-	-
Trustee expenses	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,125</u>

7 Trustee remuneration and expenses	2024	2023
	£	£
Total amount paid	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

During the year no trustees received any remuneration or expenses (2023: 0)

8 Employees	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	181,100	140,201
Employer's NI	5,160	7,442
Pension	4,022	2,964
	<u>190,282</u>	<u>150,607</u>

Number of employees	2024	2023
The average monthly number of employees during the year was:	Number	Number
	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

	2024	2023
Key management of the charity received employee benefits (including pension contributions) totalling	<u>27,810</u>	<u>21,716</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

9 Tangible assets

	Land and buildings	Vehicle	Fixtures and fittings	Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2023	170,000	-	129,999	47,478	347,477
Additions	-	8,500	-	-	8,500
At 31 March 2024	170,000	8,500	129,999	47,478	355,977
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2023	170,000	-	23,949	47,478	241,427
Charge for year	-	850	10,665	-	11,515
At 31 March 2024	170,000	850	34,614	47,478	252,942
Net book value					
At 31 March 2024	-	7,650	95,385	-	103,035
At 31 March 2023	-	-	106,050	-	106,050

10 Financial Instruments

	2024	2023
Carrying amount of financial assets	£	£
Debt instruments measured at cost	328,819	407,192
Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
Measured at cost	15,193	-

11 Debtors and prepayments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	15,687	-
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	21,646	20,348
	37,333	20,348

15 Cash at bank and in hand

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank Current Account	265,259	361,330
Yorkshire Savings	24,082	24,058
Hope Centre Special Projects	309	270
Cash in hand	1,837	1,186
	291,486	386,844

12 Creditors and accruals

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	15,193	-
Accruals and deferred income	-	-
	15,193	-

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2024

13 Retirement benefit schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

14 Restricted funds

The Income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes: The charity supports the shortfall of funding on these programmes from reserves to ensure continuity of service.

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2024
Food Bank	138,827	118,291	(162,334)	-	94,784
Baby Basics	5,651	2,731	(4,858)	-	3,524
Hope House Homeless Centre	47,536	66,099	(115,385)	-	(1,750)
Hope House 2	115,061	-	(12,910)	-	102,151
Training Fund	(3,013)	8,014	(4,458)	-	543
Food Pantry	(8,994)	26,720	(38,063)	-	(20,337)
	295,068	221,855	(338,008)	-	178,915

14a Comparative Movement in funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
Food Bank	114,207	107,149	(82,529)	-	138,827
Baby Basics	11,591	5,160	(11,100)	-	5,651
Hope House Homeless Centre	84,847	67,567	(104,878)	-	47,536
Hope House 2	127,971	-	(12,910)	-	115,061
Training Fund	(4,248)	5,609	(4,374)	-	(3,013)
Food Pantry	-	12,300	(21,294)	-	(8,994)
	<u>334,368</u>	<u>197,785</u>	<u>(237,085)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>295,068</u>

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	884	102,151	103,035
Current assets / (liabilities)	236,862	76,764	313,626
	<u>237,746</u>	<u>178,915</u>	<u>416,661</u>
Comparative at 31 March 2023			
Current assets / (liabilities)	<u>218,174</u>	<u>295,068</u>	<u>513,242</u>

16 Transactions with trustees and related parties

The company was set up by The Hope Centre - St Helens to deliver certain community projects. As the majority of the company's board members are either trustees or employees of The Hope Centre - St Helens, it is considered to be a related party to The Hope Centre.

The Hope Centre administers the payroll and a small number of other payments (totalling £25,687) on behalf of this company. At the year end, £15,687 was owed to The Hope Centre (In 2022/23, there was no balance owing).

The directors of the Company and the directors of the Hope Centre have agreed that Changing Communities CIC should become part of the Hope Centre charity. This will be completed during 2024/25.

18 Company limited by guarantee

The Hope Centre - St Helens is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act. The liability of the members is limited to £1.

Accounts

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Charity number 1103903

A Company limited by guarantee number 05089663

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Hope Centre - St Helens

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees		Position	Dates
	Mr J Ryan	Chair	
	Rev C Lawrenson	Vice Chair	
	Mr T Kelly	Treasurer	
	Mrs J Webster		Till December 2022
	Bill Schafer		From March 2023
Project Director	Mrs A Metcalfe		
Company Secretary	Mrs B Barton		
Charity Number	1103903		
Company Number	05089663		
Principal address	The Hope Centre St Helens Christian Life Centre Atherton Street St Helens Merseyside WA10 2DT		
Bankers	Virgin Money 6 Bridge Street St Helens WA10 1NF		
Independent Examiner	Jane Williams MAAT Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service Halton & St Helens Voluntary and Community Action Beacon Building College Street St Helens WA10 1TF		

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Contents	Page
Report of the Board of Trustees	2 to 13
Independent Examiners Report	14
Statement of financial activities	15 to 16
Balance sheet	17
Statement of cash flows	18
Notes to the financial statements	19 to 27

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

THE TRUSTEES:

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Mr J Ryan
Mr T Kelly
Rev Craig Lawrenson
Mrs J Webster
Mr Bill Schafer

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS:

Reference and administrative details are shown in the schedule of members of the board and professional advisers on page 1 of the financial statements

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT:

The Hope Centre is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. As such its activities are overseen by a board of trustees who are also directors of the company. However the day to day running of the charity is overseen by the Hope Centre Director and the Chair of Trustees.

The date of incorporation of the charity was 31 March 2004 and the date of appointment of the first Trustee was 4 April 2004. Currently the Board is made up of five members. The Hope Centre continues to rent its office and training accommodation from St Helens Christian Life Centre. In addition Hope House, The Homeless Day Centre is rented from Green Pastures.

Trustees on appointment are provided with the Charity Commission documentation for trustees, outlining roles and responsibilities. In addition briefing papers are provided from the management to all new trustees.

Trustees are normally appointed for a period of 3 years after which they must be re-elected at the next annual meeting. The Trustees Board has met on four occasions during this year for full Board meetings with a further 3 meetings for Business Planning strategy meetings.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE:

A Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for determining the Hope Centre's strategic direction, approving capital and revenue expenditure and monitoring performance and is comprised of a Chair, and six other Trustee Board Members.

The trustees of the Charity are drawn from a range of backgrounds with some being members of the founding church whilst others are not. Trustees members are drawn from within the third sector, the financial and business sectors. All the Trustees give their time voluntarily.

An Executive Management Team is comprised of the Chair of Trustees and the Project Director who assume overall responsibility, with support from staff team leaders, for executing the strategic and financial plan.

Finance and Administration is managed by the Hope Centre Director with the support of two volunteers and finance issues are reported to the Management Team and Trustees.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Finance and Administration staff manage the day to day financial position of the Charity as well as producing end of year accounts, liaising with banks and auditors. All monitoring of service users/learners achievement of project targets and completion of monitoring reports are carried out by this team. Major reports for funders are collated and produced. The significant volunteer data base is also managed within the team as are new applications for funding under the direction of the Hope Centre Director.

Operational Management is delegated by the trustees to the Project Director and 3 Project Leads responsible for Hope House homeless services, the Training department, the Foodbank, Hope Pantry and BabyBasics projects. The Project Director has overall responsibility for the operational and performance management and quality framework and responsibility for priorities through specific project development, service delivery, tailored interventions and training, service improvements, joint networking practices and general administration.

Four Operational Teams of staff and volunteers support the Project Director. Training, Advice, Advocacy and Support Services, Hope House - Homeless Provision; Engage Community Projects; St Helens Foodbank. Finance and administrative staff who report directly to the Hope Centre Director. Regular operational meetings take place with the Project Director & Team Leaders who then report to the Executive Management Team (E.M.T). General staff meetings take place monthly and staff training away days bi-annually.

RELATED PARTIES:

The Hope Centre was established by the St Helens Christian Life Centre (Elim Pentecostal Church) from which the Charity rents its accommodation and to whom a contribution is made for facilities, such as copiers, and utilities. In addition the Church makes donations to support the work of the Charity.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

The Management Team and Trustees continually consider the impact of our financial position and stability at their regular Trustee meetings. Attention continues to be focused on reviewing the current strategies and planning effectively for the future. New services and training opportunities continue to be a focus as is promoting the work in order to attract longer term funding. The Trustees, in conjunction with the Director, identify and review major risks which may affect the stability and successful operation of the Charity. Action is then planned and implemented, as far as possible, to minimise or remove the identified risk. The Trustees, together with the Director continue to review the long-term future viability of the Charity, particularly with a view to reducing dependence on a single stream of funding and report to trustees. Long term sustainability continues to be a challenge as longer term funding opportunities and increased donation income are sought. Financial viability is continually monitored and addressed throughout the year in management team meetings and at trustee's meetings.

Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and anti-fraud policies. Measures are also in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users, learners and visitors.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

OBJECTS, ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE:

Public Benefit Statement

The principal aim of the Hope Centre – St Helens is to improve the lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the borough of St Helens.

The Trustees believe that the services provided by the Hope Centre - St Helens are compliant with the Charities Commission Guidance on Public Benefit and the public benefit is further exemplified in the following statements of Activity and Performance, and Future Development Plans.

Objects of The Hope Centre - St Helens

The Charity's objects (revised December 2011) contained within the governing document are:

1. to advance the christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the statement of belief appearing in the schedule hereto in St. Helens and in such other parts of the United Kingdom as the Trustees may from time to time think fit and in so doing to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the laws of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Trust
2. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society.
 - a) For the purpose of this clause 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, as a result of one or more of the following factors: unemployment; financial hardship; youth or old age; ill health (physical or mental); substance abuse or dependency including alcohol and drugs; poor educational or skills attainment; relationship and family breakdown; homelessness or poor housing (that is housing that does not meet basic habitable standards).
3. to prevent or relieve poverty in St. Helens by providing: education, training and support services to individuals in need

Hope Centre Strategic Objectives

The Hope Centre, in partnership where appropriate, will work with vulnerable and/or disadvantaged people to:

1. empower them for positive behaviour change and improved life choices
2. improve their social, economic, physical, psychological and spiritual well-being
3. prepare them for and help sustain their independent living
4. encourage their responsible participation in society

The Hope Centre employs an inclusive approach and provides relevant social care services and training for vulnerable and disadvantaged young people and adults, and does not discriminate on the grounds of gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion, belief or age.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

HOPE CENTRE Covid

Although there have been no new lockdowns in this period the service has continued to experience reduced levels of volunteering and increased levels of people using the service with significant mental health issues and in some cases increased use of illegal substances.

ACTIVITY AND PERFORMANCE APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023

HOPE CENTRE TRAINING April 2022 to March 2023

Breathe Mental Health

Funded by Liverpool City Region

Breathe Men's Mental Health

- LCR Breathe Men's Mental Health – delivery started in July and as the course has been well attended and the cohort ends 30th September.
- 12 learners started.
- 10 completed.



Changes in delivery:

- An additional celebration session was added to the course to award learners their certificates and ask for feedback.

Course review and feedback:

- All participants made progress in their mental health, and all gave positive feedback regarding content, delivery.
- 1 gave up smoking and in October 2023 is still not smoking.
- 2 joined a walking group.
- Several felt they were able to better open up in a single gender environment, while 1 felt there was no difference this environment.

Digital Skills sessions:

Delivery of digital skills in a formal training session has been taken out of project delivery – the team are looking at other ways to deliver digital skills and funding opportunities are being accessed outcomes of which will be reported 2023-2024

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees



ACTIVITY AND PERFORMANCE APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023

Hope Pantry is part of the wider Your Local Pantry network. The key aim of having the pantry is to help soften the blow of high living costs and create the conditions for communities to grow and thrive, by bringing people together around food. To strengthen communities, fostering friendships, loosening the grip of poverty, and contributing to healthier, happier lives.

Activity Figures for the Year Impact

From September 2022 to March 2023, Hope Pantry has supported 418 adults and 202 children.

We had 157 active members and had 1411 recorded visits to the Pantry.

Our volunteers have also contributed 924 voluntary hours to the project.

Our main challenge we have faced through the pantry this year is sourcing food supplies.

Good news

We are very thankful to Warburtons Baking Company for their weekly donations of bread to the pantry. They donate 100 fresh loaves a week to Hope Pantry.



- From April 2022 to March 2023 Baby Basics have provided 114 baby baskets to new parents across St.Helens.
- From April 2022 to March 2023 Baby Basics have given out 23 prams, to those that have requested them.
- Baby Basics main local partnerships are Whiston Hospital Midwives, St Helens Social Services, St Helens CAHMS, Community Health Teams, Enhancing Families Team.

Volunteer roles: Kath and Kev Lawrenson – taking clothes home and washing and ironing, and cleaning prams (respectively), Lynn and Janet Heath – general

- and ironing, and cleaning prams (respectively), Lynn and Janet Heath – general Baby Basics duties (creating Baskets, tidying/sorting clothes, managing stock), Diane Kelly – same as Lynn and Janet and also managing the online Baby Basics system, Pauline – creating toiletry packs (both purchasing items and making them up)

- Thank you stories/quotes: "I'm overwhelmed with what you have sent up, Please pass on my absolute gratitude to them [Hope Centre] for gifting this to me"

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees



ACTIVITY AND PERFORMANCE APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023

Hope House aims to develop social awareness of homelessness and substance misuse within our community, promoting responsible citizenship. As well as offering advice, guidance, and personal development support to help individuals become valuable upholding members of their community.

Activity figures for year

Please note, although most of our data is recorded, it is difficult to provide a completely accurate representation of our current case load.

Male	Female
239	46

Clients By Age Group

Under 18	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-59	60+
0	7	48	103	98	29

Clients By Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Total
Not Stated	23
White British	256
White Irish	6

Clients By Nationality

Nationality	Total
United Kingdom	194

Any difference from previous years

Over the past year we have seen a drastic increase in service users accessing our day centre provision regularly. This is clearly reflected in the IMS report.

Regular extended interventions such as Benefit Consultations, Mental Health Referrals have increased over the past 12-month period clearly demonstrating the need for our service. The cost-of-living crisis has had a big impact on our provision also with more service users accessing our breakfast/dinner provisions as well as shower and laundry facilities.

In addition to this, over the past year we have also noted a significant increase in mental health deterioration from those who access our service.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees



Good new story

Mr Paul Jones, has been supported on his journey from homelessness and bad mental health to his allocation of permanent supported living accommodation.

Paul presented at Hope House for the first time on the 4th of April 2023 and was dealing with several personal problems. Paul lived and cared for his mother for several years. After the death of his mother, Paul struggled to deal with this and started to drink alcohol to deal with his bereavement. Paul started to live in his car and struggled with day-to-day life and his alcohol addiction.

Before Paul's mother passed, he had a wife, kids, a job and after the passing of his mother he felt as if he had no one to talk with or offload his problems.

Before being admitted to hospital Paul chose to leave his partner/home for his own sake after his partner at the time was a regular user of freebase and crack cocaine along with several other substances.

Paul first presented to Hope House in February 2023 after leaving hospital with his own health concerns at "rock bottom" struggling with the likes of addiction and his crippling mental health.

After a number of weeks Paul was offered a self-contained private apartment where he had access to a shared shower and kitchen facilities along with his own personal bedroom, bathroom and appliances etc.

Paul stated, "Being in my flat now, with my own space makes me feel safer, more secure and overall, a happier person, eliminating the stresses of feeling agitated".

Paul no longer drinks alcohol.

Paul left a few small quotes he asked I would include in his testimony one being, "Hope House will always have a close place to my heart. The dedication of the staff members daily throughout this difficult time has contributed to over 80% of my rehabilitation and has provided a steppingstone to better times.

Hope House has led me down a road I never knew existed 12 months ago, your work, attitude, dedication has helped to bring my old self back and I can look forward to getting back into hobbies like fishing now I'm headed in the right direction. Temptation is difficult, no one said it would be easy but the continued support your staff have shown me have led me to happiness and success and I will always be grateful for the work you do for vulnerable people within our town. Thank You".

One thing to highlight is the close working relationship we have built over the past year with Whitechapel and Housing First. Both agencies over the past year have used our day centre as a central hub to tie in with service users in a professional environment. This has helped both us and the other agencies as we have been able to develop a better understanding of the needs of those who access our service regularly and to allocate our resources to the specific needs to those people.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Hope Centre – St Helens Volunteers Annual Report



ACTIVITY AND PERFORMANCE APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023

The Hope Centres Volunteers have done an amazing job this year contributing to the growth and day-to-day service and ongoing of the Hope Centre. They have shown sheer dedication, loyalty, and hard work. Each volunteer is extremely valued at the Hope Centre, and we appreciate their contributions to our projects.

Activity Figures for the Year Impact

- 120 regular volunteers (defined as 4+ hours in the last two months)
- 20 young people from Ascent College (formerly Wargrave College) supporting weekly, along with 18 support staff (majority doing two hours per week, a couple of individuals doing 4/5 hours per week)

Impact

- Our volunteers have contributed 16,749 volunteer hours from September 2022- September 2023. Comprising of the Foodbank Hubs, Food Drives, Foodbank Drivers, Hope House, and Baby Basics.

This year we have seen an increase in volunteer numbers from the general busy-ness of foodbank increasing. Ascent College support increasing, primarily due to more stock arriving at Hope Centre rather than direct to Chalon Way. Increase in volunteer hours also caused by both new projects and therefore new volunteers, but also with current volunteers contributing more to the everyday activities necessary in supporting the Community of St Helens.

Activity

- Ascent College Newton le Willows. They are working towards their DofE awards, this is counting as their volunteering phase, and their staff are hugely supportive of getting their students involved.
- Moving various forms of communication to WhatsApp – Driver's chat, Parish Church FB, Baby Basics. Far easier to communicate across everyone with a method that the majority already have.
- Introducing the Hope Centre Volunteer Newsletter was well received, keeping people informed of our projects a bit smoother.
- Annual celebration to say '**thank you**' the volunteers for their loyalty and hard work in the year. The impact the Hope Centre has within the town is all because of the wonderful team of volunteers.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees



ACTIVITY AND PERFORMANCE APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023

The aim of this project is to feed the people of St. Helens making sure that no one goes hungry. Working with other partners either in collecting donations or issuing vouchers.

In April 2022 to March 2023, we gave out a total of 2254 vouchers which helped to feed a total of 3214 adults and 1791 children. This is an increase on the previous year of 484 vouchers feeding and extra 644 adults and 328 children.

The stock incoming went up by 25409.08 kg. Although here was a decrease in donations from Charities - 4.4%, Corporates -0.2% and Education – 2.8%.

We did have an increase from Churches +4.42%, Community Groups + 0.27% Individuals + 3.19% and Supermarkets + 1.55%.

We also purchased an extra 776.59kg. (This is due to the donations being made were beans and pasta).

We ran a food drive at local Supermarkets every 3 months on a Friday & Saturday which brought in a lot of stock.

Forge Fitness started a weekly collection for us. This is still ongoing.

Easter time, we found we had a lot of chocolate eggs donated.

MPH College came in every Tuesday for 4 months to help with the Food bank. This was 3 students helping to mark, sort and pack donations.

June 2022,

The Fuel Foundation was set up which is a foundation that gives out fuel vouchers to clients that are struggling who are on pre-payment meters. They must be referred into us then we can be sure that the voucher is needed and then we can apply for a £30.00 in summer and £45.00 in winter voucher for them. They then go into Post office/Shop and exchange the voucher for either Electric/Gas or split between the two. They are not allowed 2 vouchers within 10 days.

July 2022,

We had the volunteer celebration at Tunza.

This was a great celebration of all Hope Centre Volunteers and the amazing contribution they make to the impact of the The Hope Centre in St Helens..

October 2022,

We started a connection with Wargrave College, and students came in to help with the Foodbank. This is still ongoing, and they are a brilliant help collecting from Asda and Tesco then marking/sorting and packing the donations.

Jan 2023 We managed to get a new warehouse in Chalon Way which is larger than the storage units at Micklehead, and this means that we have the room to sort and store more stock.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

CHANGING COMMUNITIES – CIC

The CIC was officially formed on 30th March 2017.

The vision statement is “We will positively help change communities and improve people’s lives”, with the tag line “Changing Communities – one life at time”.

The mission statement is “We shall positively support people and communities to help them develop their sense of belonging, increase local involvement and help them have the confidence to make new life choices”.

Re-Store – St Helens project is key to alleviating resource poverty within St Helens.

The Project has 3 aims which are;

1. Providing volunteer and mentoring opportunities to socially excluded individuals who live locally, they will up skill and learn how to re store second hand furniture.
2. Providing affordable furniture for low income families, vulnerable individuals with a new tenancy and individuals who are leaving street homelessness to secure their own properties.
3. Re-store donated furniture items for re sell which will reduce landfilling, reduce energy use and reduce carbon footprint.

The project will engage with vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals within the Borough who face barriers including unemployment, risk of homelessness, mild to moderate mental health, in recovery from substance misuse and have no or low qualifications.

These individuals often suffer from a lack of skills and confidence and there are few opportunities for them to gain real work experience. The project will provide placement opportunities and will build skills through the restoration of furniture and home furnishings which will reduce the waste produced by our 'throw away' culture and will in turn provide furniture which is in good condition to those transitioning into their own properties.

This in turn will increase the chances of sustaining their tenancies as the properties will become their own personal spaces, increasing their value to the individual.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

The Charity's principal source of income continues to be grant funding. Trustees and the management team aim to maintain financial stability and considerable attention has therefore been given to identifying new income sources as well as encouraging one-off donations.

In addition to grants from the local Council, local and national funders are approached to invest in our projects. Major funders in 2022-2023 include: St Helens Council, Trussell Trust, Steve Morgan Foundation, Awards for All, Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, Liverpool City Region, John Moores Foundation, Torus Foundation and the Pilkington Charity.

Many thanks to these and to the many smaller donors who have supported us during the year. This includes a large number of individuals who have made regular and one-off donations.

Like most charities, the Hope Centre's major challenge is to secure grant funding. This obviously affects the services it can provide. The Trustees have been aiming to achieve a balanced budget and to increase our current level of unrestricted reserves. This will provide a safety net that will allow us to maintain basic services.

INVESTMENT POLICIES:

The charity currently has no investments, or investment income.

RESERVES:

The charity has an agreed reserves policy. In addition to Unrestricted Funds, it has Restricted Funds and monies invested in fixed assets. Trustees have noted Charity Commission guidance, and the ambition is to hold at least three months' (13 weeks) running costs in Unrestricted Funds. This has been achieved for 2022-23, and our aim is to maintain a healthy level of reserves. At year-end, our Unrestricted Funds were £218,174.

There have been no serious incidents to report in this financial year. Our auditors have worked closely with us to minimise risk and strengthen financial processes and procedures.

RESULTS:

The results for the year and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements. The key result is that the Charity has a surplus of £77,680 for the financial year, and this has increased the level of Unrestricted Funds available.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The Charity appointed Jane Williams of Greater Merseyside Accountancy Service as its examiner for this year, subject to annual review.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

For the year ended 31st March 2023

Statement of Directors' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of The Hope Centre - St Helens for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, 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 UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 5th December 2023

Mr John Ryan
Chair

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Independent Examiner's Report to the members of
The Hope Centre - St Helens
for the year ended 31 March 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Hope Centre - St Helens for the year ended 31 March 2023.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity'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 the Association of Accounting Technicians, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I can 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 charity 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.

Jane Williams
MAAT
Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service
Halton & St Helens Voluntary and Community Action
Beacon Building
College Street
St Helens
WA10 1TF

5th December 2023

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	(2)	57,347	115,692	173,039	137,030
Charitable activities	(3)	98,779	77,829	176,608	240,114
Other income		27,101	4,264	31,365	-
Investment income	(4)	24	-	24	-
Total		183,251	197,785	381,036	377,144
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	-(5)	(66,271)	(237,085)	(303,356)	(249,296)
Net (expenditure) / income		116,980	(39,300)	77,680	127,848
Transfers between funds	(15)	-	-	-	2,008
Net movement in funds		116,980	(39,300)	77,680	129,856
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		101,194	334,368	435,562	305,706
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		218,174	295,068	513,242	435,562

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	(2)	69,251	67,779	137,030
Charitable activities	(3)	19,853	220,261	240,114
Investments	(4)	-	-	-
Other Income		-	-	-
Total		<u>89,104</u>	<u>288,040</u>	<u>377,144</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	(5)	(54,719)	(194,577)	(249,296)
Net (expenditure) / income		<u>34,385</u>	<u>93,463</u>	<u>127,848</u>
Transfers between funds	(15a)	2,008	-	2,008
Net movement in funds		<u>36,393</u>	<u>93,463</u>	<u>129,856</u>
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		64,801	240,905	305,706
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		<u>101,194</u>	<u>334,368</u>	<u>435,562</u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
Fixed Assets		£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	(10)	106,050	93,459
Total fixed assets		<u>106,050</u>	<u>93,459</u>
Current Assets			
Debtors and prepayments	(12)	20,348	19,335
Cash at bank and in hand		386,844	322,768
Total current assets		<u>407,192</u>	<u>342,103</u>
Current liabilities:			
amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors and accruals	(13)	-	-
Total current liabilities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)		<u>407,192</u>	<u>342,103</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>513,242</u>	<u>435,562</u>
Funds			
Restricted Funds	(15)	295,068	101,194
Designated Funds		-	-
Unrestricted funds		218,174	334,368
		<u>513,242</u>	<u>435,562</u>

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) confirm that for the year ended 31 March 2023

the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, and

the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, the the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The notes on pages 15 to 24 form an integral part of these accounts.

These accounts, which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, were approved by the trustees on 5th December 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

John Ryan (Chair)
Trustee

Company registration number 05089663

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income/(expenditure) per SOFA	77,680	129,856
Depreciation	12,970	10,414
Investment Income	(24)	-
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(1,013)	1,297
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	0	(33,600)
Capital	(25,561)	(103,539)
	<u>64,052</u>	<u>4,428</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Investment income	<u>24</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash:	64,076	4,428
Total cash as at 1 April 2022	<u>322,768</u>	<u>318,340</u>
Total cash as at 31 March 2023	<u>386,844</u>	<u>322,768</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity Information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Hope Centre, St Helens Christian Life Centre, Atherton Street, St Helens, WA10 2DT.

1.1 Accounting convention

These accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, "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 Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006 as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The accounts are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.3 Charitable funds

- (a) Unrestricted funds are those that can be expended at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the objects of the charity.
- (b) Restricted funds are those that may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor, or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

1.4 Incoming resources

- (a) Income is recognised and included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the income; receipt is probable; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- (b) Where income has related expenditure (e.g. Foodbank), the income and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.
- (c) Bank interest is recognised when credited to the account.
- (d) Income, which is subject to conditions that the charity has yet to fulfil, or which is specifically for use in a future accounting period, is treated as deferred income.

1.5 Resources expended

- (a) Expenditure is recognised on the accruals basis.
- (b) The charity is not registered for VAT, thus all costs are shown inclusive of VAT charged.
- (c) Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay out resources.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

- (a) Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at their value on receipt.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the costs less estimated residual value or its expected useful life, as follows:

Long Leased property	10 years straight line basis
Fixtures & fittings	10 years straight line basis
Office Equipment	3 years straight line basis

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.7 Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the charity transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2023

2 Donations and legacies

	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Donations	57,347	62,225	119,572	98,592
Donations from CLC	-	2,455	2,455	2,410
Donation from Local Authority	-	51,012	51,012	36,028
	<u>57,347</u>	<u>115,692</u>	<u>173,039</u>	<u>137,030</u>
For the year ended 31 March 2022	<u>69,251</u>	<u>67,779</u>	<u>137,030</u>	
Grants receivable for core activities				
St Helens Borough Council	24,186	-	24,186	-
	<u>24,186</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,186</u>	<u>-</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2023

3a Charitable activities	Centre Activities	Foodbank	Training & Outreach	Homeless Shelter	Food Pantry	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Performance related grants & Contracts							
The Steve Morgan Foundation	12,870	-	-	-	-	12,870	12,870
LCVS	2,000	-	-	-	-	2,000	1,250
Halton & St Helens VCA	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000	18,275
Pilkington Charity	-	-	-	4,000	-	4,000	4,000
Torus Foundation	-	4,000	-	-	300	4,300	7,000
PH Holt Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,886
Albert Hunt	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
VOLA Consortium	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,729
Screwfix	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
B&Q Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
Brabners LLP	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,500
John Moores Foundation	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
The Trussell Trust	-	100,923	-	-	-	100,923	31,065
Awards for All	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
Albert Gubay	-	-	-	-	-	-	67,530
Liverpool City Region: LCR Cares	-	-	2,713	5,000	-	7,713	-
Julia & Hans Rausing Trust	9,342	-	-	-	-	9,342	-
WEA Breathe	-	-	2,896	-	-	2,896	-
Other small grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coalfields	-	-	-	-	2,000	2,000	-
Arnold Clarke	2,500	-	-	-	-	2,500	-
Hedley Foundation	-	-	-	2,255	-	2,255	-
M McCormack	-	500	-	-	-	500	-
Groundwork	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000	500
CoOp Community Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,327
Neighbourly Foundation	-	200	-	300	-	500	1,000
Jerusalem Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,250
Buckingham's Newsquest	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,201
Help the Homeless	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,174
Other Income	-	1,526	-	-	-	1,526	21,330
HMRC Gift Aid	4,924	-	-	-	-	4,924	-
Services Provided	1,359	-	-	-	-	1,359	13,227
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>34,995</u>	<u>107,149</u>	<u>5,609</u>	<u>16,555</u>	<u>12,300</u>	<u>176,608</u>	<u>240,114</u>
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Income	<u>31,365</u>	-	-	-	-	<u>31,365</u>	-
	<u>31,365</u>	-	-	-	-	<u>31,365</u>	-

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2023

5a Expenditure on Charitable activities	Centre Activities	Foodbank	Training & outreach	Homeless Shelter	Food Pantry	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£		£	£
Wages and salaries	-	23,058	1,929	53,569	8,634	150,607	158,475
Staff Travel	586	-	-	423	73	1,083	414
Rent	-	14,140	-	18,063	-	32,203	- 12,041
Light and heat	-	-	-	5,205	-	5,205	4,772
Repairs and maintenance	69	-	-	1,536	346	1,951	327
Insurance	1,418	878	-	820	65	3,181	2,008
Other establishment	-	-	-	-	-	-	300
Other motor/travel costs	-	3,215	-	30	20	3,265	3,025
Legal and professional fees	2,441	19,898	1,360	8,769	1,830	34,298	23,395
Telephone	1,950	1,580	-	2,833	178	6,541	4,422
Other office costs	4,490	3,815	947	4,464	1,513	15,229	8,372
Depreciation	12,970	-	-	-	-	12,970	10,414
Consumables	1,418	6,634	-	7,132	6,735	21,919	20,137
Materials, equipment and resources	223	825	-	325	236	1,609	15,220
Promotional activities	126	50	75	-	50	301	278
Volunteer expenses	923	737	63	510	625	2,858	1,150
Training & outreach - tutor costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,460
Sundry Expenses	-	7,448	-	699	864	9,011	7,168
6 Governance Costs	250	250	-	500	125	1,125	-
Total resources expended	26,865	82,529	4,374	104,878	21,293	303,357	249,296

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2023

6 Governance costs	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent Examination	1,125	-
Administration	-	-
Trustee expenses	-	-
	<u>1,125</u>	<u>-</u>

7 Trustee remuneration and expenses	2023	2022
	£	£
Total amount paid	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

During the year no trustees received any remuneration or expenses (2022: 0)

8 Employees	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	140,201	148,215
Employer's NI	7,442	6,943
Pension	2,964	3,317
	<u>150,607</u>	<u>158,475</u>

Number of employees	2023	2022
The average monthly number of employees during the year was:	Number	Number
	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

	2023	2022
Key management of the charity received employee benefits (including pension contributions) totalling	<u>21,716</u>	<u>20,508</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2023

9 Tangible assets

	Land and buildings	Fixtures and fittings	Equipment	Total
<u>Cost</u>	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2022	170,000	104,438	47,478	321,916
Additions	-	25,561	-	25,561
At 31 March 2023	<u>170,000</u>	<u>129,999</u>	<u>47,478</u>	<u>347,477</u>
 <u>Depreciation</u>				
At 1 April 2022	170,000	10,979	47,478	228,457
Charge for year	-	12,970	-	12,970
At 31 March 2023	<u>170,000</u>	<u>23,949</u>	<u>47,478</u>	<u>241,427</u>
 <u>Net book value</u>				
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>106,050</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,050</u>
 At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>93,459</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,459</u>

10 Financial Instruments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Debt instruments measured at cost	<u>407,192</u>	<u>342,103</u>
Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
Measured at cost	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

11 Debtors and prepayments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	1,004
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	<u>20,348</u>	<u>18,330</u>
	<u>20,348</u>	<u>19,335</u>

12 Creditors and accruals

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2023

13 Retirement benefit schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

14 Restricted funds

The Income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes: The charity supports the shortfall of funding on these programmes from reserves to ensure continuity of service.

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
Food Bank	114,207	107,149	(82,529)	-	138,827
Baby Basics	11,591	5,160	(11,100)	-	5,651
Hope House Homeless Centre	84,847	67,567	(104,878)	-	47,536
Hope House 2	127,971	-	(12,910)	-	115,061
Training Fund	(4,248)	5,609	(4,374)	-	(3,013)
Food Pantry	-	12,300	(21,294)	-	(8,994)
	<u>334,368</u>	<u>197,785</u>	<u>(237,085)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>295,068</u>

14a Comparative Movement in funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2022
Food Bank	96,707	84,254	(66,754)	-	114,207
Baby Basics	3,522	19,645	(11,576)	-	11,591
Hope House Homeless Centre	63,757	62,834	(41,744)	-	84,847
Hope House 2	67,000	95,339	(34,368)	-	127,971
COVID 19	4,296	13,098	(17,394)	-	-
The Steve Morgan Fdtn	6,302	12,870	(19,172)	-	-
Training Fund	(679)	-	(3,569)	-	(4,248)
	<u>240,905</u>	<u>288,040</u>	<u>(194,577)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>334,368</u>

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	215	-	215
Current assets / (liabilities)	<u>217,959</u>	<u>295,068</u>	<u>513,027</u>
	<u>218,174</u>	<u>295,068</u>	<u>513,242</u>
Comparative at 31 March 2022			
Current assets / (liabilities)	<u>101,194</u>	<u>334,368</u>	<u>435,562</u>

16 Transactions with trustees and related parties

As two of the trustees of The Hope Centre are also elders of St Helens Christian Life Centre and the church, the Christian Life Centre is considered to be a related party of the charity. Related party transactions during the year ended 31 March 2023 were:

Expenditure from the Hope Centre to St Helens Christian Life Centre: £9,181, this is mainly for services provided including telephones. (2022 - £3,052)

Income from St Helens Christian Life Centre: £2,455, this is donations. (2022 - £2,410)

Changing Communities C.I.C is a company set up by the Hope Centre to deliver certain community projects. As the majority of its board are either trustees or employees of the Hope Centre, it is considered to be a related party. The Hope Centre also administered payroll processing and settled amounts due totalling £26,440 (2022 - £16,100) on behalf of Changing Communities C.I.C.

18 Company limited by guarantee

The Hope Centre - St Helens is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act. The liability of the members is limited to £1.

Accounts

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Charity number 1103903

A Company limited by guarantee number 05089663

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

The Hope Centre - St Helens

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees		Position	Dates
	Mr J Ryan	Chair	
	Rev J P Fell		till June 2021
	Mr J Cooper		till December 2021
	Mr T Kelly		
	Rev C Lawrenson		
	Mrs J Webster		
Project Director	Mrs A Metcalfe		
Company Secretary	Mrs B Barton		
Charity Number	1103903		
Company Number	05089663		
Principal address	The Hope Centre St Helens Christian Life Centre Atherton Street St Helens Merseyside WA10 2DT		
Bankers	Virgin Money 6 Bridge Street St Helens WA10 1NF		
Independent Examiner	Jane Williams MAAT Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service Halton & St Helens Voluntary and Community Action Beacon Building College Street St Helens WA10 1TF		

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Contents	Page
Report of the Board of Trustees	2 to 10
Independent Examiners Report	11
Statement of financial activities	12 to 13
Balance sheet	14
Statement of cash flows	15
Notes to the financial statements	16 to 24

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

THE TRUSTEES:

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Mr J Ryan
Mr T Kelly
Rev Craig Lawrenson
Mrs J Webster

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS:

Reference and administrative details are shown in the schedule of members of the board and professional advisers on page 1 of the financial statements

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT:

The Hope Centre is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. As such its activities are overseen by a board of trustees who are also directors of the company. However the day to day running of the charity is overseen by the Hope Centre Director and the Chair of Trustees.

The date of incorporation of the charity was 31 March 2004 and the date of appointment of the first Trustee was 4 April 2004. Currently the Board is made up of four members. The Hope Centre continues to rent its office and training accommodation from St Helens Christian Life Centre. In addition Hope House, the homeless day centre is leased from St Helens Borough Council.

Trustees on appointment are provided with the Charity Commission documentation for trustees, outlining roles and responsibilities. In addition briefing papers are provided from the management to all new trustees.

Trustees are normally appointed for a period of 3 years after which they must be re-elected at the next annual meeting. The Trustees Board has met on four occasions during this year for full Board meetings with a further 3 meetings for Business Planning strategy meetings.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE:

A Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for determining the Hope Centre's strategic direction, approving capital and revenue expenditure and monitoring performance and is comprised of a Chair, and six other Trustee Board Members.

The trustees of the Charity are drawn from a range of backgrounds with some being members of the founding church whilst others are not. Trustees members are drawn from within the third sector, the financial and business sectors. All the Trustees give their time voluntarily.

An Executive Management Team is comprised of the Chair of Trustees and the Project Director who assume overall responsibility, with support from staff team leaders, for executing the strategic and financial plan.

Finance and Administration is managed by the Hope Centre Director with the support of two volunteers and finance issues are reported to the Management Team and Trustees.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Finance and Administration staff manage the day to day financial position of the Charity as well as producing end of year accounts, liaising with banks and auditors. All monitoring of service users/learners achievement of project targets and completion of monitoring reports are carried out by this team. Major reports for funders are collated and produced. The significant volunteer data base is also managed within the team as are new applications for funding under the direction of the Hope Centre Director.

Operational Management is delegated by the trustees to the Project Director and 3 team leaders responsible for Hope House homeless services, the Training department, the Foodbank and Engage Community projects. The Project Director has overall responsibility for the operational and performance management and quality framework and responsibility for priorities through specific project development, service delivery, tailored interventions and training, service improvements, joint networking practices and general administration.

Four Operational Teams of staff and volunteers support the Project Director. Training, Advice, Advocacy and Support Services, Hope House - Homeless Provision; Engage Community Projects; St Helens Foodbank. Finance and administrative staff who report directly to the Hope Centre Director. Regular operational meetings take place with the Project Director & Team Leaders who then report to the Executive Management Team (E.M.T). General staff meetings take place monthly and staff training away days bi-annually.

RELATED PARTIES:

The Hope Centre was established by the St Helens Christian Life Centre (Elim Pentecostal Church) from which the Charity rents its accommodation and to whom a contribution is made for facilities, such as copiers, and utilities. In addition the Church makes donations to support the work of the Charity.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

The Management Team and Trustees continually consider the impact of our financial position and stability at their regular Trustee meetings. Attention continues to be focused on reviewing the current strategies and planning effectively for the future. New services and training opportunities continue to be a focus as is promoting the work in order to attract longer term funding. The Trustees, in conjunction with the Director, identify and review major risks which may affect the stability and successful operation of the Charity. Action is then planned and implemented, as far as possible, to minimise or remove the identified risk. The Trustees, together with the Director continue to review the long-term future viability of the Charity, particularly with a view to reducing dependence on a single stream of funding and report to trustees. Long term sustainability continues to be a challenge as longer term funding opportunities and increased donation income are sought. Financial viability is continually monitored and addressed throughout the year in management team meetings and at trustee's meetings.

Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and anti-fraud policies. Measures are also in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users, learners and visitors.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

OBJECTS, ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE:

Public Benefit Statement

The principal aim of the Hope Centre – St Helens is to improve the lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the borough of St Helens.

The Trustees believe that the services provided by the Hope Centre - St Helens are compliant with the Charities Commission Guidance on Public Benefit and the public benefit is further exemplified in the following statements of Activity and Performance, and Future Development Plans.

Objects of The Hope Centre - St Helens

The Charity's objects (revised December 2011) contained within the governing document are:

1. to advance the christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the statement of belief appearing in the schedule hereto in St. Helens and in such other parts of the United Kingdom as the Trustees may from time to time think fit and in so doing to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the laws of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Trust
2. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society.
 - a) For the purpose of this clause 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, as a result of one or more of the following factors: unemployment; financial hardship; youth or old age; ill health (physical or mental); substance abuse or dependency including alcohol and drugs; poor educational or skills attainment; relationship and family breakdown; homelessness or poor housing (that is housing that does not meet basic habitable standards).
3. to prevent or relieve poverty in St. Helens by providing: education, training and support services to individuals in need

Hope Centre Strategic Objectives

The Hope Centre, in partnership where appropriate, will work with vulnerable and/or disadvantaged people to:

1. empower them for positive behaviour change and improved life choices
2. improve their social, economic, physical, psychological and spiritual well-being
3. prepare them for and help sustain their independent living
4. encourage their responsible participation in society

The Hope Centre employs an inclusive approach and provides relevant social care services and training for vulnerable and disadvantaged young people and adults, and does not discriminate on the grounds of gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion, belief or age.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

HOPE CENTRE COVID RESPONSE 2021-2022

Introduction

As we exited the pandemic periods in the UK, the lockdowns which impacted provision of service drew to a close. Following statutory guidance, Hope Centre projects were opened to maximum capacity engaging with the local community.

As envisaged our services were impacted in one way or another. However, the Hope Centre, as designated by the local authority worked as an essential service for two main areas of our work: Foodbank and homeless services.

Impact on Charity's operations and activities

The impact of the pandemic remained throughout 2021-2022, however as the financial year drew to a close, restrictions have been eased and full-service delivery has resumed. Our COVID response is now a permanent addendum within our health and safety policy and is reviewed annually.

ACTIVITY AND PERFORMANCE APRIL 2020 - MARCH 2021

Volunteers

Our volunteers are a major part of enabling support and delivery of all our projects. They represent a wide range of local churches, other organisations and individuals from our community who have heard of our projects and want to give back. Specifically, they volunteer in Foodbank, Hope House, Baby-Basics, Make Lunch and in supporting the administration of the Hope Centre. COVID-19 and social distancing restrictions affected many of our team of volunteers. Some volunteers had to self-isolate and projects had to adapt accordingly. However, this has not adversely impacted on the number of volunteering hours completed in year.

Total Volunteers: 95 who have completed at least 2 hours in a month

Total Volunteer Hours: 10105

Value to The Hope Centre: £95,997.5 (Based on minimum wage of £9.50/hr)

HOPE CENTRE TRAINING

Breathe Mental Health – Breathe Employability

After pausing the on-line delivery in agreement with the WEA-ESF, course funder, delivery returned to in-person sessions ensuring prevailing covid-19 guidelines were followed and reasonable precautions of distancing and PPE being made available to everyone involved.

The course was completed December 2021 with five cohorts being delivered – uptake had been less than anticipated and this was attributed to on-going post-pandemic anxiety. 20 individuals who completed 80% reported significant improvements to their self-esteem & self-confidence, 2 gained full-time employment, 1 successfully completed a work-placement and 1 entered into volunteering.

There had been an underspend on the WEA-ESF funded course which has been notified to the funder and a reduction in number of participants recruited.

Despite the potential negatives there has been great progressions outlined below

Learner initials and brief bio – the enrolment criteria for this Funding was the individual to be aged 19+, British citizen and unemployed.

- AH: referred onto the course by 'Households Into Work', started the course being financially supported by their mother. Four weeks in he started claiming Universal Credit gaining financial independence.
- JC: referred onto the course by Stephenson's JC had learning difficulties and diagnosed with autism. JC finished the course early after getting a work placement with local drone flying company.
- EM self-referred onto the course and succeeded in securing an interview and subsequently gaining full time employment.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

- JM referred onto the course by 'Households Into Work' self-enrolled onto an online mental health awareness, and level 2 information advice and guidance, was invited to volunteer on subsequent Breathe courses, and has recently gained full time employment.

We celebrate these successes, whilst recognising these are not achieved in isolation but is in many cases the result of the full wrap around support from the referral agency, Breathe course and participants' willingness to engage.

One in house funded role was delivered with 80% of participants completing the course

- Referral Agency Quote: In my previous and current role when dealing with clients who have little self-belief and are dealing with stress, anxiety and depression. I have always championed the Hope Centre's Breathe course. The understanding and caring approach of both the Tutor and Hope Centre staff has such a positive effect on people.

I have witnessed the difference it has made in their outlook and self-belief helping them to move forward and better able to address situations. Helping clients feel more comfortable in engaging with other people and in some cases starting to volunteer, consider training and gain employment. In partnership work I advocate to other services the difference it can make to a person's life no matter how small.

Digital Skills & Computer Club

A business-critical decision was made to halt delivery of digital skills in its pre-existing format. This decision was made due to the layout of the IT Suite not being conducive to safe delivery and maximizing learner outcomes.

The above sessions needed to be paused and re-established when social distancing guidelines meant that delivery would be carried out safely.

Pop-Up Project

In response to the Ukraine Refugee crisis the Hope Centre was proud to be involved in relief work by acting as a drop off centre for clothes, toiletries and other sundries.

English & Maths

Basics Skills – delivered at the Hope Centre by St Helens College tutor. This service was terminated by college due to COVID. There is currently no suggestion that this offer will be reinstated.

HOPE HOUSE - ADVICE, ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT CENTRE

Hope House has continued to support those who are experiencing homelessness and those who are at risk of homelessness throughout the year. Following the pandemic, we have adopted a more targeted approach to addressing the needs of the individuals that access our service. This is included addressing any form of physical or mental health needs by offering referrals and working closely with local agencies such as 'Maximum Edge CIC' to deliver high quality interventions. Throughout this year, we have supported 326 individuals with our service users engaging in 13155 interventions. Our volunteers have been a key part of our service at Hope House having completed a recorded 3112 hours voluntary work providing a successful service with clear indications of improvement across all our regular service users.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

ADVICE AND SUPPORT

There has been a total of 3321 interventions in the period. The majority of these were basic needs based, including food, showers, clothing, etc. This is because we were transitioning between premises at the time. We also had issues with the recording of the information in this period with the majority of the interventions recorded as Standard Brief Interventions, regardless of the category. Because of this it is impossible for us to break down the figures without going through every recording. The interventions consisted of the following categories.

- Foodbank Referrals
- Benefit support
- Housing Support
- Probation
- Physical and mental health
- Drug and Alcohol
- Laundry
- Showers
- Meals
- Debt advice
- Access to GP's, Hospital, and dentists
- One to one
- Activities

ST HELENS FOODBANK

St. Helens Foodbank continues to be very active with 5117 vouchers fulfilled and having fed a total of 8433 people; 5373 Adults; 3060 Children over the past year. This is an increase of 2,410 people attending foodbank from the previous year.

We have seen a huge increase in people attending foodbank from January due to the rise in cost of living.

We have also seen a decrease in donations and have seen our lowest ever stock levels since we began in 2012 with people who were once foodbank donators, now not able to give due to their own changing circumstances.

Our new member of staff Mark D'Sa, who is our Volunteer Coordinator, has recruited new volunteers to cover various vacant roles within the foodbank which has helped to keep the smooth running of the hubs and the pickups and deliveries of the food.

Our volunteers are a fantastic team of people who are dedicated and work hard to keep the operational side of the foodbank running smoothly.

The E-Referral voucher system is still running alongside the Red Voucher referrals as many agency staff are still working from home. We also still call on the VCA volunteers from time to time to deliver food parcels to those people who are unable to get out to collect their food parcels.

ENGAGE PROJECT 2021-22

The Hope Centre Baby-Basics project is a response to the growing need for practical help for new mothers and families unable to afford the basic essential and equipment necessary to look after new born babies. This project is delivered in partnership with many local churches and partner agencies within the town.

92 baskets were given out from April 2021 to March 2022.

Make Lunch

Make Lunch has not restarted in-person events since Covid-19, and is looking like it will transform from Make Lunch TLG into a Christian Life Centre version, supported by The Hope Centre. 28 Food Boxes were given out to families at Easter.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

HOPE CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS DURING 2021-2022

The major challenge for the Charity continues to be the raising of funds. The Management Team and Trustees considered the impact of this at their regular meetings. Hope Centre aims to be stronger, more agile, more innovative and adaptable to the new funding environment and to continue to develop new opportunities, investigate new potential partnerships and programmes, which can attract new funding.

Partnerships this year

- Health & Wellbeing Partnerships
- Crisis – Skylight Team
- Citizens Advice St Helens
- St Helens Job Centre
- St Helens Third Sector Consortium
- Salvation Army Lifehouse [St Helens]
- Housing Options
- St Helens Social Inclusion& Disability Network
- Asda & Tesco's
- Green Pastures
- TLG
- Baby Basics

CHANGING COMMUNITIES – CIC

The CIC was officially formed on 30th March 2017.

The vision statement is “We will positively help change communities and improve people's lives”, with the tag line “Changing Communities – one life at time”.

The mission statement is “We shall positively support people and communities to help them develop their sense of belonging, increase local involvement and help them have the confidence to make new life choices”.

The CIC Directors and Management Team have focused delivery on ‘the Restore – St Helens Project’.

· Number of volunteers	19
· Volunteer Hours	4742
· Tonnage	23691kg
· Customer Commissions	44
· Families helped for free	34
· Welfare Asst Vouchers	61

This is for the period April 2021 to March 2022.

As part of the Hope Centre development process, a volunteer skills audit is being undertaken. It is hoped this may provide volunteers with customer service, furniture restorations skills and communications skills to staff the project.

The Christian ethos of the project with the God of restoration and hope at the centre of the project, is restoring the lives (practically and spiritually) of those involved.

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

The Charity's principal source of funding continues to be grant funding. Trustees and the Management team aim to maintain financial stability and considerable attention has therefore been given to identifying new income sources as well as encouraging one-off donations. In addition to grants from the local Council, local and national funders are approached to invest in our projects. Major funders in 2021-2022 include:

St Helens MBC, Steve Morgan Foundation, Halton and St Helens VCA, Pilkington Charity, Torus Foundation, PH Holt Foundation, Albert Hunt, VOLA Consortium, LFC Foundation, Screwfix, B&Q Foundation, Brabners LLP, John Moores Foundation, The Trussell Trust, Awards for All, Albert Gubay.

Thanks to these and to the many smaller donors who have supported us during the year. This includes a large number of individuals who have made regular and one-off donations.

Like most charities, the Hope Centre's major challenge is to secure grant funding. This obviously affects the services it can provide. The Trustees have been aiming to achieve a balanced budget and to increase our current level of unrestricted reserves. This will provide a safety net that will allow us to maintain basic services.

INVESTMENT POLICIES:

The charity currently has no investments, or investment income

RESERVES:

The charity has an agreed reserves policy. In addition to Unrestricted Funds, it restricted funds and monies invested in fixed assets.

Trustees have noted the Charity Commission guidance and the ambition is to hold at least three months' (13 weeks) running costs in unrestricted reserves. While we have are not achieving this so far, our aim is to build up reserves to achieve this in the medium-term. At year end our Unrestricted Funds were £101,195.

There have been no serious incidents to report in this financial year. Our auditors have worked closely with us to minimise risk and strengthen financial processes and procedures

RESULTS:

The results for the year and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The Charity appointed Jane Williams of Greater Merseyside Accountancy Service as its examiner for this year, subject to annual review.

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities
For the year ended 31st March 2021

Statement of Directors' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of The Hope Centre - St Helens for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, 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 UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 27th January 2023

John Ryan

Mr John Ryan
Chair

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Independent Examiner's Report to the members of
The Hope Centre - St Helens
for the year ended 31 March 2022

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Hope Centre - St Helens for the year ended 31 March 2022.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity'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 the Association of Accounting Technicians, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I can 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 charity 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.

Jane Williams

Jane Williams
MAAT
Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service
Halton & St Helens Voluntary and Community Action
Beacon Building
College Street
St Helens
WA10 1TF

27th January 2023

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	(2)	69,251	67,779	137,030	188,510
Charitable activities	(3)	19,853	220,261	240,114	201,585
Other income		-	-	-	1,111
Investment income	(4)	-	-	-	24
Total		<u>89,105</u>	<u>288,040</u>	<u>377,144</u>	<u>391,230</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	-(5)	(54,719)	(194,577)	(249,296)	(238,703)
Net (expenditure) / income		<u>34,386</u>	<u>93,463</u>	<u>127,848</u>	<u>152,527</u>
Transfers between funds	(15)	2,008	-	2,008	-
Net movement in funds		<u>36,394</u>	<u>93,463</u>	<u>129,856</u>	<u>152,527</u>
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		64,801	240,905	305,706	153,179
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		<u>101,195</u>	<u>334,368</u>	<u>435,562</u>	<u>305,706</u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	(2)	53,148	135,362	188,510
Charitable activities	(3)	-	201,585	201,585
Investments	(4)	24	-	24
Other Income		1,111	-	1,111
Total		<u>54,283</u>	<u>336,947</u>	<u>391,230</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	(5)	(33,506)	(205,197)	(238,703)
Net (expenditure) / income		<u>20,777</u>	<u>131,750</u>	<u>152,527</u>
Transfers between funds	(15a)	(62,150)	62,150	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(41,373)</u>	<u>193,900</u>	<u>152,527</u>
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		106,174	47,005	153,179
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		<u>64,801</u>	<u>240,905</u>	<u>305,706</u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	(10)	93,459	335
Total fixed assets		<u>93,459</u>	<u>335</u>
Current Assets			
Debtors and prepayments	(12)	19,335	20,632
Cash at bank and in hand		322,768	318,340
Total current assets		<u>342,103</u>	<u>338,971</u>
Current liabilities: amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors and accruals	(13)	-	33,600
Total current liabilities		<u>-</u>	<u>33,600</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)		<u>342,103</u>	<u>305,371</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>435,562</u>	<u>305,706</u>
Funds			
Restricted Funds	(15)	334,368	173,905
Designated Funds		-	67,000
Unrestricted funds		101,195	64,801
		<u>435,562</u>	<u>305,706</u>

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) confirm that for the year ended 31 March 2022

the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, and

the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, the the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The notes on pages 15 to 24 form an integral part of these accounts.

These accounts, which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, were approved by the trustees on 27th January 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

John Ryan

John Ryan (Chair)
Trustee

Company registration number 05089663

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income/(expenditure) per SOFA	129,856	152,527
Depreciation	10,414	9,852
Investment Income	-	(24)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	1,297	13,955
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(33,600)	832
Capital	(103,539)	-
	<u>4,428</u>	<u>177,142</u>
 Cash flows from investing activities:		
Investment income	<u>-</u>	<u>24</u>
 Net increase/(decrease) in cash:	4,428	177,166
Total cash as at 1 April 2021	<u>318,340</u>	<u>141,174</u>
Total cash as at 31 March 2022	<u>322,768</u>	<u>318,340</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity Information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Hope Centre, St Helens Christian Life Centre, Atherton Street, St Helens, WA10 2DT.

1.1 Accounting convention

These accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, "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 Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006 as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The accounts are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.3 Charitable funds

- (a) Unrestricted funds are those that can be expended at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the objects of the charity.
- (b) Restricted funds are those that may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor, or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

1.4 Incoming resources

- (a) Income is recognised and included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the income; receipt is probable; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- (b) Where income has related expenditure (e.g. Foodbank), the income and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.
- (c) Bank interest is recognised when credited to the account.
- (d) Income, which is subject to conditions that the charity has yet to fulfil, or which is specifically for use in a future accounting period, is treated as deferred income.

1.5 Resources expended

- (a) Expenditure is recognised on the accruals basis.
- (b) The charity is not registered for VAT, thus all costs are shown inclusive of VAT charged.
- (c) Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay out resources.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

- (a) Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at their value on receipt. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the costs less estimated residual value or its expected useful life, as follows:

Long Leased property	15 years straight line basis
Fixtures & fittings	15 years straight line basis
Office Equipment	3 years straight line basis

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.7 Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the charity transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts continued for the year ended 31 March 2022

2 Donations and legacies

	2022	2022	2022	2021
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	£
Donations	41,542	57,050	98,592	120,510
Donations from CLC	2,410	-	2,410	2,950
Donation from Local Authority	25,299	10,729	36,028	65,000
Donations from Trussell Trust	-	-	-	50
	<u>69,251</u>	<u>67,779</u>	<u>137,030</u>	<u>188,510</u>
For the year ended 31 March 2021	<u>188,510</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>188,510</u>	
Grants receivable for core activities				
St Helens Borough Council	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2022

3a Charitable activities	Centre Activities	Foodbank	Training & Outreach	Homeless Shelter	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Performance related grants & Contracts						
Henry Smith	-	-	-	-	-	40,000
Medicash	-	-	-	-	-	7,500
The Steve Morgan Foundation	12,870	-	-	-	12,870	40,740
Homeless Link	-	-	-	-	-	16,707
Rathbone	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
LCVS	1,250	-	-	-	1,250	1,500
Halton & St Helens VCA	18,275	-	-	-	18,275	5,000
Imperial Harold Percival Group	-	-	-	-	-	2,700
Community Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	4,993
Pilkington Charity	4,000	-	-	-	4,000	4,000
Torus Foundation	7,000	-	-	-	7,000	11,500
Coalfields	-	-	-	-	-	5,810
LFC Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	14,000
PH Holt Foundation	7,886	-	-	-	7,886	-
Albert Hunt	5,000	-	-	-	5,000	-
VOLA Consortium	10,729	-	-	-	10,729	-
Screwfix	5,000	-	-	-	5,000	-
B&Q Foundation	5,000	-	-	-	5,000	-
Brabners LLP	7,500	-	-	-	7,500	-
John Moores Foundation	5,000	-	-	-	5,000	-
The Trussell Trust	-	31,065	-	-	31,065	-
Awards for All	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	-
Albert Gubay	67,530	-	-	-	67,530	-
Other small grants	-	-	-	-	-	11,730
Groundwork	500	-	-	-	500	-
CoOp Community Fund	1,327	-	-	-	1,327	-
Neighbourly Foundation	1,000	-	-	-	1,000	-
Jerusalem Trust	1,250	-	-	-	1,250	-
Buckingham Newsquest	1,201	-	-	-	1,201	-
Help the Homeless	-	-	-	2,174	2,174	-
Other Income	18,400	2,519	-	411	21,330	19,145
Services Provided	13,227	-	-	-	13,227	15,260
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	203,945	33,584	-	2,585	240,114	201,585
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-	-	-	1,111
	-	-	-	-	-	1,111

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts continued for the year ended 31 March 2022

5a Expenditure on Charitable activities	Support Costs	Centre Activities	Foodbank	Training & outreach	Homeless Shelter	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	75,013	3,598	35,317	-	44,546	158,475	163,971
Staff Travel	146	63	147		58	414	
Rent	4,215	-	1,454	1,155	- 18,865	- 12,041	12,950
Light and heat	-	-	-		4,772	4,772	2,996
Repairs and maintenance	-	-	3		324	327	1,563
Insurance	-	-	1,004		1,004	2,009	2,583
Other establishment	-	300	-		-	300	300
Other motor/travel costs	300	25	2,680	-	20	3,025	3,219
Legal and professional fees	1,428	751	9,373	1,213	10,632	23,396	1,924
Telephone	119	346	2,105		1,852	4,422	9,593
Other office costs	4,588	495	225	507	2,555	8,372	5,358
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	10,414	10,414	9,852
Consumables	2,096	4,129	11,322	55	2,535	20,137	16,808
Materials, equipment and resources	309	507	36	-	14,368	15,220	5,917
Promotional activities	168	20	90	-	-	278	374
Volunteer expenses	258	145	649	86	13	1,150	935
Training & outreach - tutor costs	480	108	320	480	72	1,460	360
Sundry Expenses	2,164	1,089	2,029	74	1,812	7,168	-
6 Governance Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total resources expended	91,285	11,576	66,754	3,569	76,112	249,296	238,703

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2022

6 Governance costs	2022	2021
	£	£
Independent Examination	-	-
Administration	-	-
Trustee expenses	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

7 Trustee remuneration and expenses	2022	2021
	£	£
Total amount paid	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

During the year no trustees received any remuneration or expenses (2020: 0)

8 Employees	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	148,215	152,254
Employer's NI	6,943	8,306
Pension	3,317	3,411
	<u>158,475</u>	<u>163,971</u>

Number of employees	2022	2021
The average monthly number of employees during the year was:	Number	Number
	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

	2022	2021
Key management of the charity received employee benefits (including pension contributions) totalling	<u>20,508</u>	<u>21,217</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2022

9 Tangible assets	Land and buildings	Fixtures and fittings	Equipment	Total
<u>Cost</u>	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2021	170,000	900	47,478	218,378
Additions	-	103,538	-	103,538
At 31 March 2022	<u>170,000</u>	<u>104,438</u>	<u>47,478</u>	<u>321,916</u>
<u>Depreciation</u>				
At 1 April 2021	170,000	565	47,478	218,043
Charge for year	-	10,414	-	10,414
At 31 March 2022	<u>170,000</u>	<u>10,979</u>	<u>47,478</u>	<u>228,457</u>
<u>Net book value</u>				
At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>93,459</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,459</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>335</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>335</u>
10 Financial Instruments			2022	2021
Carrying amount of financial assets			£	£
Debt instruments measured at cost			342,103	338,710
Carrying amount of financial liabilities				
Measured at cost			-	33,600
11 Debtors and prepayments			2022	2021
			£	£
Trade debtors			1,004	-
Prepayments and accrued income			-	262
Other debtors			18,330	20,370
			<u>19,335</u>	<u>20,632</u>
12 Creditors and accruals			2022	2021
			£	£
Trade creditors			-	33,600
Accruals and deferred income			-	-
			<u>-</u>	<u>33,600</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2022

13 Retirement benefit schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

14 Restricted funds

The Income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes: The charity supports the shortfall of funding on these programmes from reserves to ensure continuity of service.

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2022
Food Bank	96,707	84,254	(66,754)	-	114,207
Baby Basics	3,522	19,645	(11,576)	-	11,591
Hope House Homeless Centre	63,757	62,834	(41,744)	-	84,847
Hope House 2	67,000	95,339	(34,368)	-	127,971
COVID 19	4,296	13,098	(17,394)	-	-
The Steve Morgan Fdtn	6,302	12,870	(19,172)	-	-
Training Fund	(679)	-	(3,569)	-	(4,248)
	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>240,905</u>	<u>288,040</u>	<u>(194,577)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>334,368</u>

14a Comparative Movement in funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2021
Food Bank	28,257	117,140	(48,690)	-	96,707
Baby Basics	-	11,257	(7,735)	-	3,522
Building for the future	8,783	-	(8,783)	-	-
Hope House Homeless Centre	5,099	157,502	(98,844)	-	63,757
Hope House 2	-	-	-	67,000	67,000
Public Health	3,144	-	-	(3,144)	-
Local Sustainability Fund	1,591	-	-	(1,591)	-
COVID 19	-	25,308	(21,012)	-	4,296
The Steve Morgan Fdtn	-	25,740	(19,438)	-	6,302
Training Fund	16	-	(695)	-	(679)
Faith to Talk	115	-	-	(115)	-
	<u>47,005</u>	<u>336,947</u>	<u>(205,197)</u>	<u>62,150</u>	<u>240,905</u>

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	275	-	275
Current assets / (liabilities)	-	334,368	334,368
	<u>275</u>	<u>334,368</u>	<u>334,643</u>
Comparative at 31 March 2021			
Current assets / (liabilities)	<u>64,801</u>	<u>240,905</u>	<u>305,706</u>

16 Transactions with trustees and related parties

As two of the trustees of The Hope Centre - St Helens are also elders of St Helens Christian Life Centre and the church, The Christian Life Centre is considered to be a related party of the charity.

Related party transactions during the year ended 31 March 2022 were:

Payments from The Hope Centre - St Helens to St Helens Christian Life Centre: £3,052

Receipts from St Helens Christian Life Centre: £2,410

Changing Communities C.I.C is a company that was set up by The Hope Centre to deliver certain community projects. As the majority of its board are either trustees or employees of The Hope Centre - St Helens it is considered to be a related party.

The Hope Centre - St Helens also administered payroll processing and settled amounts due totalling £16,100 (2021 -£15,900) on behalf of Changing Communities C.I.C

18 Company limited by guarantee

The Hope Centre - St Helens is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act. The liability of the members is limited to £1.

Accounts

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Charity number 1103903

A Company limited by guarantee number 05089663

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2021

The Hope Centre - St Helens

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees		Position	Dates
	Mr J Ryan	Chair	
	Rev J P Fell		
	Mr J Cooper		
	Mr T Kelly		
	Rev C Lawrenson		
	Mrs J Webster		
Project Director	Mrs A Metcalfe		
Company Secretary	Mrs B Barton		
Charity Number	1103903		
Company Number	05089663		
Principal address	The Hope Centre St Helens Christian Life Centre Atherton Street St Helens Merseyside WA10 2DT		
Bankers	Yorkshire Bank 6 Bridge Street St Helens WA10 1NF		
Independent Examiner	Jane Williams MAAT Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service Halton & St Helens Voluntary and Community Action Beacon Building College Street St Helens WA10 1TF		

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Contents	Page
Report of the Board of Trustees	2 to 13
Independent Examiners Report	14
Statement of financial activities	15 to 16
Balance sheet	17
Statement of cash flows	18
Notes to the financial statements	19 to 27

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

THE TRUSTEES:

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Rev J P Fell
Mr J Ryan
Mr J Cooper
Mr T Kelly
Rev Craig Lawrenson
Mrs J Webster

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS:

Reference and administrative details are shown in the schedule of members of the board and professional advisers on page 1 of the financial statements

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT:

The Hope Centre is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. As such its activities are overseen by a board of trustees who are also directors of the company. However the day to day running of the charity is overseen by the Hope Centre Director and the Chair of Trustees.

The date of incorporation of the charity was 31 March 2004 and the date of appointment of the first Trustee was 4 April 2004. Currently the Board is made up of six members. The Hope Centre continues to rent its office and training accommodation from St Helens Christian Life Centre. In addition Hope House, the homeless day centre is leased from St Helens Borough Council.

Trustees on appointment are provided with the Charity Commission documentation for trustees, outlining roles and responsibilities. In addition briefing papers are provided from the management to all new trustees.

Trustees are normally appointed for a period of 3 years after which they must be re-elected at the next annual meeting. The Trustees Board has met on four occasions during this year for full Board meetings with a further 3 meetings for Business Planning strategy meetings.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE:

A Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for determining the Hope Centre's strategic direction, approving capital and revenue expenditure and monitoring performance and is comprised of a Chair, and six other Trustee Board Members.

The trustees of the Charity are drawn from a range of backgrounds with some being members of the founding church whilst others are not. Trustees members are drawn from within the third sector, the financial and business sectors. All the Trustees give their time voluntarily.

An Executive Management Team is comprised of the Chair of Trustees and the Project Director who assume overall responsibility, with support from staff team leaders, for executing the strategic and financial plan.

Finance and Administration is managed by the Hope Centre Director with the support of two volunteers and finance issues are reported to the Management Team and Trustees.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Finance and Administration staff manage the day to day financial position of the Charity as well as producing end of year accounts, liaising with banks and auditors. All monitoring of service users/learners achievement of project targets and completion of monitoring reports are carried out by this team. Major reports for funders are collated and produced. The significant volunteer data base is also managed within the team as are new applications for funding under the direction of the Hope Centre Director.

Operational Management is delegated by the trustees to the Project Director and 3 team leaders responsible for Hope House homeless services, the Training department, the Foodbank and Engage Community projects. The Project Director has overall responsibility for the operational and performance management and quality framework and responsibility for priorities through specific project development, service delivery, tailored interventions and training, service improvements, joint networking practices and general administration.

Four Operational Teams of staff and volunteers support the Project Director. Training, Advice, Advocacy and Support Services, Hope House - Homeless Provision; Engage Community Projects; St Helens Foodbank. Finance and administrative staff who report directly to the Hope Centre Director. Regular operational meetings take place with the Project Director & Team Leaders who then report to the Executive Management Team (E.M.T). General staff meetings take place monthly and staff training away days bi-annually.

RELATED PARTIES:

The Hope Centre was established by the St Helens Christian Life Centre (Elim Pentecostal Church) from which the Charity rents its accommodation and to whom a contribution is made for facilities, such as copiers, and utilities. In addition the Church makes donations to support the work of the Charity.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

The Management Team and Trustees continually consider the impact of our financial position and stability at their regular Trustee meetings. Attention continues to be focused on reviewing the current strategies and planning effectively for the future. New services and training opportunities continue to be a focus as is promoting the work in order to attract longer term funding. The Trustees, in conjunction with the Director, identify and review major risks which may affect the stability and successful operation of the Charity. Action is then planned and implemented, as far as possible, to minimise or remove the identified risk. The Trustees, together with the Director continue to review the long-term future viability of the Charity, particularly with a view to reducing dependence on a single stream of funding and report to trustees. Long term sustainability continues to be a challenge as longer term funding opportunities and increased donation income are sought. Financial viability is continually monitored and addressed throughout the year in management team meetings and at trustee's meetings.

Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and anti-fraud policies. Measures are also in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, service users, learners and visitors.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

OBJECTS, ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE:

Public Benefit Statement

The principal aim of the Hope Centre – St Helens is to improve the lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the borough of St Helens.

The Trustees believe that the services provided by the Hope Centre - St Helens are compliant with the Charities Commission Guidance on Public Benefit and the public benefit is further exemplified in the following statements of Activity and Performance, and Future Development Plans.

Objects of The Hope Centre - St Helens

The Charity's objects (revised December 2011) contained within the governing document are:

1. to advance the christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the statement of belief appearing in the schedule hereto in St. Helens and in such other parts of the United Kingdom as the Trustees may from time to time think fit and in so doing to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the laws of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Trust
2. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society.
 - a) For the purpose of this clause 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, as a result of one or more of the following factors: unemployment; financial hardship; youth or old age; ill health (physical or mental); substance abuse or dependency including alcohol and drugs; poor educational or skills attainment; relationship and family breakdown; homelessness or poor housing (that is housing that does not meet basic habitable standards).
3. to prevent or relieve poverty in St. Helens by providing: education, training and support services to individuals in need

Hope Centre Strategic Objectives

The Hope Centre, in partnership where appropriate, will work with vulnerable and/or disadvantaged people to:

1. empower them for positive behaviour change and improved life choices
2. improve their social, economic, physical, psychological and spiritual well-being
3. prepare them for and help sustain their independent living
4. encourage their responsible participation in society

The Hope Centre employs an inclusive approach and provides relevant social care services and training for vulnerable and disadvantaged young people and adults, and does not discriminate on the grounds of gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion, belief or age.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

HOPE CENTRE COVID RESPONSE 2020-21

Introduction

As the pandemic unfolded in the UK, the lockdown which impacted provision of service happened as the financial year drew to a close. The following therefore is a brief insight into the final few weeks of planning for the Hope Centre response to the unfolding crisis.

We envisaged that all our services would be impacted in one way or another, and this proved to be the case. However, the Hope Centre was designated by the local authority as an essential service for two main areas of our work: Foodbank and homeless services.

The Church, St Helens Christian Life Centre, from whom the Charity rents space for its administrative offices and some projects: Training, Engage, Foodbank, Breathe, closed for all church services and related activities at the commencement of national lockdown. As a result of this and the designation of the Charity as an essential service, the building was solely used by the Charity, which collaborated with the Church to ensure all COVID guidance was followed.

In final weeks of March 2019 the Project Director and Team leaders developed a series of action plans and risk assessments for the emerging situation. Inevitably the work on these continued into the new financial year. Therefore a more detailed report on these will be given in the next annual report.

Impact on the people we support.

It was envisaged that those who we work with would be affected by changes to services however, the following services continued into and throughout the pandemic:

- Foodbank
- Homeless services (Hope House)

Other services and projects ceased during the national lockdown.

Impact of Virus Control Measures

All clients and service users were impacted by the changes to services:

Foodbank clients:

1. affected by social distancing requirements, and use of PPE
2. Impacted by a reduction of some distribution hubs in some parts of the borough (not at the Hope Centre base however because of our sole use)
3. Impacted slightly by a temporary reduction in volunteers, though this was resolved

Impact on Staff

As an essential service, all staff were encouraged to work from home as much as possible, apart from the requirement to be in the buildings to carry out essential work.

The Government furlough scheme was explored as it was envisaged this scheme might be needed in due time. Staff were informed of this possibility

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Impact on Volunteers

The Hope Centre has a heavy reliance on volunteers for many of its services. Many of these are amongst the older population and it was anticipated that we would lose some of these through the shielding and lockdown requirements.

As an essential service we had close collaboration with the St Helens Council COVID response team and the local Voluntary Community Action organisation (former CVS) which developed a COVID volunteer response. This later mitigated the loss of volunteers.

Impact on Charity's operations and activities

Plans for some activities to cease were developed, as they were not essential at that time and the volunteers were not available: e.g. Engage, Breathe.

Homeless services were in process of redesign as the financial year closed to fit the prevailing need and COVID restrictions.

Impact on fundraising

As most of the Charity's income is from grant funding rather than donations, no serious impact was envisaged in the short term. Funders however were contacted to discuss the impact and ensure compliance with terms and conditions.

Financial Security

Our primary intent in the early days was primarily to focus our attention on redeveloping services, the Charity believed that our financial security would not be at significant risk, dependent on the timescale of the crisis. This was kept under constant review.

Summary

The Project Director led a team effort to ensure those services which needed to continue remained fit for purpose in the new crisis situation. In addition, consideration for the large number of volunteers meant the team contacted volunteers and assured them of our continued support and provision of PPE etc for them if they wished to continue. Inevitably those who felt the need to step back for health purposes etc, did so with the Charity's full support.

As an essential service in our locality, there was a rapid response to redesign services to meet the new situation. This was done very successfully by a concerted team approach, with full support from Trustees. The Charity entered the crisis well prepared and flexible in its responses, proving its worth as an essential service and adding value to the effectiveness of the community, voluntary, private and statutory COVID partnership.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

ACTIVITY AND PERFORMANCE APRIL 2020 - MARCH 2021

Volunteers

Our volunteers are a major part of enabling support and delivery of all our projects. They represent a wide range of local churches, other organisations and individuals from our community who have heard of our projects and want to give back. Specifically they volunteer in Foodbank, Hope House, Baby-Basics, Make Lunch and in supporting the administration of the Hope Centre. COVID-19 and social distancing restrictions have affected many of our team volunteers. Some had to self-isolate and projects had to adapt. This has meant a reduction in the number of volunteers involved in our projects this year but we have endeavored to keep in touch and support many of our volunteers throughout the pandemic.

Total Volunteers 109 (27 of them volunteer at the Christmas homeless provision)

Total Volunteer Hours 9451

Value to Hope Centre £82,412

HOPE CENTRE TRAINING

Coronavirus Impact on courses & delivery: April 2020-March 2021

When the government imposed a countrywide lockdown on 23rd March 2020, delivery of all courses stopped with immediate effect. To support vulnerable beneficiaries we established a Hope Line to maintain regular contact with Breathe learners, those attending Digital Skills & Computer Club, English & Maths and was quickly extended to support others whom was felt would benefit from regular contact during unprecedented times.

For some this was the only outside contact they received and the weekly call was a great boost for some of the participants.

Breathe Mental Health – Breathe Employability

We transitioned the course to on-line delivery, via Zoom, with limited success. The overall feeling is the course content is best suited to face-to-face delivery. All aspects of delivery has been liaised with the funder.

Digital Skills: Delivered to a maximum of 10 learners

UK Online Basics - This course is offered to adults 18+ who have had very little or no experience of using a computer. This is a student-led, tutor-supported course allowing the learners to gain basic computer skills at their own pace. Once this course is completed, the learner is encouraged to progress onto *Beyond Basics*

Beyond Basics - This course is offered to learners wanting to refresh their computer skills and (re)introduces the learner to Microsoft packages, social media etc allowing them to explore the internet and give them confidence in work searches. Again, this is student-led tutor-supported allowing the learner to progress at their own pace.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Computer Club – an opportunity for learners who have completed the above courses and who want to access the internet and continue to use the Hope Centre facility. This has been set up to free spaces for those on the waiting list.

The above sessions have been paused and re-established when social distancing guidelines means delivery can be carried out safely for everyone concerned.

English & Maths: Basics Skills – delivered at the Hope Centre by St Helens College tutor.

Due to the impact of lockdown and social distancing measures St Helens College stopped delivery of its sessions at the Hope Centre – this will be revisited 2021-2022 when social distancing measures are eased.

Pop-Up Project: Recognising an opportunity to support local school-children struggling to home study, because of lack of equipment, a pop-up project was set up January 2021 in partnership with Bringing Youth Technology & Education [B.Y.T.E.] and St Helens Council. The Hope Centre acted as a delivery point for pre-loved laptops & devices – these were regularly collected by B.Y.T.E. who wiped them of any sensitive data, uploaded relevant MS Office programs and delivered to schools. The feedback from this support was extremely positive, showing that not all projects have to be costly or long-lived to make a positive impact.

HOPE HOUSE - ADVICE, ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT CENTRE

Hope House has continued to support those who are experiencing homelessness and those who are at risk of homelessness throughout the year. The service was adapted during the pandemic to ensure that it was COVID-19 safe for our staff, volunteers and service users. We have supported 483 individuals, through the service this year, with service users engaging in 14523 interventions. Our volunteers have continued to be invaluable to the work of the Centre. Even at reduced numbers, they have donated 1213 hours of their time during the pandemic.

BASIC NEEDS

During COVID-19 it was recognized that the practical support provided was going to be essential for service users to be able to manage the changes. Social distancing guidelines led to the adaptation of the service. A breakfast pack and hot lunch were provided at the door each day, for those who were struggling, resulting in 9002 meals provided over the year. For those in their own tenancy, a weekly non-perishable food hamper was provided to ensure they were able to access food but did not have to attend the service each day. In total, 1948 hampers were given to service users who identified as at risk of homelessness.

In addition, the team worked in partnership with the Local Authority and other charity partners to provide a packed lunch, a hot meal and drinks to those rough sleepers who were temporarily accommodated by the Local Authority, through the Everyone In scheme. 3364 hot meals and 3369 cold packed lunches were provided under this scheme.

The personal care service availability had to be reduced but was still offered to those with no alternative. The shower facilities were used on 110 occasions, with the laundry facilities accessed on 92 occasions. Toiletries and items of clothing provision with 1444 items given to service users.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

ADVICE AND SUPPORT

The support service had to be adapted due to the need to reduce the numbers of people in the building at any one time. 1533 support interventions were provided to service users during this year.

Outputs

- 82 signposting and advice interventions provided
- 662 pieces of mail received for service users without a stable address
- 528 phone calls to housing, health and benefit organisations
- 220 internet café sessions

Outcomes

1. 74 accessed emergency accommodation support
2. 46 were referred into temporary accommodation
3. 59 accessed emergency benefit support
4. 13 maintained contact with drug and alcohol treatment
5. 48 occasions of support to access other organisations' support including, the Domestic Violence team, Citizen's Advice Bureau and Probation

DEVELOPMENTS

The need for social distancing led to a pilot scheme to extend the opening hours of the Centre to include evenings and weekends. This pilot highlighted the need for social support with 80 service users visiting the Centre on 497 occasions during the extended hours.

ST HELENS FOODBANK

St. Helens Foodbank continues to be very active with 2514 vouchers fulfilled and having fed a total of 6,023 people; 3,825 Adults; 2,198 Children over the past year. This is a decrease of 2,436 people attending foodbank from the previous year.

We believe this was partly due to small community foodbanks opening during the lockdown in March around St Helens.

At the beginning of the Covid 19 outbreak, quite a few of our regular volunteers had to self-isolate but we were able to liaise with the VCA and recruit temporary volunteers. We were therefore able to keep all our Foodbank Hubs open where people could come to redeem their 3 day emergency food hampers. We opened a new Hub in December and now have 5 hubs which run over 5 days Monday to Friday.

As many of our Referral Agencies staff now had to work from home and not able to issue the red vouchers, we responded by inviting our agencies to become E-Referral Agencies enabling them to offer their clients foodbank vouchers by E Code which could be emailed or code texted to their clients. This procedure has worked really well with many agencies accepting this offer.

From 23rd March 2020 our wrap around service had to change due to Covid 19 restrictions and to help keep our volunteers and clients safe.

Social distancing was implemented and volunteers were issued with PPE and hand sanitiser in line with government guidelines. Limited access of foodbank by clients and food hampers given at the door to restrict contact in some instances

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

For foodbank families who had to self-isolate or shield, home delivery of food hampers was implemented.

We currently have over 50 regular volunteers who have worked selflessly over the past year in the Hubs, warehouse, delivery and administration. They are the mainstay of the foodbank and without them could not function. Their commitment, hard work and compassion are to be commended.

We have also been able to employ a Volunteer Coordinator from November 2020 which has been a huge help and support during this difficult time.

Our food stocks are very good as donations continued to flow in all through the pandemic. We also now include fresh bread, butter, fruit and veg in our food hampers.

Our greatest challenge is still the storage of food as it is spread out over various locations around the town, which can cause logistical problems. It would be ideal to have all our stocks in one storage warehouse.

ENGAGE PROJECT 2020-21

Hope Centre objectives state we will respond when we can to prevent or support families in poverty and to encourage social inclusion. The way our projects deliver has been adapted during the past year to provide their beneficiaries with the services they need, whilst complying with social distancing rules.

The Hope Centre Baby-Basics project is a response to the growing need for practical help for new mothers and families unable to afford the basic essential and equipment necessary to look after new born babies. This project is delivered in partnership with many local churches and partner agencies within the town.

88 Baskets have been given out during this year.

Make Lunch

Make Lunch is an event to help families who are on low income/or in receipt of free school meals. It takes place during school holidays. This is delivered with the support of St. Helens Local Authority.

During the pandemic this support has taken the form of delivery of hampers and holiday activity packs to support families in their own homes, rather than through the provision of holiday activity clubs. Over the 6 school holidays 477 family meals were provided including 1527 portions. On average 29 families accessed the provision each holiday with 35 adults and 69 children receiving food support.

HOPE CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS DURING 2019-2020

The major challenge for the Charity continues to be the raising of funds. The Management Team and Trustees considered the impact of this at their regular meetings. Hope Centre aims to be stronger, more agile, more innovative and adaptable to the new funding environment and to continue to develop new opportunities, investigate new potential partnerships and programmes, which can attract new funding.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

Partnerships this year:-

Health & Wellbeing Partnerships
Crisis – Skylight Team
Citizens Advice St Helens
St Helens Job Centre
St Helens Third Sector Consortium
Salvation Army Lifehouse [St Helens]
Housing Options
St Helens Social Inclusion & Disability Network
Asda & Tesco's
Green Pastures
TLG
Baby Basics

CHANGING COMMUNITIES – CIC (The CIC was officially formed on 30th March 2017).

The vision statement is “We will positively help change communities and improve people’s lives”, with the tag line “Changing Communities – one life at time”.

The mission statement is “We shall positively support people and communities to help them develop their sense of belonging, increase local involvement and help them have the confidence to make new life choices”.

The CIC Directors and Management Team have focused delivery on ‘the Restore – St Helens Project’.

The Restore Project Key Information – To provide opportunities for volunteering, to learn and to train, To redirect items of furniture destined for landfill, restore or upcycle household good.

- 1.** 10 tonnes of Disposal Diversion through furniture, repair, reuse, upcycling and refurbishment activities.
- 2.** 34 volunteers
- 3.** 6570 volunteer hours
- 4.** Partnership working with Hope Centre, Social Services, Housing Associations (for example)

As part of the Hope Centre development process, a volunteer skills audit is being undertaken. It is hoped this may provide volunteers with customer service, furniture restorations skills and communications skills to staff the project.

The Christian ethos of the project with the God of restoration and hope at the centre of the project, is restoring the lives (practically and spiritually) of those involved.

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Report of the Board of Trustees

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

The Charity's principal source of funding continues to be grant funding. The Trustees and Management team aim to maintain financial stability and considerable attention has therefore been given to identifying new income sources as well as encouraging one-off donations. In addition to grants from the local Council, local and national funders are approached to invest in our projects. Major funders in 2019-2020 include:

St Helens LA
Henry Smith
St Helens Charitable Trust
Coalfields
WEA – Training Grant
Garfield Weston
L.C.V.S

Like most charities, the Hope Centre's major challenge is to secure grant funding. This obviously affects the services it can provide. The Board has been aiming to achieve a balanced budget and to increase our current level of unrestricted reserves. This will provide a safety net that will allow us to maintain basic services.

INVESTMENT POLICIES:

The charity currently has no investments, or investment income

RESERVES:

The Hope Centre needs reserves to protect its core work and ensure this continues. In addition, reserves provide a level of funding that enables us to plan for future developments, and to provide a safety net to protect against risks such as unforeseen expenditure or a significant loss of income.

To achieve these objectives, trustees plan to hold at least three months expenditure in "Unrestricted Funds". The Hope Centre is meeting this objective currently and trustees aim to maintain this level in future years. However, they recognise circumstances may change and will monitor and review this policy and the level of reserves held annually.

In addition to Unrestricted Funds, we hold Restricted Funds from funding income for projects to achieve specific results. There is also a designated fund (Hope House 2) which is money set aside with the aim of developing and purchasing the new Hope House building in the next few years.

At year end our Unrestricted Funds were £64,801 and the Hope House 2 Fund had a balance of £67,000.

There have been no serious incidents to report in this financial year. Our auditors have worked closely with us to minimize risk and strengthen financial processes and procedures.

RESULTS:

The results for the year and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

A resolution was passed by Trustees at the last Annual Meeting on 1st December 2020 to seek new auditors. The opportunity would be put out to tender in the ensuing months with a view to appoint new Independent Examiners in time for the end of financial year 2020-21. The Charity appointed Jane Williams of Greater Merseyside Accountancy Service as its examiner for this year, subject to annual review.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

For the year ended 31st March 2021

Statement of Directors' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of The Hope Centre - St Helens for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, 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 UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 26th January 2022

Mr John Ryan
Chair

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Independent Examiner's Report to the members of
The Hope Centre - St Helens
for the year ended 31 March 2021

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Hope Centre - St Helens for the year ended 31 March 2021.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity'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 the Association of Accounting Technicians, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I can 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 charity 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.

Jane Williams
MAAT
Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service
Halton & St Helens Voluntary and Community Action
Beacon Building
College Street
St Helens
WA10 1TF

26th January 2022

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £	2020 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	(2)	53,148	135,362	188,510	74,829
Charitable activities	(3)	-	201,585	201,585	112,818
Other income		1,111	-	1,111	920
Investment income	(4)	24	-	24	12
Total		54,283	336,947	391,230	188,579
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	-(5)	(33,506)	(205,197)	(238,703)	(220,203)
Net (expenditure) / income		20,777	131,750	152,527	(31,624)
Transfers between funds	(15)	(62,150)	62,150	-	-
Net movement in funds		(41,373)	193,900	152,527	(31,624)
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		106,174	47,005	153,179	184,803
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		64,801	240,905	305,706	153,179

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2020 Total Funds £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	(2)	41,805	115,842	157,647
Charitable activities	(3)	-	30,000	30,000
Investments	(4)	12	-	12
Other Income		920	-	920
Total		<u>42,737</u>	<u>145,842</u>	<u>188,579</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	(5)	(13,972)	(206,231)	(220,203)
Net (expenditure) / income		<u>28,765</u>	<u>(60,389)</u>	<u>(31,624)</u>
Transfers between funds	(15a)	(7,938)	7,938	-
Net movement in funds		<u>20,827</u>	<u>(52,451)</u>	<u>(31,624)</u>
Fund balances at 1 April 2019		85,347	99,456	184,803
Fund balances at 31 March 2020		<u>106,174</u>	<u>47,005</u>	<u>153,179</u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	(10)	335	10,187
Total fixed assets		<u>335</u>	<u>10,187</u>
Current Assets			
Debtors and prepayments	(12)	20,632	34,587
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>318,340</u>	<u>141,174</u>
Total current assets		<u>338,971</u>	<u>175,761</u>
Current liabilities:			
amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors and accruals	(13)	33,600	32,769
Total current liabilities		<u>33,600</u>	<u>32,769</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)		<u>305,371</u>	<u>142,992</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>305,706</u>	<u>153,179</u>
Funds			
Restricted Funds	(15)	173,905	47,005
Designated Funds		67,000	-
Unrestricted funds		<u>64,801</u>	<u>106,174</u>
		<u>305,706</u>	<u>153,179</u>

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) confirm that for the year ended 31 March 2021

the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, and

the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, the the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The notes on pages 12 to 23 form an integral part of these accounts.

These accounts, which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, were approved by the trustees on 26th January 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

John Ryan (Chair)
Trustee

Company registration number 05089663

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income/(expenditure) per SOFA	152,527	(31,624)
Depreciation	9,852	19,056
Investment Income	(24)	(12)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	13,955	(8,448)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	832	9,553
Increase/(decrease) in deferred income	-	(802)
	<u>177,142</u>	<u>(12,277)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Investment income	<u>24</u>	<u>12</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash:	177,166	(12,265)
Total cash as at 1 April 2020	<u>141,174</u>	<u>153,439</u>
Total cash as at 31 March 2021	<u>318,340</u>	<u>141,174</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity Information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Hope Centre, St Helens Christian Life Centre, Atherton Street, St Helens, WA10 2DT.

1.1 Accounting convention

These accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, "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 Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006 as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The accounts are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.3 Charitable funds

- (a) Unrestricted funds are those that can be expended at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the objects of the charity.
- (b) Restricted funds are those that may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor, or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

1.4 Incoming resources

- (a) Income is recognised and included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the income; receipt is probable; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- (b) Where income has related expenditure (e.g. Foodbank), the income and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.
- (c) Bank interest is recognised when credited to the account.
- (d) Income, which is subject to conditions that the charity has yet to fulfil, or which is specifically for use in a future accounting period, is treated as deferred income.

1.5 Resources expended

- (a) Expenditure is recognised on the accruals basis.
- (b) The charity is not registered for VAT, thus all costs are shown inclusive of VAT charged.
- (c) Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay out resources.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

- (a) Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at their value on receipt.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the costs less estimated residual value or its expected useful life, as follows:

Long Leased property	15 years straight line basis
Fixtures & fittings	15 years straight line basis
Office Equipment	3 years straight line basis

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.7 Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the charity transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2021

2 Donations and legacies	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Donations	120,510	-	120,510	53,420
Donations from CLC	2,950	-	2,950	2,400
Donation from Local Authority	65,000	-	65,000	15,000
Donations from Trussell Trust	50	-	50	4,009
	<u>188,510</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>188,510</u>	<u>74,829</u>
For the year ended 31 March 2020	<u>22,940</u>	<u>51,889</u>	<u>74,829</u>	
Grants receivable for core activities				
St Helens Borough Council	-	-	-	15,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,000</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2021

3a Charitable activities	CORE Activities	Foodbank	Training & Outreach	Homeless Shelter	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Performance related grants & Contracts						
Henry Smith	-	-	-	-	40,000	40,000
St Helens Council rent grant	-	-	-	-	-	2,865
Training grants	-	-	-	-	-	7,853
Medicash	-	-	-	-	7,500	7,500
Sundry Grants	-	-	-	-	-	20,850
St Helens Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-	-	3,750
Social, housing and employment support	-	-	-	-	-	30,000
The Steve Morgan Foundation	40,740	-	-	-	40,740	-
Homeless Link	-	-	-	16,707	16,707	-
Rathbone	-	-	-	-	1,000	-
LCVS	-	-	-	-	1,500	-
Halton & St Helens VCA	-	-	-	5,000	5,000	-
Imperial Harold Percival Group	-	-	-	-	2,700	-
Community Foundation	-	-	-	-	4,993	-
Pilkington Charity	-	-	-	-	4,000	-
Torus Foundation	-	-	-	-	11,500	-
Coalfields	-	-	-	5,810	5,810	-
LFC Foundation	-	-	-	-	14,000	-
Other small grants	-	-	-	8,286	11,730	-
Other Income	1,544	1,544	-	762	19,145	-
Services Provided	1,570	1,570	-	9,550	15,260	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	43,854	3,114	-	46,115	201,585	112,818
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Income	1,111	-	-	-	1,111	920
	1,111	-	-	-	1,111	920

The Hope Centre - St Helens

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2021

5a Expenditure on Charitable activities	Support Costs	CORE Activities	Foodbank	Training & outreach	Homeless Shelter	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	25,418	19,498	31,621	-	87,434	163,971	138,324
Rent	- 1,167	5,999	2,050	-	6,068	12,950	9,360
Light and heat	-	-	-	-	2,997	2,997	3,730
Repairs and maintenance	-	-	-	-	1,563	1,563	7,820
Insurance	661	60	757	-	1,105	2,583	2,054
Other establishment	-	300	-	-	-	300	2,493
Other motor/travel costs	-	6	3,063	-	150	3,219	3,412
Legal and professional fees	-	604	-	17	1,303	1,924	8,863
Telephone	2,693	1,871	2,358	-	2,671	9,593	4,036
Other office costs	4,977	5	281	35	60	5,358	1,885
Depreciation	9,852	-	-	-	-	9,852	19,057
Consumables	914	8,857	7,037	-	-	16,808	3,426
Materials, equipment and resources	183	2,896	977	-	1,861	5,917	-
Promotional activities	74	-	-	300	-	374	788
Volunteer expenses	-	415	450	-	70	935	1,413
Training & outreach - tutor costs	-	-	-	360	-	360	3,960
Training & outreach - Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,582
6 Governance Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total resources expended	43,604	40,511	48,594	712	105,282	238,703	220,203

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2021

6 Governance costs	2021	2020
	£	£
Independent Examination	-	2,610
Administration	-	-
Trustee expenses	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,610</u>

7 Trustee remuneration and expenses	2021	2020
	£	£
Total amount paid	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

During the year no trustees received any remuneration or expenses (2020: 0)

8 Employees	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	152,254	138,324
Employer's NI	8,306	-
Pension	3,411	-
	<u>163,971</u>	<u>138,324</u>

Number of employees	2021	2020
The average monthly number of employees during the year was:	Number	Number
	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

	2021	2020
Key management of the charity received employee benefits (including pension contributions) totalling	<u>21,217</u>	<u>18,784</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2021

9 Tangible assets	Land and buildings	Fixtures and fittings	Equipment	Total
<u>Cost</u>	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2020	170,000	900	47,478	218,378
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	<u>170,000</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>47,478</u>	<u>218,378</u>
<u>Depreciation</u>				
At 1 April 2020	161,216	505	46,470	208,191
Charge for year	8,784	60	1,008	9,852
At 31 March 2021	<u>170,000</u>	<u>565</u>	<u>47,478</u>	<u>218,043</u>
<u>Net book value</u>				
At 31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>335</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>335</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>8,784</u>	<u>395</u>	<u>1,008</u>	<u>10,187</u>
10 Financial Instruments			2021	2020
Carrying amount of financial assets			£	£
Debt instruments measured at cost			<u>338,710</u>	<u>174,328</u>
Carrying amount of financial liabilities				
Measured at cost			<u>33,600</u>	<u>32,769</u>
11 Debtors and prepayments			2021	2020
			£	£
Trade debtors			-	10,000
Prepayments and accrued income			262	1,377
Other debtors			<u>20,370</u>	<u>23,210</u>
			<u>20,632</u>	<u>34,587</u>
15 Cash at bank and in hand			2021	2020
			£	£
Bank Current Account			293,944	117,232
Yorkshire Savings			23,910	23,886
Hope Centre Special Projects			73	-
Cash in hand			<u>413</u>	<u>56</u>
			<u>318,340</u>	<u>141,174</u>
12 Creditors and accruals			2021	2020
			£	£
Trade creditors			33,600	29,640
Accruals and deferred income			-	3,129
			<u>33,600</u>	<u>32,769</u>

The Hope Centre - St Helens
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2021

13 Retirement benefit schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

14 Restricted funds

The Income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes: The charity supports the shortfall of funding on these programmes from reserves to ensure continuity of service.

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2021
Food Bank	28,257	117,140	(48,690)	-	96,707
Baby Basics	-	11,257	(7,735)	-	3,522
Changing Communities	-	-	-	-	-
Building for the future	8,783	-	(8,783)	-	-
Hope House Homeless Centre	5,099	157,502	(98,844)	-	63,757
Hope House 2	-	-	-	67,000	67,000
Public Health	3,144	-	-	(3,144)	-
Local Sustainability Fund	1,591	-	-	(1,591)	-
COVID 19	-	25,308	(21,012)	-	4,296
The Steve Morgan Fdtn	-	25,740	(19,438)	-	6,302
Training Fund	16	-	(695)	-	(679)
Faith to Talk	115	-	-	(115)	-
	<u>47,005</u>	<u>336,947</u>	<u>(205,197)</u>	<u>62,150</u>	<u>240,905</u>

14a Comparative Movement in funds

	Balance at 1 April 2019	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2020
Food Bank	16,615	39,684	(28,042)	-	28,257
Baby Basics	6,059	5,738	(12,623)	826	-
Changing Communities	9,304	-	(9,304)	-	-
Building for the future	26,350	-	(17,567)	-	8,783
Hope House Homeless Centre	29,584	92,567	(117,052)	-	5,099
Public Health	3,144	-	-	-	3,144
Local Sustainability Fund	1,591	-	-	-	1,591
Training Fund	6,694	7,853	(21,643)	7,112	16
Faith to Talk	115	-	-	-	115
	<u>99,456</u>	<u>145,842</u>	<u>(206,231)</u>	<u>7,938</u>	<u>47,005</u>

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	335	-	335
Current assets / (liabilities)	64,466	240,905	305,371
	<u>64,801</u>	<u>240,905</u>	<u>305,706</u>
Comparative at 31 March 2020			
Current assets / (liabilities)	<u>106,174</u>	<u>47,005</u>	<u>153,179</u>

16 Transactions with trustees and related parties

As three of the trustees of The Hope Centre - St Helens are also elders of St Helens Christian Life Centre and the church, The Christian Life Centre is considered to be a related party of the charity.

Related party transactions during the year ended 31 March 2021 were:

Payments from The Hope Centre - St Helens to St Helens Christian Life Centre: £8,208

Receipts from St Helens Christian Life Centre: £3,175

Changing Communities C.I.C is a company that was set up by The Hope Centre to deliver certain community projects. As the majority of its board are either trustees or employees of The Hope Centre - St Helens it is considered to be a related party.

The Hope Centre - St Helens also administered payroll processing and settled amounts due totalling £15,900 (2020 -£13,155) on behalf of Changing Communities C.I.C

18 Company limited by guarantee

The Hope Centre - St Helens is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act. The liability of the members is limited to £1.