

# HOPE'S PLACE

England & Wales · Charity number 1105139

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Charitable company

**Company number** [05134542](#)

**Registered** 2004-07-27

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

## Contact

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**Address** c/o Burton Sweet  
The Clock Tower  
5 Farleigh Court  
Old Weston Road  
Flax Bourton  
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BS48 1UR

**Phone** 07982161760

**Email** [info@hopesplace.org.uk](mailto:info@hopesplace.org.uk)

**Website** [www.hopesplace.org.uk](http://www.hopesplace.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION AND PROMOTION OF THE HEALTH OF YOUNG PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY IN MATTERS OF SEXUAL HEALTH AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH.

**Activities:** To instill HOPE and inspire young people to overcome the ever-changing challenges they face and make life enhancing choices by fostering resilience so enabling them to reach their full potential, to make positive life choices and to take their PLACE in their school, community and the wider world.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** Children/young People

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED. IN PRACTICE AVON, NORTH SOMERSET AND CITY OF BRISTOL
- Bath And North East Somerset
- Bristol City
- North Somerset
- South Gloucestershire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£41,072	£32,444	-	-
2024-08-31	£8,654	£33,351	-	-
2023-08-31	£34,708	£25,823	-	-
2022-08-31	£7,786	£28,362	-	-
2021-08-31	£44,708	£28,109	-	-
2020-08-31	£61,335	£25,515	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Daniel John Cottrell		2024-09-17
Fiona Jane Whiston Hallworth		2024-09-17
MR Granville Sykes		2015-09-21
Robin Williams		2013-05-29
Tony Richards		2015-09-21

**HOPE'S PLACE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1105139

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# Accounts

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## **HOPE'S PLACE**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 31 AUGUST 2025**

**Company Number 05134542**

**Charity Number 1105139**

Registered Office:  
The Clock Tower  
5 Farleigh Court  
Old Weston Road  
Flax Bourton  
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# HOPE'S PLACE

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YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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# HOPE'S PLACE

## Trustees' Annual Report

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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The trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their report and financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 August 2025.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102) Accounting and Reporting by Charities in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

#### Objectives

The main objectives of Hope's Place are the advancement of education and the promotion of the health of young people. Specifically, through our courses in schools, we aim to address the issues faced by children and young people and to help them develop resilience, overcome challenges and make positive life choices.

#### Our work

From its origins as a charity offering help around unwanted pregnancy, Hope's Place has moved into its current role offering courses to young people struggling with challenges and failing to engage fully with school and/or society or simply not fulfilling their potential. Increasingly, abuse, neglect, exploitation (sexual and criminal) and toxic masculinity are impacting upon the young people's lives as detailed below.

Our facilitators work with gender-specific groups of 6-10 young people who have been identified as particularly vulnerable. The *ID* course, designed to support girls, runs for ten weeks and attendance is voluntary. Course content includes topics such as self-image, recognising you, managing emotions, friendships, healthy relationships, making decisions and peer pressure.

Facilitators use a variety of strategies to engage the young people (aged 10-18 years). The young people supported often display a lack of engagement in school. They often have poor self-esteem, make poor life decisions and have limited aspirations. The young people, who attend voluntarily, are initially identified by their school as those failing to reach their potential due to low confidence, emotional problems, social withdrawal, relationship difficulties and/or challenging behaviour. The failure arises from a mix of adverse circumstances such as family disruption, abuse and/or neglect, exploitation, ill health, parental ill health, substance misuse and bullying. Hope's Place offers courses to schools throughout Bristol, South Gloucestershire and, occasionally, Bath and North East Somerset.

Evaluation data collected suggests that the girls' *ID* course has been very successful over many years. The boys' course, whilst still having a positive impact, has not been as successful. With this in mind, in June 2024, we undertook a wholesale review of the course and its delivery. This included conversations with organisations taking a variety of approaches to the support of young boys. We suspended delivery of boys' courses whilst we undertook the review. The male facilitator had resigned, having secured full-time employment, so it seemed an ideal opportunity to reassess the effectiveness of the course and explore fresh approaches. Having identified and interviewed a new

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## Trustees' Annual Report

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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boys' group facilitator, with a wealth of experience of supporting boys, he was able to advise us on different approaches. He began redesigning the boys' course in September 2025 and has just delivered his first two *Futures* courses for Hope's Place.

Our charity continues to offer the popular *Aspire* course which comprises whole-class workshops supporting children in their final year of primary school to make the move to secondary school feeling well-informed, confident and enthusiastic.

The appointment of a Senior Facilitator has improved communication with schools and between facilitators and trustees.

The Senior Facilitator has to date:

- Rewritten and improved the documents sent to schools e.g. details of the courses, guidance for selecting the young attendees, our requirements and expectations of the school, communication and safeguarding arrangements.
- Maintained and improved communication with schools which has helped enhance our reputation and has increased demand for our courses.
- Improved the course evaluations undertaken by the young people, to make them user-friendly and to provide better data for analysis.
- Introduced a template for facilitators to provide feedback to school staff at the end of the courses and inviting school staff feedback.
- Introduced a template for facilitators to provide feedback to trustees at the end of each course.
- Reviewed and enhanced the courses to improve their effectiveness and to better meet the needs of the young people.
- Delivered courses in schools and taken the lead in promoting our relatively new primary school courses.
- Introduced and chaired regular facilitator meetings to discuss the course content, individual young people and the effectiveness of the courses, as well as sharing experiences, ideas and strategies.
- Acted as another channel of communication between facilitators and trustees.
- Produced agendas and minutes of the regular Education Meetings of facilitators and trustees.
- Produced promotional materials to be sent to schools.
- Taken a significant role in the appointment of two facilitators.
- Worked closely with newly appointed facilitators who attended her sessions as part of their induction and then delivered sessions jointly with her.
- Spent considerable time with new facilitators to ensure they were fully aware of all aspects of our courses and resources and acted as a mentor once the new facilitators were delivering courses independently.
- Helped provide a wealth of information to our two newly appointed trustees.
- Played a significant role in liaison with Bristol City Council's Safer Options' team who support young people deemed to be at risk of abuse, particularly sexual and criminal exploitation.

## HOPE'S PLACE

### Trustees' Annual Report

#### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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- Safer Options members observed the Senior Facilitator delivering course sessions and have subsequently approached Hope's Place with a view to our facilitators leading courses in primary schools. They have also booked 18 of our ten-week courses for next academic year 2025-26.
- Taken part in a review of the Senior Facilitator role with two trustees.
- Played a significant role in enhancing and expanding our offering. We feel we are on track to deliver more courses and meet our target of supporting 500-700 young people over the three years of the grant.

We have learned the crucial importance and value of close communication with an individual in each school. This allows a professional relationship and trust to develop. The Senior Facilitator has played a key role in improving this aspect of our relationship with schools. The result has been more schools requesting multiple courses.

The importance of having a member of the team who enhances liaison between trustees and facilitators has become evident. Facilitators face challenging situations in many sessions and are party to revelations that many of us find shocking. This demands considerable emotional resilience and can be a source of stress. Having an experienced and very able Senior Facilitator who meets regularly with other facilitators has provided an avenue for talking about the stresses of running sessions and sharing concerns and frustrations. This has been invaluable.

Trustees are now better informed of the welfare and concerns of facilitators as the Senior Facilitator communicates regularly with trustees and is involved in many of the discussions of trustees, including interviews and appointment of staff. The insight and hands-on experience of the Senior Facilitator has been invaluable.

#### **Public Benefit**

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives. All our charitable activities are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for public benefit.

#### **Achievements and performance**

In the 2024-25 academic year, there continued to be considerable demand for courses. As we did not run the boys' course, the number of students supported and courses run were slightly less than in previous years. Such was the severity of the challenges encountered by the young people attending girls' courses, in many instances, we reduced the maximum number of attendees to six rather than ten. Facilitators felt strongly that this was in the best interests of the young people they were supporting.

We ran 25 courses in total, 21 girls' *ID* courses and 4 *Aspire* courses. 138 children and young people attended our ten-week *ID* courses. 120 children attended our *Aspire* course. A total of 258

## HOPE'S PLACE

### Trustees' Annual Report

#### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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children and young people attended courses in the 2024-25 academic year, 24 between September and December 2024, 58 between January and March 2025 and 176 between April and July 2025.

During the last few years, we have noticed a significant increase in the number of children/young people requiring support and a change in the challenges they face. The facilitators report that the young people they support are increasingly exposed to adult themes and sexualised language and behaviours. Many are engaging in sexual activity from a younger age and the pressure to have an intimate sexual partner in the early teenage years and younger is increasingly considered 'normal.' Existing unaddressed trauma or other emotional/attachment needs, social media and pornography are some of the factors contributing to this shift in behaviours and attitudes.

Sexual abuse of children by children is increasing in schools. The National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) report on police reported child sexual abuse and exploitation states that in 2023, 52% of perpetrators of child sexual abuse were aged 10-17 years old; 17% of these cases were rape and 41% the sharing of indecent images of a child. Facilitators at Hope's Place now see that the requesting and exchanging of explicit photos is considered to be an 'expected' stage of many young people's partner relationships. 92% of girls in schools report that sexual harassment happens to them either sometimes or a lot (*Ofsted Review into Sexual Abuse in Schools and Colleges, 2021*) and many of the girls attending courses consider being called sexually derogatory names or receiving sexual threats as a normal part of school life.

Social media has exacerbated young people's desire for validation and, in many cases, has had a negative impact on their self-worth, anxiety levels and wellbeing. Facilitators report an increased focus on body image, more misogynistic behaviour (reported by our previous boys' group facilitator as well as the girls' group facilitators) and teacher-student dissonance caused by blanket behaviour systems at odds with the individual needs of the vulnerable young people.

In 2025, it was reported that 21.2% of children are persistently absent from school (missing more than 10%). Children with SEND and those who are vulnerable or from minority groups are more likely to be absent. 2% of children are not attending school 50% of the time; this has nearly tripled since the pandemic (0.7%). Reasons given by students that we support include anxiety, often the result of bullying or a breakdown of relationships with staff, lack of parental/carer support/interest and inadequate support for learning disabilities.

Hope's Place see some children who use alcohol and drugs (such as nicotine, cannabis or nitrous oxide or ketamine) as coping mechanisms in the absence of appropriate support systems; they use substances to escape their feelings of sadness, anxiety or loneliness.

We see that where unhealthy relationships are present in the home e.g. domestic abuse, children and young people have a reduced understanding of what makes a healthy relationship, and few

## HOPE'S PLACE

### Trustees' Annual Report

#### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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aspirations/expectations for their own relationships. Moreover, some young people's low self-esteem informs them that they are also undeserving of healthy and happy partnerships.

Some of the children we support are grieving the loss of a loved one. Such a loss can have a profound effect on a child's behaviour and academic performance as can the responsibilities of being a carer for a parent or sibling.

Since 2022, we have been supporting Bristol City Council's Safer Connections (previously Safer Options) team by delivering courses for girls, some of whom are being abused or at risk of abuse, including child sexual exploitation.

The increasing seriousness and complexity of the needs of those we support has prompted Hope's Place to look at how we might better support young people, perhaps with ongoing drop-in sessions and/or follow-up sessions after the ten-week course has been completed.

We continue to explore the possibility of collaboration with other charities, with a similar focus on young people and are delighted that our new boys' course facilitator is intending to incorporate visits of young men who recognise the impact of the bad decisions they made when young but have now managed to turn their lives around.

We have been running a primary course called Aspire for the last four years. The course focuses upon transition to secondary school and the many anxieties Year Six children have prior to going to secondary school. It has proved very popular with children and teaching staff.

Feedback from the young people attending our courses has been encouraging. Comments include:

*"I enjoyed learning how to control emotions."*

*"It helped understanding other people and their feelings."*

*"It was good that we got to talk about our feelings."*

*"I found it very useful because I could be myself."*

*"I found it easier to talk about my problems in front of this group. Also finding that other people relate to me."*

*"I got more confident going to this group and I can finally talk about things."*

*"I learned the signs of healthy/unhealthy relationships which was really helpful, and I learnt that people are struggling with all different worries and my struggles are valid."*

- Staff are asked to complete a form detailing the impact of courses: e.g.:

*"We have seen a shift and a direct impact on our pupils who have attended the sessions."* Assistant Head - Pastoral Care at a Bristol secondary school

*"Hope's Place provides a bespoke service for the collective needs of our students. [The Facilitator] has incredible pastoral skills and knows how to meet our students in the midst of adversity. One of our*

## HOPE'S PLACE

### Trustees' Annual Report

#### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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*students has demonstrated tremendous growth by opening up to staff and discussing mental health issues thanks to the work of the Hope's Place girls' group. Another student shared that she has a better bond with her peers and feels more settled in her year group. In addition, we have seen an improvement in attendance since the sessions started."*

Senior Manager at a Bristol Academy

#### **Evidence of Need**

There is a wealth of evidence indicating that a considerable number of young people in Bristol face challenges in relation to mental wellbeing and/or life satisfaction. According to *Thrive Bristol*, an organisation aiming to improve mental health and wellbeing within the city by working with schools and community organisations, 12.8% of children (5-18 years) in Bristol are estimated to have a mental health problem at any one time. The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Bristol (2024/25) reports that young people in Bristol have lower life satisfaction than the national average. According to *Bristol World*, in the 12 months to May 2025, 7,505 children and young people had at least one contact with mental health services and 2,385 were waiting to be seen.

The JSNA profile indicates that self-harm admission rates for young people in Bristol have risen in recent years and are "significantly higher than the national average."

The Office for National Statistics reported lower life satisfaction, lower "worthwhile" ratings and higher anxiety compared to the England average.

Deprivation is a major factor contributing to poor mental wellbeing in young people. JSNA states that 28% of those living in deprived areas report poor mental wellbeing. Young people who are or have been in the care system were found to be particularly vulnerable; the University of Bristol found 50% of 16–17 year olds acquainted with the system rated their wellbeing as poor.

Some key concerns of young people in Bristol have been explained in the previous section. There are also concerns around safety and security; *A Bristol World* survey found knife crime is "the leading issue" for young people in the city. *Bristol Safer Options Approach 2020-2030* states "Bristol has experienced in Serious Youth Violence offences ... incidents of knife crime, actual bodily harm, grievous bodily harm and gun crime." The report also highlights the negative impact of this on young people's mental wellbeing, school engagement and learning.

Young Bristol has also identified young people's concerns about future employment prospects, financial security and their perceived inability to influence decisions. These, combined with concerns about international conflicts and the environment, explain why many young people view their future as bleak.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## Trustees' Annual Report

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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Nationally, *The Good Childhood Report 2025*, an evidence-based report, identified a growing gap between young people's expectations and their lived realities. This was viewed as the result of a variety of factors including:

- Pressure to achieve at school
- The impact of the digital world and social media
- A sense of reduction in the options and opportunities for children and young people to make change in their own lives and in wider society.

Professionals felt these factors contributed to a worrying lack of hope for the future that they saw in many of the children and young people they worked with.

The children and young people Hope's Place supports are identified by the schools as those experiencing many of the challenges outlined in this report which are severely hampering their ability to engage with school and realise their potential.

#### **Funding**

Our income comes primarily from awards by grant making bodies. Few applications were made during the prior year but activity resumed this year. 23 applications were made of which 5 were successful. We are particularly grateful to awards from the Singer Foundation and the Nisbet Trust, the latter awarding us a 3-year grant.

Trustees themselves have historically made the applications. Late in the year, trustees decided to 'share the load' and an external party was appointed to make additional applications.

We are also grateful to a number of individuals who continue to make private donations each month.

#### **Financials**

The aforementioned resumption of grant applications was the prime reason for the reported increase in our income from £8,654 (prior year) to £41,072. Income from charitable activities represent our charges primarily to Bristol City Council ('Safer Connections') which continues to be at a heavily subsidised rate.

Year-on-year spend remains much as prior year, all of which is considered as 'routine spend'. Around 80% of this continues as the direct costs of running our courses, the balance as overheads. We have no office costs. The considerable time and support offered by trustees (e.g. managing our facilitators) continues to be voluntary.

In year ended 2025 we made a surplus of income over expenditure of £8,628 (2024: net deficit of £24,697). Other than this, there are no other significant changes between our opening and closing balance sheet values.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## Trustees' Annual Report

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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### Trustees

Two new trustees were appointed early in the year, the first such appointments for almost 10 years. Both have significant experience and knowledge relevant to the charity, to include charity administration and working with boys in their early teens. The latter addressed one of the risks identified in our prior report, the need to recruit a boys' facilitator.

Eight trustee meetings were held during the year, each with a formal agenda, reports around finance and fund-raising supplemented by minutes. Specific agenda items included:

- The review and approval of HR documents such as the employee's contract
- How best to evaluate the effectiveness of our courses including the creation of a dashboard.
- Review and approval of policies, to include our annual review of Safeguarding and Child Protection plus once-every-three-year reviews of Health & Safety, and of Complaints. At year-end, 14 policies were in place.
- The recruitment of a third facilitator
- Updates to our website
- Risk management
- How the charity makes best use of AI.

Outside these meetings, trustees are in regular contact with each other and with our facilitators both to manage and monitor the progress of our work and also to identify and manage any new issues and concerns.

### Risk Assessment

During the year, trustees started to build a risk matrix identifying for each identified risk the probability, likely impact and the mitigation. This work was completed and the matrix formally approved shortly after year-end.

The key risks identified were funding, the reliance on one bank signatory (now two signatories operate) and the recruitment of suitably qualified facilitators, particularly for our boys' courses.

### Reserves Policy

This continues to be defined as to maintain free reserves to cover, at least, the projected next six months of expenditure. Unrestricted reserves of £19,932 at the start of 2025/26 were above the projected spend of £12,749 (or else half of the year's budget spend).

### The year ahead

At year-end, Hope's Place has a strong team of facilitators, of trustees plus the requisite knowledge and experience to continue to fulfil its objectives.

### Governing Document

Hope's Place was incorporated in May 2004 as a company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission in July 2004. The charity's governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. This document is being professionally reviewed with the intent that Trustees will formally approve an updated version that is accepted by the Charity Commission during year 2026.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## Trustees' Annual Report

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Recruitment and appointment of trustees

New trustees invited to join the board are selected on the basis of their experience and skills. A role profile has been written for potential new trustees which includes the need for DBS certification. The induction process includes an invitation to attend a board meeting, the provision of the appropriate governing documents for review and discussions with existing board members. The personal networks of existing trustees have in the recent past proved adequate in identifying potential new trustees although other sources would also be considered if required.

#### Organisation

Hope's Place has, at August 2025, five trustees, all active. The board which administers the charity formally met on eight occasions during the year to 31 August 2025.

#### Responsibilities of the Trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Hope's Place for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the strategic report and directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgments and accounting 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 financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

Approved by the trustees on .....<sup>26th May 2026</sup>..... and signed on their behalf by:

*Robin Williams*

.....  
Robin Williams (Chair)

## HOPE'S PLACE

### Reference and Administrative Information

#### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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TRUSTEES	Mr D Cottrell (appointed 17 September 2024) Mrs F Hallworth (appointed 17 September 2024) Mr A Richards Mr JG Sykes Mr R Williams (Chair) Mrs N Hancock (resigned 17 September 2024)
SECRETARY	Mr R Williams
REGISTERED OFFICE	The Clock Tower 5 Farleigh Court Old Weston Road Flax Bourton Bristol BS48 1UR
COMPANY NUMBER	05134542
CHARITY NUMBER	1105139
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Joshua Kingston, BSc., FCA Burton Sweet Limited The Clock Tower 5 Farleigh Court Old Weston Road Flax Bourton Bristol BS48 1UR

# HOPE'S PLACE

## Independent Examiner's Report

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 August 2025.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

#### Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

*Joshua Kingston*

Joshua Kingston BSc., FCA  
Burton Sweet Limited  
The Clock Tower  
5 Farleigh Court  
Old Weston Road  
Flax Bourton  
Bristol BS48 1UR

Date: ..26th May 2026

## HOPE'S PLACE

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations	2	28,571	2,000	30,571	2,342
Charitable activities	3	5,725	4,500	10,225	5,875
Other Income		12	-	12	-
Investment income		264	-	264	437
<b>Total income</b>		<u>34,572</u>	<u>6,500</u>	<u>41,072</u>	<u>8,654</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	4	22,273	10,128	32,401	33,351
Raising funds		43	-	43	-
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>22,316</u>	<u>10,128</u>	<u>32,444</u>	<u>33,351</u>
<b>Net income/expenditure and movement in funds</b>	5	12,256	(3,628)	8,628	(24,697)
<b>Total funds at 1 September</b>	11	7,676	20,000	27,676	52,373
<b>Total funds at 31 August</b>	11	<u>19,932</u>	<u>16,372</u>	<u>36,304</u>	<u>27,676</u>

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above

All of the activities of the charitable company are classed as continuing

Comparative Statement of Financial Activites are shown in note 8

The notes on pages 14 to 19 form part of these financial statements

# HOPE'S PLACE

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

Company Registration Number 05134542

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	10,325	500
Cash at bank		<u>27,264</u>	<u>29,049</u>
		37,589	29,549
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	(1,285)	(1,873)
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>36,304</u>	<u>27,676</u>
<b>Income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	12	19,932	7,676
Restricted funds	12	16,372	20,000
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>36,304</u>	<u>27,676</u>

For the year ended 31 August 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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 Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 26th May 2026 and are signed on their behalf by:

*Robin Williams*

Robin Williams  
(Trustee)

*Tony Richards*

Tony Richards  
(Trustee)

The notes on pages 14 to 19 form part of these financial statements

# HOPE'S PLACE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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### 1 Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention (except where otherwise stated in the accounting policy note) and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

There are no material uncertainties casting doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation and allocated to the same fund as the original donation.

#### Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

#### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees. Designated funds are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

#### Debtors

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

#### Cash & cash equivalents

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

#### Creditors

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

### 2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations	1,087	-	1,087	1,092
Grant Income	27,000	2,000	29,000	1,250
Gift Aid	484	-	484	-
	<u>28,571</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>30,571</u>	<u>2,342</u>

Income from Donations in the prior year was unrestricted.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 3 Income on Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Fees	5,725	4,500	10,225	5,875
	5,725	4,500	10,225	5,875

Income from charitable activities in the prior year was unrestricted.

### 4 Expenditure on Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £
<b>Direct costs</b>			
Staff costs (Note 6)	12,243	10,128	22,371
Staff supervision	575	-	575
Materials and other costs	-	-	-
Training	98	-	98
Establishment costs/meetings	2,211	-	2,211
Travel	1,019	-	1,019
IT	1,430	-	1,430
Professional fees	1,095	-	1,095
Insurance	586	-	586
Other	-	-	-
<b>Governance Costs</b>			
Accountancy fees	3,016	-	3,016
Trustee insurance	-	-	-
	22,273	10,128	32,401

#### Prior Year

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
<b>Direct costs</b>			
Staff costs	12,827	10,000	22,827
Staff supervision	750	-	750
Training	39	-	39
Establishment costs	1,698	-	1,698
Travel	1,099	-	1,099
IT	1,742	-	1,742
Professional fees	1,459	-	1,459
Insurance	783	-	783
Other	991	-	991
<b>Governance Costs</b>			
Accountancy fees	1,964	-	1,964
	23,351	10,000	33,351

## HOPE'S PLACE

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### 5 Net income for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's fee: for current year independent examination	1,140	1,008

#### 6 Staff costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries and pension contributions	22,181	23,157
Social security costs	-	-
Employer's pension costs	190	200
	<u>22,371</u>	<u>23,357</u>

Key management personnel of the Charity are the Trustees. No benefits were paid either in the current or previous years.

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

No Trustees have been remunerated or reimbursed for their out of pocket travel expenses or waived any expenses (2024: Nil).

During the year, donations of £nil (2024: £nil) were received from trustees and related parties.

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for eligible employees.  
The average weekly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Facilitators	3	3

#### 7 Taxation

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

# HOPE'S PLACE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 8 Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations (Including Gift aid)	2,342	-	2,342
Charitable activities			
Fees	5,875	-	5,875
Other Income	-	-	-
Investment income	437	-	437
<b>Total income</b>	<u>8,654</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,654</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities	23,351	10,000	33,351
Raising funds	-	-	-
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>23,351</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>33,351</u>
<b>Net income/expenditure</b>	(14,697)	(10,000)	(24,697)
<b>Total funds at 1 September</b>	22,373	30,000	52,373
<b>Total funds at 31 August</b>	<u>7,676</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>27,676</u>

### 9 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	325	500
Accrued Income	10,000	-
	<u>325</u>	<u>500</u>

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

	2025 £	2024 £
PAYE	(6)	230
Trade Creditors	-	284
Wages/Pension payable	42	279
Accruals	1,249	1,080
	<u>1,285</u>	<u>1,873</u>

## HOPE'S PLACE

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

#### 11 Movement in funds

	At 01-Sep 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31-Aug 2025 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	7,676	34,572	(22,316)	-	19,932
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Bain Donation	20,000	-	(10,000)	-	10,000
Safer Options	-	4,500	-	-	4,500
Magdalen Hospital	-	2,000	(128)	-	1,872
	<u>20,000</u>	<u>6,500</u>	<u>(10,128)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,372</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>27,676</u>	<u>41,072</u>	<u>(32,444)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,304</u>

#### Movement in funds - prior year

	At 01-Sep 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31-Aug 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	22,373	8,654	(23,351)	-	7,676
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Bain donation	30,000	-	(10,000)	-	20,000
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>52,373</u>	<u>8,654</u>	<u>(33,351)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,676</u>

#### Restricted funds

Bain donation - Hope's Place successfully applied to the Bain Capital Fund for £30,000 from September 2023, being 3 years funding for the role of Senior Facilitator. This new role includes responsibility for liaison with schools, previously performed by one of our (volunteer) trustees.

Safer Options - Funds have been received to cover staff costs for courses that will be implemented in 2025–26.

Magdalen Hospital - Funds received to cover staff costs

## HOPE'S PLACE

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

#### 12 Analysis of funds

As at 31 August 2025	Bank Balances £	Net Current Liabilities £	Total £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	10,892	9,040	19,932
<b>Restricted funds</b>	16,372	-	16,372
	<u>27,264</u>	<u>9,040</u>	<u>36,304</u>

As at 31 August 2024	Bank Balances £	Net Current Liabilities £	Total £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	9,049	(1,373)	7,676
<b>Restricted funds</b>	20,000	-	20,000
	<u>29,049</u>	<u>(1,373)</u>	<u>27,676</u>

#### 13 Company limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee having no share capital. Every member is liable to contribute £1 towards the costs of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the charity in the event of the charity being wound up.

#### 14 Related parties

Natalie Hancock served as a trustee of Hope's Place from 10 November 2022 to 30 November 2024. During the financial year Octane Accountants Ltd, of which Natalie Hancock is a director, had received £1,410 from Hope's Place (2024: £1,340).

**HOPE'S PLACE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1105139

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# Accounts

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**HOPE'S PLACE**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS  
31 AUGUST 2023**

**Company Number 05134542**

**Charity Number 1105139**

Registered Office:  
The Clock Tower  
5 Farleigh Court  
Old Weston Road  
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Bristol. BS48 1UR

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# HOPE'S PLACE

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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The trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their report and financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 August 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102) Accounting and Reporting by Charities in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

#### **1. Objectives**

The charity's main objectives are the advancement of education and promotion of the health of young people. Specifically, we work to raise their self-esteem and encourage resilience i.e. the capacity to overcome adversity and cope with challenges without manifesting mental health or behavioural problems.

#### **2. Our work**

We work through the provision of specialist support (facilitators) to secondary and increasingly primary schools in the Bristol area. They provide gender specific courses of weekly sessions over 8-10 weeks with an average of seven young people per course. Course content focuses on mental health and wellbeing and is adapted to meet the needs and age profile of each group. The content is reviewed regularly to ensure effectiveness and relevance. Pupils attending are identified by school staff, who best know their individual needs and attend on a voluntary basis.

We also continue to offer our Aspire course. This comprises workshops, usually for a whole class, to enable children in their final year of primary to make the move to secondary education feeling well-informed, confident and enthusiastic.

The facilitators are independent of the school which allows the young people attending courses to speak frankly and with a refreshing openness and honesty, surrounded by a small group of peers often facing similar challenges. As a consequence of the challenges faced, the young people are often failing to reach their potential due to low confidence, emotional problems, social withdrawal, relationship difficulties and/or challenging behaviour. This often manifests itself in a lack of hope, of aspiration and of the confidence to make the most of opportunities available to them. In some instances, this can lead to extreme behaviour including self-destructive behaviour. Hope's Place works with these young people to raise their self-esteem and encourage resilience.

It is a Hope's Place requirement that facilitators maintain a close relationship with school staff, ensuring they have a good understanding of the young peoples' educational and pastoral needs and interests. They provide detailed feedback to schools and understand their duty to keep school staff informed of any safeguarding concerns. Concerns regarding a particular young person sometimes necessitates additional meetings with staff to ensure consistency of approach and the essential sharing of information. A member of school staff is required to be available throughout Hope's Place sessions.

#### **3. Public benefit**

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives. All our charitable activities are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 4. Achievements and performance

Demand for courses throughout the 2022-23 academic year continued to increase, reflecting the significant impact of the pandemic and subsequent school closures on young people's mental wellbeing and engagement with school and learning.

Hope's Place educational facilitators have been busy delivering our ten-week courses (*Man Up?* and *ID*) to seven boys' groups and eighteen girls' groups. In addition, facilitators have run six of our *Aspire* courses (transition to secondary education) for coeducational groups.

Interest in our courses grew as the academic year progressed; we ran seven courses between September and December, nine from January to March and fifteen from April to July.

Three hundred and forty-seven young people attended the thirty-one courses we ran over the year. This was an increase from two hundred and fifty-two last year. Facilitators worked in a combination of schools that had used our services previously and schools seeking our support for the first time.

As a charity with Bristol City Council approval/recognition, Hope's Place support was sought by the Council's Safer Options team who assist young people deemed to be victims or at risk of sexual and/or criminal exploitation. As in 2021-22, Hope's Place delivered courses in schools in which Safer Options had identified particular concern for girls' wellbeing. Throughout the year, we delivered sixteen girls' group courses for Safer Options. It is testament to the success of these courses that Safer Options have lent their support to a further seventeen courses next academic year (2023-24).

Feedback from the young people attending Hope's Place courses has been encouraging. Comments on the 10-week courses (*ID and Man Up?*) feedback forms include:

#### **Areas of most improvement**

*"I'm happy to be myself even if that means being a bit different to everyone else."*

*"I know what healthy friendships and relationships look like."*

*"I believe the bad stuff in my life isn't necessarily my fault."*

*"I feel like a loveable person."*

*"I know how to cope when my feelings overwhelm me."*

*"I feel like I deserve to be loved, accepted and respected."*

#### **What have you found helpful? Have you learned anything new?**

*"That not everyone is going to like you but that doesn't mean there's anything wrong with you, it's just the way of life."*

*"I feel less overwhelmed. I can be more myself."*

*"Being in a group where people understand you, feeling less overwhelmed, feeling good about myself and who I am."*

*"I have learned a few new things like not everyone has to be the same it's ok to be different."*

*"I have found it helpful when Anna tells us that we are enough."*

*"I have found the safe space really helpful! I love the fact that I feel like I can be open."*

*"I found that being able to talk about things people wouldn't usually bring up has been very nice."*

*"Being able to talk about similar experiences and not being awkward."*

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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*"To realise how good life can be later on in life / finding out what I want for the future."*

*"The stuff about my future and understanding other people's feelings."*

*"It's been helpful chatting about things you can't normally without getting in trouble."*

*"Learning about other people."*

*"Talking about manliness and stuff."*

*"Getting to know things and know more about people."*

*"Talking about life and stuff as you grow up."*

*"Learning about relationships and how good and bad ones look like."*

*"Things about just general life and other useful things."*

*"I like the fact sir listen to us and talk about anything and discuss stuff."*

*"Talking to ... about life and social challenges."*

*"The social challenges and how to act around people."*

*"How to accept others."*

*"Not everyone thinks the same as you."*

Feedback on the two-week transition to secondary school course (*Aspire*) has been similarly positive. Comments include:

*"I found out so much stuff about secondary school that I didn't know before."*

*"I learned that I can be brave."*

*"I really enjoyed learning what it will be like. It made me confident. Thank you."*

*"I was confused before. Now I'm not."*

*"I found everything helpful because I did not know anything."*

*"No matter what happens, it's important to look after yourself and ask for help if you need it."*

*"I really found it helpful to be able to ask questions and learning that it's better than it's said to be."*

*"It made me feel less scared and nervous knowing that it isn't that bad."*

*"I found out a lot of things about secondary school and I'm really excited now!"*

At September 2023, all our facilitators will, for the first time, be working to capacity and consideration will be given to the recruitment of a second boys' group facilitator.

We were aware that one of our girls' group facilitators would leave us in December 2022 because of increasing family commitments. Initially it proved difficult to recruit her replacement (thanks to our existing girls' facilitator for taking up the slack) but it was our good fortune that the role was subsequently taken by a well-respected and well-experienced previous facilitator who was willing to re-join us. Also in late 2022, our boys' facilitator left after eight years' service in order to increase his hours with another of his part-time jobs. We were delighted to find his replacement quickly, indeed there was a short period of handover which proved most useful. We are greatly indebted to both facilitators who left during the year. Their expertise and skilled delivery have been of benefit to many, many young people and to our charity.

Both newly appointed facilitators have embraced their roles and have received very positive feedback from young people and school staff.

The pandemic and resultant increased security and school closures had prevented trustees from visiting facilitators in school. It is pleasing to report that trustee visits have now resumed. A written report is produced after each visit, focusing on learning, relationships, successes and ways in which aspects of the courses might be improved.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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The impact of pressures on young people is well-documented and seemingly increasing. In response to this, Hope's Place courses are constantly being modified to meet the needs of young people generally and of specific groups and individuals. Our new boys' group facilitator has undertaken considerable research and has produced numerous fresh resources to aid course delivery, whilst the girls' group course has a wealth of resources, created over many years, which are subject to continuous review. Facilitators meet regularly to review all courses and resources. This year, facilitators have undertaken further training, focusing upon topics which included safeguarding, self-harm and Child Protection.

It is anticipated that demand for Hope's Place courses will continue to grow as young people's mental wellbeing is likely to be further threatened as families face considerable economic hardship and the impact of lockdowns on the school attendance and social development of young people becomes more apparent. Undoubtedly, there are many young people and schools that would benefit from the support Hope's Place offers. This greater need is reflected in the interest shown when we approach schools.

#### **5. Evidence of Need**

Research highlights that young people's mental wellbeing is of increasing concern nationally and locally. Lockdowns, necessitated by the pandemic, social pressures and economic hardship are having a detrimental effect on the mental health of young people.

Nationally 1 in 6 children experience mental health difficulties, rising to 1 in 4 for young people aged 17–19. (*Mental Health in Children and Young People 2022*). Over 400,000 children and young people are treated for mental health and wellbeing problems every month in the UK. Research has illustrated that half of mental health issues develop by the age of fourteen and the childhood mental wellbeing is the foundation for health outcomes, social outcomes and educational attainment throughout an individual's life. *JSNA 2021*

There is also clear evidence that children and young people's mental wellbeing is deteriorating. In 2021, 39.2% of children and young people aged 6 to 16 years had experienced a deterioration in mental health since 2017. *Mental Health of Children and Young People, NHS Digital Sept. 2021* There are clear indications from the results of the Bristol Pupil Voice survey, for both primary and secondary school pupils, that Bristol young people's mental wellbeing has worsened between 2019 and 2022.

In addition, school absenteeism, both nationally and within Bristol has worsened. Attendance data from the Dept. for Education has revealed that absences in the spring term 2023 were still 50% higher than before the pandemic, while in 2021-22 more than one in five secondary pupils were deemed to be "persistently absent" i.e. missing 10% or more of sessions. The Local Government Association concluded that "Anxiety and mental health concerns are the most significant drivers behind the recent increase in persistent/severe absence from school" (*April 2023*).

In Bristol 55% of primary pupils and 51% of secondary pupils said they had been absent from school in the last month. These figures are significantly higher than pre-pandemic (*Bristol Pupil Voice Survey 2023*) and strongly suggests an increasing number of students are disengaged from learning and school.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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The Institute for Fiscal Studies predicts that this lost learning will continue to impact on young people into adulthood resulting in lower incomes, higher inequality and social ills. Many of the students attending Hope's Place courses have a very poor record of school attendance and one of the aims of the courses is to help students recognise the value of schooling for future wellbeing and to raise aspirations.

Public Health England recognises that "...educational settings play a key role in promoting important knowledge and skills which are protective factors for mental and physical wellbeing throughout the whole life course." *Public Health England 2020*. Hope's Place is able to offer support in areas recognised by Public Health England as crucially important: resilience, social skills and healthy living.

A significant cause of poor mental health is economic deprivation. Bristol is a vibrant, growing city whose population is among the most diverse in the country, yet a third of young people grow up in poverty and homelessness and poor mental health are more prevalent than the national average (*Voscur, the development agency for Bristol's Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector, 2023*).

Bristol has a high proportion of young people who belong to groups that are vulnerable to poor mental health and children and young people in Bristol have higher than national rates of hospital admissions for mental health conditions and for self-harm (*JSNA 2021-22*). There is a strong association between self-harm and mental health conditions such as depression. It is also a key risk factor for suicide.

Data from the 2022 Bristol Pupil Voice survey suggests that Bristol secondary school pupils continue to be offered a wide range of illegal drugs and e-vaping is on the increase. 5% of secondary school boys and 11% of secondary school girls who responded to the Bristol Pupil Voice survey said that they harm or cut themselves as a means of dealing with their problems.

Common topics of worry overall were family, crime, war/terrorists, moving on to secondary school, staying safe at home and outside school, being bullied and the environment. Falling out with friends was a greater source of concern to female pupils (43%) than male pupils (32%), as was being bullied (female 29% vs male 18%).

Worrying about the way you look, which was recorded at its lowest level in 2015, has grown considerably as an apparent source of worry since then.

21% of secondary pupils reported that there was shouting and arguing at home in the month before the survey that worried them. 6% of pupils responded that there has been bullying/controlling behaviour at home in the month before the survey that worried them and 8% of secondary pupils responded that there was violence at home in the month before the survey. The proportions of pupils reporting these behaviours in the home were higher in the 2022 survey than those found in the 2019 survey. Pupils witnessing any of these issues in the home were more than twice as likely to report self-harming behaviour.

Of particular concern was the responses of 7% of boys who felt that hitting a partner was acceptable as "They probably deserved it." Students who said there was violence at home were more likely to agree that someone hit by a boy/girlfriend 'probably deserved it'. Healthy relationships are a key focus of the Hope's Place courses.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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Young people in Bristol face a myriad of challenges and when those surveyed were tested, 14% of students had a low score on the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (WEMWBS) an increase from 9% in 2019.

Hope's Place supports those facing particularly challenging circumstances and seeks to address many of the concerns that young people have and the impact these have on their mental wellbeing.

#### **6. Impact**

Hope's Place continued its evaluation of the impact of courses, based on a set of questions answered by the boys and girls at the start and end of the courses. Each question measures an attitude based on a ten-point scale, covering such issues as positive relationships, emotional intelligence, resilience and self-image. Improvements in such attitudes are difficult to measure and schoolchildren are liable to make quite fluctuating self-assessments, but a general trend does emerge. The girls showed a statistically significant average improvement of 8.6 points, while improvement per boy was less marked, but still positive.

What cannot be measured so easily are the personal responses to the courses, made by pupils and teaching staff. Feedback from school staff has been encouraging and include:

*"This is the first intervention I've come across that's actually had a lasting impact."* (Deputy Head Teacher)

*"Thank you once again for another amazing group. The girls have absolutely loved it and I have seen them grow so much in confidence through their sessions with you."*

#### **7. Funding**

We started 2022/23 with unrestricted reserves slightly above our budget level of spend for the year such that our fund-raising activity has been, with one exception, minimal.

The one exception was an application, Spring 2023, to the Bain Capital Children's Fund Europe (who previously awarded us a grant in year 2020). Our application (£30,000 for a 3-year grant) was to fund one of our facilitators both in her school support work and additionally in a newly paid role to administer our courses as well as to monitor the effectiveness of Hope's Place courses, resources and facilitators. This new role was for many years previously that of a volunteer trustee who for personal reasons stood down from the work at the end of the academic year.

We are delighted to report that our application was successful with receipt of the grant in June 2023. As a 3-year grant toward the payroll cost of a specific role, we report it as 'restricted'.

Other sources of income are the fees charged for each course (a £75 minimum per course, unchanged for almost 10 years) as well as a few personal monthly donations. The latter have been regular donors for many years for which we express our continuing appreciation.

Our unrestricted reserves at year-end equate to more than half of relevant spend during year 23/24, such that fund-raising activity will continue as minimal during the early part of the year. However, given the time taken to make new funding applications, which may or may not be successful, we plan to resume this activity early in 2024. We are grateful that our part-time fundraiser, who of late has spent little time on our behalf, nevertheless is ready to resume work with us at the time.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### **8. Financials (figures in italics are prior year)**

During Autumn 2022, our Finance Trustee, who had acted as our treasurer since 2014, stepped down from the work (to become Chair of Hope's Place). We initially sought another volunteer as a replacement, but this was unsuccessful. We therefore advertised this as a paid role leading to the appointment of a local firm of accountants in early 2023. Changes were made at the time to a number of our processes such as ledgers, payroll and banking. The handover went smoothly.

As reported under Funding, the year's income consisted primarily of a single grant supported by course fees and personal donations.

Total spend over the year was £25,823 (2022: £28,362) most of which relates to the payroll costs of facilitators. On-going accountancy fees increased during the year, due to the appointment of the external accountancy firm were no significant ad hoc costs during the year (prior year included an ad hoc training cost of £2,025).

Mainly due to the Bain funding, reserves increased by £8,885 (2022: deficit of £20,576) during the year from £43,488 to £52,373 (of which unrestricted reserves were £22,373).

It should be recognised that the four trustees continue to give freely their time and are actively involved in the management of Hope's Place.

### **9. Trustees**

After eight years with the same four trustees, as previously mentioned our Finance Trustee (Robin Williams) stepped down for personal reason from the role in early 2023, albeit continuing as a trustee as Chair (previously vacant). It is to be noted that for a brief period, his successor was also appointed as a trustee but as a paid role, this appointment was cancelled soon after. Our new treasurer attends board meetings solely for matters 'financial'.

All volunteer their time not just at formal meetings but also to provide a number of support services to include the management of our facilitators. Some services are however now having to be bought-in such as accounting and facilitator administration (the latter funded by the Bain grant).

Trustees are in regular informal contact with each other between meetings as well as with our facilitators.

Six formal meetings were held across the year, a mix of virtual and in person meetings. A draft agenda is issued beforehand with draft minutes published within a few days of each meeting. Additionally, during April 2023 Trustees met to review primarily our Governance and our Public Profile. A number of actions were identified (particularly around Governance), some of which are still live in Autumn 2023.

Three policies were reviewed, updated as necessary and formally approved during the year - Safeguarding and Child Protection, Complaints and Health & Safety. Other policies will be similarly reviewed during the coming year.

Trustees have undertaken safeguarding training, in line with Hope's Place policy and best practice. Trustees and facilitators will attend a cyber security course planned for the near future.

A 'Central Register' is maintained for all trustees as well as other staff. This includes current data as to (e.g.) individual DBS certificate numbers.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 10. Risk Assessment

Once more, it is pleasing to state that the principal risk to Hope's Place (unsuccessful funding applications causing cash-flow problems) continues to be mitigated by the relatively high level of reserves.

Risk however continues with our current four Trustees who, having retired from their professional lives, have all been in the role for many years. The difficulty to recruit additional (let alone to replace) trustees continues despite 'best efforts' e.g. word of mouth and 'Trustees sought' advertisements in local publications. As already mentioned, roles performed by volunteer trustees are increasingly becoming paid roles.

One other risk is the difficulty we find to recruit facilitators, either to replace a leaver or else to meet the growing demand for our work. Whilst there has been success during the past year, we have an undoubted exposure to identify suitably qualified candidates, particularly a boys' facilitator. This is due to both the need for relevant qualifications and experience as well as the need for a facilitator to offer the flexible working hours which the role necessitates.

### 11. Reserves Policy

This continues to be defined as to maintain free reserves to cover, at least, the projected next six months of expenditure, this amounts to £12,912. Unrestricted reserves of £22,373 at end 2022/23 are consistent with this, the 2023/24 budget spend being set at £36,772. Any excess reserves at end of the budget year will be used in future years.

### 12. The year ahead

Whilst Hope's Place will continue with its challenges and risks, in many ways it starts the year 23/24 in a strong position, probably as strong as it has ever been in over 20 years existence. We are currently blessed with three excellent facilitators who, whilst they work at different schools, also work well together as a team. We have a sound financial base and dedicated trustees.

Safer Options (Bristol City Council) have requested that we run twelve ten-week courses for girls facing extreme challenges including being a victim or at risk of exploitation. In addition, demand for boys' courses is on the increase and we are considering employing a second facilitator for the boys' groups. Facilitators have undertaken extensive training over the past year, targeting the areas of most concern for the young people who attend our courses.

Following the success of the "Aspire" course and the excellent feedback received, we intend to promote "Aspire" vigorously by approaching more primary schools.

As the work of Hope's Place develops/evolves, it is important that our website reflects changes and is fit-for-purpose, enabling visitors to find the information they require easily. During next year a review and revamp of the website will be undertaken.

We shall continue to seek new trustees of Hope's Place to ensure continuity and the future development and health of the charity.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 13. Governing Document

Hope's Place was incorporated in May 2004 as a company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission in July 2004. The charity's governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. As previously mentioned, this document is being professionally reviewed with the intent that Trustees will formally approve an updated version during early 2024.

### 14. Recruitment and appointment of trustees

New trustees invited to join the board are selected on the basis of their experience and skills. A role profile has been written for potential new trustees. The induction process includes an invitation to attend a board meeting, the provision of the appropriate governing documents for review and discussions with existing board members. The personal networks of existing trustees have in the recent past proved adequate in identifying potential new trustees although other sources would also be considered if required.

### 15. Organisation

Hope's Place has, at August 2023, four trustees, all active. The board which administers the charity formally met on six occasions during the year to 31 August 2023.

## Responsibilities of the Trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Hope's Place for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the strategic report and directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting 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 financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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Approved by the trustees on 09 April 2024 and signed on their behalf by

*Robin Williams*

.....

Robin Williams (Chair)

# HOPE'S PLACE

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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<b>TRUSTEES</b>	Mrs A Bath Mr R Williams Mr A Richards Mr J G Sykes Ms N Hancock (appointed 10 November 2022 and resigned 1 May 2023)
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Mr R Williams
<b>REGISTERED OFFICE</b>	The Clock Tower 5 Farleigh Court Old Weston Road Flax Bourton Bristol BS48 1UR
<b>COMPANY NUMBER</b>	05134542
<b>CHARITY NUMBER</b>	1105139
<b>INDEPENDENT EXAMINER</b>	Joshua Kingston, BSc., ACA Burton Sweet Limited The Clock Tower 5 Farleigh Court Old Weston Road Flax Bourton Bristol BS48 1UR

# HOPE'S PLACE

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 August 2023.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

### Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

*Joshua Kingston*

Joshua Kingston BSc., ACA  
Burton Sweet Limited  
The Clock Tower  
5 Farleigh Court  
Old Weston Road  
Flax Bourton  
Bristol BS48 1UR

Date: 09 April 2024

## HOPE'S PLACE

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations	2	2,174	30,000	32,174	1,211
Charitable activities	3	1,900	-	1,900	6,125
Other Income		100	-	100	428
Investment income		534	-	534	22
<b>Total income</b>		<b>4,708</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>34,708</b>	<b>7,786</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	4	23,173	2,650	25,823	28,122
Raising funds		-	-	-	240
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>23,173</b>	<b>2,650</b>	<b>25,823</b>	<b>28,362</b>
<b>Net income/expenditure and movement in funds</b>	5	<b>(18,465)</b>	<b>27,350</b>	<b>8,885</b>	<b>(20,576)</b>
<b>Total funds at 1 September</b>	11	<b>40,838</b>	<b>2,650</b>	<b>43,488</b>	<b>64,064</b>
<b>Total funds at 31 August</b>	11	<b>22,373</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>52,373</b>	<b>43,488</b>

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above

All of the activities of the charitable company are classed as continuing

Comparative Statement of Financial Activites are shown in note 8

The notes on pages 17 to 22 form part of these financial statements

# HOPE'S PLACE

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

Company Registration Number 05134542

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	550	850
Cash at bank		<u>54,863</u>	<u>45,007</u>
		55,413	45,857
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	(3,040)	(2,369)
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>52,373</u>	<u>43,488</u>
<b>Income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	12	22,373	40,838
Restricted funds	12	30,000	2,650
Total funds		<u>52,373</u>	<u>43,488</u>

For the year ended 31 August 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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 Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 09 April 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:

*Robin Williams*

Robin Williams  
(Trustee)

*Amanda Bath*

Amanda Bath  
(Trustee)

The notes on pages 17 to 22 form part of these financial statements

# HOPE'S PLACE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 1 Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention (except where otherwise stated in the accounting policy note) and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

There are no material uncertainties casting doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation and allocated to the same fund as the original donation.

#### Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

#### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees. Designated funds are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

#### Debtors

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

#### Cash & cash equivalents

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

#### Creditors

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

### 2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations	1,211	-	1,211	1,211
Grant Income	-	30,000	30,000	-
Gift Aid	963	-	963	-
	<u>2,174</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>32,174</u>	<u>1,211</u>

Income from Donations in the prior year was unrestricted.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 3 Income on Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Fees	1,900	-	1,900	6,125
	<u>1,900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,900</u>	<u>6,125</u>

Income from charitable activities in the prior year was unrestricted, except for £2,650 of Fees which was restricted.

### 4 Expenditure on Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>Direct costs</b>			
Staff costs (Note 6)	15,124	1,730	16,854
Staff supervision	121	14	135
Materials and other costs	220	25	245
Training	54	6	60
Establishment costs/meetings	626	72	698
Travel	2,175	249	2,424
IT	1,613	185	1,798
Professional fees	640	73	713
Insurance	610	70	680
Other	552	61	613
<b>Governance Costs</b>			
Accountancy fees	1,438	165	1,603
	<u>23,173</u>	<u>2,650</u>	<u>25,823</u>

#### Prior Year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
<b>Direct costs</b>			
Staff costs	19,338	-	19,338
Staff supervision	390	-	390
Materials and other costs	618	-	618
Training	2,185	-	2,185
Establishment costs	(16)	-	(16)
Travel	1,329	-	1,329
IT	1,400	-	1,400
Professional fees	764	-	764
Insurance	583	-	583
Other	515	-	515
<b>Governance Costs</b>			
Accountancy fees	936	-	936
Trustee insurance	80	-	80
	<u>28,122</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,122</u>

# HOPE'S PLACE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 5 Net income for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2023 £	2022 £
Independent examiner's fee:		
for current year preparation of statutory accounts	-	187
for current year independent examination	1,008	749
	<u>1,008</u>	<u>749</u>

### 6 Staff costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	2023 £	2022 £
Salaries and pension contributions	16,707	19,197
Social security costs	-	57
Employer's pension costs	147	84
	<u>16,854</u>	<u>19,338</u>

Key management personnel of the Charity are the Trustees. No benefits were paid either in the current or previous years.

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

No Trustees have been remunerated or reimbursed for their out of pocket travel expenses or waived any expenses (2022: Nil)

During the year, donations of £nil (2022: £120) were received from trustees and related parties.

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for eligible employees.

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

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Facilitators	3	3
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

### 7 Taxation

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

# HOPE'S PLACE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 8 Comparative Statement of Financial Activites

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations (Including Gift aid)	1,211	-	1,211
Charitable activities			
Fees	3,475	2,650	6,125
CJRS Scheme	428		428
Investment income	22	-	22
<b>Total income</b>	<u>5,136</u>	<u>2,650</u>	<u>7,786</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities	28,122	-	28,122
Raising funds	240	-	240
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>28,362</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,362</u>
<b>Net income/expenditure</b>	(23,226)	2,650	(20,576)
<b>Total funds at 1 September</b>	64,064	-	64,064
<b>Total funds at 31 August</b>	<u>40,838</u>	<u>2,650</u>	<u>43,488</u>

### 9 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	450	750
Prepayments	100	100
	<u>550</u>	<u>850</u>

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

	2023 £	2022 £
PAYE	1,059	663
Trade Creditors	715	-
Wages/Pension payable	258	-
Accruals	1,008	1,706
	<u>3,040</u>	<u>2,369</u>

# HOPE'S PLACE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 11 Movement in funds

	At 01-Sep 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31-Aug 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	40,838	4,708	(23,173)	-	22,373
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Bain donation	-	30,000	-	-	30,000
Bristol CC, safer options	2,650	-	(2,650)	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>43,488</u>	<u>34,708</u>	<u>(25,823)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,373</u>

### Movement in funds - prior year

	At 01-Sep 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31-Aug 2022 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	64,064	5,136	(28,362)	-	40,838
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Bristol CC, safer options	-	2,650	-	-	2,650
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>64,064</u>	<u>7,786</u>	<u>(28,362)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,488</u>

### Restricted funds

Bristol CC, Safer Options - these are funds received from the council to run our education courses in designated Bristol schools during the year 2022/23.

Bain donation - During the year, Hope's Place successfully applied to the Bain Capital Fund for £30,000, being 3 years funding for the role of Senior Facilitator. This new role includes responsibility for liaison with schools, previously performed by one of our (volunteer) trustees.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 12 Analysis of funds

<b>As at August 31 2023</b>	<b>Bank Balances £</b>	<b>Net Current Liabilities £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	24,863	(2,490)	22,373
<b>Restricted funds</b>	30,000	-	30,000
	<u>54,863</u>	<u>(2,490)</u>	<u>52,373</u>

<b>As at August 31 2022</b>	<b>Bank Balances £</b>	<b>Net Current Liabilities £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	42,357	(1,519)	40,838
<b>Restricted funds</b>	2,650	-	2,650
	<u>45,007</u>	<u>(1,519)</u>	<u>43,488</u>

### 13 Company limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee having no share capital. Every member is liable to contribute £1 towards the costs of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the charity in the event of the charity being wound up.

### 14 Company limited by guarantee

There were no related party transactions in the year or the prior year.

**HOPE'S PLACE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1105139

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# Accounts

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# **HOPE'S PLACE**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 31 AUGUST 2021**

**Company Number 05134542**

**Charity Number 1105139**

Registered Office:

The Clock Tower

5 Farleigh Court

Old Weston Road

Flax Bourton

Bristol. BS48 1UR

[www.hopesplace.org.uk](http://www.hopesplace.org.uk)

email: [info@hopesplace.org.uk](mailto:info@hopesplace.org.uk)

tel: 07982 161 760

# HOPE'S PLACE

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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The trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their report and financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 August 2021.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102) Accounting and Reporting by Charities in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

#### **1. Objectives**

The charity's main objectives are the advancement of education and promotion of the health of young people. Specifically, we work to raise their self-esteem and encourage resilience i.e. the capacity to overcome adversity and cope with challenges without manifesting mental health or behavioural problems.

#### **2. Our work**

We work through the provision of specialist support (facilitators) to schools PSHE, Personal Social Health and Economic Education. Pupils attending are identified by school staff, who best know their individual needs, and attend on a voluntary basis. Our professional facilitators provide gender specific courses of weekly sessions over 8-10 weeks in secondary and increasingly in primary schools, with an average of eight young people per course. Course content is adapted to meet the needs and age profile of each group and reviewed regularly to ensure effectiveness and relevance.

Our facilitators are independent of the school which allows the young people attending courses to speak frankly and with a refreshing openness and honesty, surrounded by a small group of peers often facing similar challenges. As a consequence of the challenges faced, the young people are often failing to reach their potential due to low confidence, emotional problems, social withdrawal, relationship difficulties and/or challenging behaviour. This often manifests itself in a lack of hope, of aspiration and of the confidence to make the most of opportunities available to them. In some instances, this can lead to extreme behaviour including self-destructive behaviour. Hope's Place works with these young people to raise their self-esteem and encourage resilience.

It is a Hope's Place requirement that facilitators maintain a close relationship with school staff, ensuring they have a good understanding of the young people's educational and pastoral needs and interests. They provide detailed feedback to schools and understand their duty to keep school staff informed of any safeguarding concerns. Concerns regarding a particular young person sometimes necessitates additional meetings with staff to ensure consistency of approach and the essential sharing of information. A member of school staff is required to be available throughout Hope's Place sessions.

#### **3. Public benefit**

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives. All our charitable activities are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

#### **4. Achievements and performance**

The year proved to be challenging as educational institutions again encountered disruption to their working patterns as a result of measures aimed at controlling the spread of Covid-19. School closures and restrictions on school access impacted upon the ability of Hope's Place facilitators to deliver courses. Nevertheless, having undertaken all necessary risk assessments and discussed the required modifications to course delivery with school staff, in September 2020 Hope's Place began running a limited number of courses. It was recognised, by schools and our facilitators, that face-to-face sessions remained the most effective way of supporting young people.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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Our facilitators ran one girls' course and one boys' course during the autumn term (September-December 2020) and two girls' courses in the severely disrupted spring term (January to March 2021). The easing of restrictions in April 2021 enabled Hope's Place facilitators to deliver a further two boys' courses and five girls' courses in the summer term (April to July 2021). On average eight young people attended each of our courses.

There has been an increase in the number of primary schools seeking support from Hope's Place in recent years and, following discussions with school staff, one of our facilitators has recently developed a transition to secondary school course for Year 6 pupils. This was trialled very successfully with an entire year group of ninety children and will be offered to other schools in the future.

#### 5. Education Review

As we began arranging courses for the 2021-2022 academic year, it became evident that the need for the support Hope's Place provides was even greater. Research, anecdotal evidence and our own observations had indicated this to be the case. A department of Bristol City Council, whose staff work with students facing extremely challenging circumstances, including child sexual and criminal exploitation, approached Hope's Place. They wished to enlist the support of Hope's Place in delivering ten courses in five additional Bristol secondary schools, during the 2021-2022 academic year. At time of writing, plans are being finalised to enable this to happen.

To meet the need for additional support, trustees decided that a third facilitator was required and advertised accordingly. From a strong field, trustees were pleased to appoint a very able and experienced facilitator to run both girls' and boys' courses.

It is always our intention that trustee line managers visit educational facilitators in a school session each term and facilitators have frequent opportunities to meet together. This has proved challenging - however, trustees and facilitators continued to meet formally in regular, online Education meetings. Trustee line manager visits to sessions will resume as soon as restrictions permit. The facilitators' regular supervision with a qualified, experienced therapist and supervisor continues and facilitators have had the opportunity to update course material in response to the pandemic and its impact upon young people.

The newly-developed Transition to Secondary course was very well received. Staff feedback was extremely positive with every teacher marking the content of the course 5/5. Comments made on the feedback forms included:

What did you find most valuable about the content/delivery of the course?

"Just having the opportunity to share worries and getting the perspective of secondary school."

"Helping the children feel positive and confident – taking real worries and finding solutions."

"The children had the opportunity to take part and offer their own opinions/worries. Lots of information to calm their fears on secondary school."

Was there anything that needed improving?

"No!"

"No"

"More activities. Invite Year 7 students in?"

Any other comments

"Thank you! Very helpful for the children (and me!)."

"Really glad this happened, thank you."

"Use of role play and props was great – could this be increased? The children loved it."

The children's feedback survey revealed that:

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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100% enjoyed the sessions

99% found the sessions helpful

92% felt more confident about going to secondary school as a result of participating in the sessions.

Hope's Place continued its evaluation of the impact of small-group courses, based on a set of questions answered by the boys and girls at the start and end of the courses. Each question measures an attitude based on a ten-point scale, covering such issues as positive relationships, emotional intelligence, resilience and self-image. Improvements in such attitudes are difficult to measure and schoolchildren are liable to make quite fluctuating self-assessments, but a general trend does emerge. The girls showed a statistically significant average improvement of 22.1 points, while improvement per boy, though less marked, at 9.2 on average, was similarly significant.

What cannot be measured so easily are the personal responses to the courses, made by pupils and teaching staff. The effect on troubled pupils has frequently raised teachers' comments:

'Girls enjoyed the sessions, really consistent in good content, punctuality etc. Girls learnt a lot'

'Good material – always challenging the lies girls are told!'

'I think they all really enjoyed being part of the group and feel more confident in their views because of it.'

'I have noticed increased knowledge of issues around self-confidence.'

Meanwhile pupils have said about their courses:

"In the 10 weeks we learnt about relationships. My favourite week was the stereotype week because it showed you not to judge people."

"I enjoyed this intervention as we talked about lots of important things."

"I've been more confident in talking about my feelings which is hard for us blokes."

"It has been amazing. It has helped a lot and I feel I can be myself more."

"Amazing, super, fun, fabulous."

"It's taught me that a man makes his own choices and isn't told what to do by his mates."

"Fun and very emotional because I've felt like I connected with everyone."

"I enjoyed that everyone respects each other and doesn't judge anyone."

"I have learned that I am not alone that other people have the same thoughts as me."

## 6. Evidence of Need

Substantial research highlights the need for our work in Bristol, South Gloucestershire and surrounding areas.

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) Health and Wellbeing Profile 2020-21 reported in its key findings that:

- Bristol has a high proportion of young people who belong to groups that are vulnerable to poor mental health.
- Children and young people in Bristol have higher than national rates of hospital admissions for mental health conditions and for self-harm. The Bristol Pupil Voice Survey indicated that 5% of secondary school boys and 11% of secondary school girls harm or cut themselves as a means of dealing with their problems. There is a strong association between self-harm and mental health conditions. It is also a key risk factor for suicide.
- Many children in Bristol face a lifelong risk of poor mental health.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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- Inequality is evident across the city, with those in the areas of highest deprivation achieving the poorest education outcomes.
- Deprivation is strongly associated with poor mental health and the wards with the highest levels of deprivation in Bristol also have the highest populations of children and young people aged 0-15. This means that high numbers of children are experiencing risk factors for poor mental health.
- 21% of children in Bristol live in income deprived families.
- The rate of homelessness amongst Bristol's young people is significantly higher than the national average.
- The rate of children in need in Bristol due to abuse or neglect is higher than the national average.
- In South Gloucestershire, 7.2% of secondary pupils were identified as habitual self-harmers.
- In South Gloucestershire, hospital admissions due to mental health conditions have increased over the last 5 years as have admissions for self-harm in those under 19.
- The rate of children in need in Bristol due to family stress or dysfunction is much higher than the rate for England. Family stress is likely to have risen due to several factors associated with COVID 19, suggesting many more children may be at risk.
- Bristol has a high rate of children who are first time entrants to the criminal justice system, higher than the national average.
- Bristol has a high rate of children who are excluded from school, significantly higher than the national average.

The mental health and wellbeing of children and young people is a priority for both Bristol and South Gloucestershire Councils and with good reason. The estimated percentage of young people, aged 5-16 years, who are likely to be experiencing a mental disorder is 16%. This alarming figure is an increase on the 10.8% among this age group in 2017 and the JSNA report suggests that it reflects the impact of Covid-19 and related restrictions. The JSNA 2020-21 concludes that the COVID 19 pandemic has had an impact on the mental health of children and young people in Bristol and children and their parents have been identified as a group who are at higher risk of adverse psychological impacts from the impact of COVID and related policy.

Wider research into the impact of the pandemic also suggests that there is an increasing need for the support offered by Hope's Place. Research studies, such as those conducted by Sheffield University, Barnardo's, The Royal Society for Public Health and The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, and anecdotal evidence, suggest that lockdowns have contributed to young people feeling significantly more anxious and concerned about their general mental wellbeing and has had a particularly negative impact on the most vulnerable and marginalised.

Studies carried out during the pandemic suggest that many families are facing financial adversity, struggling to home school, and risk experiencing vicious cycles of increasing distress. Mental health conditions increased from 10.8% in 2017 to 16% in July 2020 across all age, sex, and ethnic groups according to England's Mental Health of Children and Young People Survey (MHCYP).

According to The British Medical Journal (March 2021), "... although children are at lowest risk of death from Covid-19, concerning signals remain about the pandemic's effects on their mental health, which are unevenly experienced across different age groups and socio-economic circumstances."

Barnardo's found in December 2020 that 81% of their frontline workers reported that they are working with children or young people with increasing mental health issues due to COVID-19 and relationships were identified as the major concern.

The In Our Own Words Report, based on research undertaken by young people and overseen by Barnardo's, found "The most prevalent trend was that of struggling to cope with the reduction in social contact." 63% of young people cited this as impacting adversely on their wellbeing.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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The long-term impact of the pandemic is still to be seen, but research strongly suggests that the type of support provided by Hope's Place will be much-needed.

#### **7. Funding**

Fundraising this year has again been very successful, specifically nine successful grant applications, each in the range £3,000 - £10,000 with a total of £33,150. It is once more ironic, and frustrating, that Covid has effectively meant that we have 'sat' on these grants whilst we await the resumption of our work.

Most of the grant receipts were from historic supporters of Hope's Place such as The Singer Foundation, The Burden Trust and The Portishead Nautical Trust. Trustees are most grateful for this continuing support as well for all the other funders who have supported our work during the year.

Our part-time dedicated fundraiser remains part of our team although, given the above strong performance alongside a year of relatively little spend, it was decided during the year to suspend her work. She will, however, resume her work in late 2021 as we anticipate recovery (and spend) 'back to normal'.

We continue to have a number of regular private donors contributing to our income, support which is much appreciated.

Funding status reports (to include the number and names of all live applications at the time) are presented to, and reviewed at, each Trustee meeting.

In addition to the above, this year funding includes receipts of £9k. from the government's CJRS scheme. Both our part-time facilitators were on furlough throughout the year.

#### **8. Financials (figures in italics are prior year)**

Largely due to the successful fund-raising, a surplus of £16,599 (*£35,820*) is reported for the year.

Spend was much as forecast and broadly consistent with prior year. Payroll costs increased this year albeit offset by a broadly similar increase in the CJRS income. The only significant ad hoc was the purchase of a third laptop at the end of the year for our new facilitator.

Our year-end reserves have again increased substantially over the year from £47k. to £64k, all unrestricted.

It should be recognised that the four trustees continue to give freely of their time and are actively involved in the management of Hope's Place.

Financial statements, detailing income and expenditure on both a 'year-to-date actual' and a 'rest-of-year forecast' are submitted to all Trustee meetings.

All the above mean of course that, at least for the time being, the 'funding risks' to Hope's Place continue to be mitigated. Whilst difficult to accurately assess (as dependent on the number and timing of future courses as well as the success of funding applications), Trustees at August 2021 consider it reasonable to assume that Hope's Place is well funded for at least another eighteen months.

#### **9. Trustees**

Four trustees, all of whom have been in place for at least six years, oversee the work of Hope's Place. Three either are or have been regular worshippers at Christ Church, Clifton. As mentioned under Finance, all volunteer their time not just at formal meetings but also to provide all 'support services'. Trustees are therefore in regular informal contact with each other between meetings as well as with our facilitators. A few specialist services (e.g. IT and payroll) are bought-in.

Six formal meetings were held across the year, all of them virtually. A draft agenda is issued beforehand with draft minutes published within a few days of each meeting. No 'Away days' were held during the year (primarily to review and update both our Strategic Objectives and our Business Plan) although one is planned for late 2021.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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Informal contact is maintained with a number of other charities in the Bristol area and also with Bristol-based Voscur who offer much appreciated professional support to charities based in the city.

#### **10. Risk Assessment**

As already reported, it is pleasing to report that the principal risk to Hope's Place noted in prior reports is, for the time being, mitigated by both the successful fund-raising during the past year and the appointment of a part-time fundraiser.

But risk continues with our current four Trustees who, as well as all now retired from their professional lives, have all been in the role for at least the past six years. They continue to give their (voluntary) time to the charity, in particular the 'Finance Trustee' who both manages and performs all our financial processes with little back-up. All four are prepared, for the time being, to continue working in this manner for the foreseeable future but there is obvious risk that this can only continue for so long.

Trustees will continue to seek to mitigate this specific risk during the coming year.

Current funding will, hopefully at some point during the coming year, allow Hope's Place to significantly increase the number of courses. This brings a certain risk as this assumes we have the requisite facilitators to run the courses. Experience suggests that it is 'not difficult' to recruit well qualified, experienced and high calibre facilitators for our girls' groups. Recruitment of the same role for our boys' groups can be more of a challenge.

As partial mitigation of this, during the year trustees decided that a facilitator should not be restricted to leading courses of his/her gender such that a female facilitator may lead a boy's course. With this in mind, a third facilitator was recently (August 2021) appointed.

#### **11. Reserves Policy**

This continues to be defined as to maintain free reserves to cover, at least, the projected next six months of expenditure. Uncertainty as to the when and the number of courses for 2021/22 make this difficult to forecast but for budget purposes, we have assumed an annual spend of c£24k which (based on historic data) is equivalent to running 24 courses. Any additional courses will obviously result in additional spend. Free reserves at the end of the year are £64,064, above the £12,000 limit set by the trustees. Year end reserves are currently in excess of this figure, because the charity has not been able to run courses. These excess reserves will be used in future years.

#### **12. The year ahead**

We start the year with a strong base, both financially and facilitators ready to lead courses. Six courses have started during the autumn term and we plan to start a further ten early 2022 (the majority in new schools for Hope's Place) following the approach from Bristol City Council.

We will also review the requirements of two current DfE documents, Keeping children safe in education 2021 and RSE (Relationships and sex education), to ensure that our courses and policies are aligned with their requirements. Separately, we will write a policy on 'Trans and Gender identity'.

#### **13. Governing Document**

Hope's Place was incorporated in May 2004 as a company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission in July 2004. The charity's governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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### 14. Recruitment and appointment of trustees

New trustees invited to join the board are selected on the basis of their experience and skills. The induction process includes an invitation to attend a board meeting, the provision of the appropriate governing documents for review and discussions with existing board members. The personal networks of existing trustees have in the recent past proved adequate in identifying potential new trustees although other sources would also be considered if required.

### 15. Organisation

Hope's Place has, at August 2021, four trustees, all active. The board which administers the charity met on six occasions during the year to 31 August 2021.

### Responsibilities of the Trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Hope's Place for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the strategic report and directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting 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 financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

Approved by the trustees on 25 May, 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Amanda Bath (Trustee)

# HOPE'S PLACE

## REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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<b>TRUSTEES</b>	Mrs A Bath Mr R Williams Mr A Richards Mr J G Sykes
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Mr R Williams
<b>REGISTERED OFFICE</b>	The Clock Tower 5 Farleigh Court Old Weston Road Flax Bourton Bristol. BS48 1UR
<b>COMPANY NUMBER</b>	05134542
<b>CHARITY NUMBER</b>	1105139
<b>INDEPENDENT EXAMINER</b>	Joshua Kingston, BSc., ACA Burton Sweet Limited The Clock Tower 5 Farleigh Court Old Weston Road Flax Bourton Bristol BS48 1UR

# HOPE'S PLACE

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

### Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

### Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Joshua Kingston BSc., ACA  
Burton Sweet Limited  
The Clock Tower  
5 Farleigh Court  
Old Weston Road  
Flax Bourton  
Bristol BS48 1UR

Date: 25 May 2022

## HOPE'S PLACE

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations (Including Gift aid)	2	34,361	-	34,361	48,468
Charitable activities					
Fees		1,025	-	1,025	5,925
CJRS Scheme		9,307	-	9,307	6,067
Other sources		9	-	9	847
Investment income		6	-	6	28
<b>Total income</b>		<u>44,708</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>44,708</u>	<u>61,335</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	3	26,549	979	27,528	24,437
Raising funds		560	21	581	1,078
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>27,109</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>28,109</u>	<u>25,515</u>
<b>Net income/expenditure</b>	4	17,599	(1,000)	16,599	35,820
<b>Total funds at 1 September</b>		46,465	1,000	47,465	11,645
<b>Total funds at 31 August</b>	10	<u>64,064</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,064</u>	<u>47,465</u>

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above

All of the activities of the charitable company are classed as continuing

Comparative fund transactions are shown in note 7

The notes on pages 12 to 16 form part of these financial statements

**HOPE'S PLACE****BALANCE SHEET**

Company Registration Number 05134542

**AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021**

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	8	1,144	1,695
Cash at bank		<u>67,071</u>	<u>50,300</u>
		68,215	51,995
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	(4,151)	(4,530)
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>64,064</u>	<u>47,465</u>
<b>Income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	11	64,064	46,465
Restricted funds	11	-	1,000
Total funds		<u>64,064</u>	<u>47,465</u>

For the year ended 31 August 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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 Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 25 May, 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:

.....  
Tony Richards  
(Trustee)

.....  
Amanda Bath  
(Trustee)

**The notes on pages 12 to 16 form part of these financial statements**

# HOPE'S PLACE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

### 1 Accounting policies

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Although the Charity has been affected, and continues to be affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, the trustees consider there are no material uncertainties casting doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, due to the level of reserves held.

#### Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation and allocated to the same fund as the original donation.

#### Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

#### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees. Designated funds are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

#### Debtors

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

#### Cash & cash equivalents

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

#### Creditors

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

### 2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Donations (including Gift Aid)	1,211	-	1,211	1,210
Grants	33,150	-	33,150	47,258
	<u>34,361</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,361</u>	<u>48,468</u>

In the prior year, all grants and donations were for unrestricted funds, other than a grant of £6,000 for restricted funds. During the year, donations of £120 (2020: £120) were received from trustees and related parties.

**HOPE'S PLACE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**3 Charitable activities**

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
<b>Direct costs</b>			
Staff costs	19,075	704	19,779
Staff supervision	174	6	180
Materials and other costs	303	11	314
Establishment costs	1,447	53	1,500
IT	2,389	88	2,477
Professional fees	1,312	48	1,360
Other	950	35	985
<b>Governance Costs</b>			
Accountancy fees	827	31	858
Trustee insurance	72	3	75
	<u>26,549</u>	<u>979</u>	<u>27,528</u>

**Prior Year**

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
<b>Direct costs</b>			
Staff costs	13,175	3,211	16,386
Staff supervision	289	71	360
Materials and other costs	688	167	855
Training	222	54	276
Establishment costs	1,206	294	1,500
IT	1,884	459	2,343
Professional fees	433	106	539
Other	1,035	252	1,287
<b>Governance Costs</b>			
Accountancy fees	656	160	816
Trustee insurance	60	15	75
	<u>19,648</u>	<u>4,789</u>	<u>24,437</u>

**4 Net income for the year**

**This is stated after charging:**

	2021 £	2020 £
Independent examiner's fee:		
for current year preparation of statutory accounts	171	163
for current year independent examination	687	653
Trustees' remuneration	-	-
Payment of Trustees' travel expenses	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**HOPE'S PLACE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**5 Staff costs and numbers**

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£	£
Salaries and pension contributions	19,558	16,253
Social security costs	-	-
Employer's pension costs	221	133
	<u>19,779</u>	<u>16,386</u>

Key management personnel of the Charity are the Trustees. No benefits were paid either in the current or previous years.

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

No Trustees have been remunerated or reimbursed for their out of pocket travel expenses or waived any expenses (2020: Nil)

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for eligible employees.

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

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	No.	No.
Facilitators	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

**6 Taxation**

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

**7 Comparative Fund Transactions**

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations (Including Gift aid)	42,468	6,000	48,468
Charitable activities			
Fees	5,925	-	5,925
CJRS Scheme	6,067	-	6,067
Investment income	28	-	28
Other sources	847	-	847
<b>Total income</b>	<u>55,335</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>61,335</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities	19,648	4,789	24,437
Raising funds	867	211	1,078
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>20,515</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>25,515</u>
<b>Net income/expenditure</b>	34,820	1,000	35,820
<b>Total funds at 1 September</b>	11,645	-	11,645
<b>Total funds at 31 August</b>	<u>46,465</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>47,465</u>

**HOPE'S PLACE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**8 Debtors**

	2021 £	2020 £
CJRS	1,144	1,695
	<u>1,144</u>	<u>1,695</u>

**9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2021 £	2020 £
PAYE	619	371
Other Creditors	1,747	1,378
Accruals	1,785	2,781
	<u>4,151</u>	<u>4,530</u>

**10 Movement in funds**

	At 01-Sep 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31-Aug 2021 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	46,465	44,708	(27,109)	-	64,064
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Henry Smith Fund	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>47,465</u>	<u>44,708</u>	<u>(28,109)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,064</u>

**Restricted funds**

Henry Smith Fund - these are funds received from The Henry Smith Charity to run our education courses specifically within South Gloucestershire.

**Movement in funds - prior year**

	At 01-Sep 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31-Aug 2020 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	11,645	55,335	(20,515)	-	46,465
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Henry Smith Fund	-	6,000	(5,000)	-	1,000
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>11,645</u>	<u>61,335</u>	<u>(25,515)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,465</u>

**HOPE'S PLACE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**11 Analysis of funds**

<b>As at August 31 2021</b>	<b>Bank balances £</b>	<b>Net current liabilities £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	67,071	(3,007)	64,064
	<u>67,071</u>	<u>(3,007)</u>	<u>64,064</u>
<b>As at August 31 2020</b>			
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	49,300	(2,835)	46,465
<b>Restricted funds</b>	1,000	-	1,000
	<u>50,300</u>	<u>(2,835)</u>	<u>47,465</u>

**12 Company limited by guarantee**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee having no share capital. Every member is liable to contribute £1 towards the costs of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the charity in the event of the charity being wound up.

**HOPE'S PLACE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1105139

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# Accounts

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# **HOPE'S PLACE**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 31 AUGUST 2020**

**Company Number 5134542**

**Charity Number 1105139**

Registered Office:

Bristol City Mission

Great George Street,

St. Judes,

Bristol,

BS2 9ED

[www.hopesplace.org.uk](http://www.hopesplace.org.uk)

email: [info@hopesplace.org.uk](mailto:info@hopesplace.org.uk)

tel: 07982 161 760

**HOPE'S PLACE**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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The trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their report and financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 August 2020.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102) Accounting and Reporting by Charities in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

#### **1. Objectives**

The charity's main objectives are the advancement of education and promotion of the health of young people. Specifically, we work to raise their self-esteem and encourage resilience i.e. the capacity to overcome adversity and cope with challenges without manifesting mental health or behavioural problems.

We provide this by specialist support to schools PSHE (Personal Social Health and Economic Education). Pupils attending are identified by school staff, who best know their individual needs, and attend on a voluntary basis. Our professional facilitators provide gender specific courses of weekly sessions over 8-10 weeks, in secondary and increasingly in primary schools, with an average of eight young people per course. Course content is adapted to meet the needs and age profile of each group and reviewed regularly to ensure effectiveness and relevance.

#### **2. Public benefit**

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives. All our charitable activities are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

#### **3. Achievements and performance**

For many, this has proved a challenging year and particularly for educational institutions whose working patterns have been completely disrupted due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This has been no less true for Hope's Place. The March closure of schools, until the end of the academic year for most young people, prevented our facilitators from meeting groups within school and schools' safeguarding and logistical concerns regarding online courses necessitated Hope's Place taking advantage of the Government's furlough arrangements. Hope's Place was unable to run any courses for the entire summer term (April-July).

Demand for our services during the autumn and spring terms (September-March) meant our facilitators were working close to capacity, delivering 8 courses for girls and 7 for boys. On average, 8 students attended each course. Courses designed specifically for primary-aged children (Years 5 and 6) are proving to be particularly attractive and this year we ran six courses in two primary schools, with a further three planned for the summer term. This is a significant increase in the number of courses for this age-range and continues to be a reflection of the growing awareness that mental wellbeing disorders "... can occur from early childhood, and their prevalence increases with age" (NHS Digital 2017).

#### **4. Education Review**

Hope's Place facilitators have a special relationship with the young people they support. That they are independent of the school allows the young people attending courses to speak frankly and with a refreshing openness and honesty surrounded by a small group of peers often facing similar challenges. The experiences and circumstances related by individuals can be alarming and teachers observing sessions have expressed deep concern and, in some cases shock, at what is revealed by students. As a consequence of the challenges faced, the young people are often failing to reach their potential due to low confidence, emotional problems, social withdrawal, relationship difficulties and/or challenging behaviour. They display a lack of hope, of aspiration and of the confidence to make the most of opportunities available to them. In some instances, this can lead to extreme behaviour including self-destructive behaviour. Hope's Place works

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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with these young people to raise their self-esteem and encourage resilience i.e. the capacity to overcome adversity and cope with challenges without manifesting mental health and/or behavioural problems.

Facilitators continue to maintain a close relationship with school staff, ensuring they have a good understanding of the pupils' educational and pastoral needs and interests. They provide detailed feedback to schools and understand their duty to keep school staff informed of any safeguarding concerns. Concerns regarding a particular pupil sometimes necessitate additional meetings with staff to ensure consistency of approach and the essential sharing of information. A member of school staff is required to be present at the Hope's Place sessions except in exceptional circumstances.

Our educational facilitators each report to a designated trustee line manager and meet together to provide mutual support, compare best practice and exchange ideas. Time is allocated for the review of courses and trustees receive updated copies of the courses each September as well as being alerted to any significant changes throughout the year. Following last year's complete review, facilitators have continued to update and modify course materials. Over the past few months, it has become clear that some groups would benefit from additional time spent on certain issues. For this reason, the facilitators suggested creating some short courses covering specific issues, such as anxiety. These short courses are currently work in progress. Under consideration is the introduction of a limit of six children in our primary-age groups. Trustees and facilitators meet formally at regular Education meetings.

As before, designated trustees visit school sessions conducted by each of the facilitators on a termly basis and following discussion and agreement with the facilitator, complete a School Visits evaluation form. In addition, facilitators meet with their line manager for an annual evaluation, focusing upon the effectiveness of the courses, areas for development, future targets and aspirations. The facilitators' regular supervision with a qualified, experienced therapist and supervisor continues. Trustees encourage facilitators to avail themselves of all opportunities for additional training and networking events. Facilitators have undertaken further safeguarding and Adverse Childhood Experience training.

Research studies, such as those conducted by Sheffield University, Barnardo's, The Royal Society for Public Health and The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, and anecdotal evidence, suggest that lockdown has contributed to young people feeling significantly more anxious and concerned about their general mental wellbeing and has had a particularly negative impact on the most vulnerable and marginalised. In light of this and having been approached by a local government agency supporting young people at risk, trustees are investigating the availability of additional facilitators to help meet the anticipated increase in demand for Hope's Place courses. We are currently seeking guidance from schools. We do not anticipate many courses commencing until early 2021, although during autumn 2020, we have been able to run two courses at one school. Requests have continued for occasional one-to-one mentoring which has proved beneficial.

As furlough arrangements permit, facilitators are currently devoting time to the preparation of extra sessions focussing upon issues likely to have arisen from time lost at school, pressures within the home and other challenges associated with the pandemic. Trustees are encouraging facilitators to take advantage of online professional development training opportunities.

Comments by young people, on confidential post-it notes, continue to prove motivational and insightful:

*"I like it because it's someone to talk to about things we go through and it helps us to deal with it properly."*

*"I like everything. It helps me a lot with stuff on how to calm down."*

*"It gives me the chance to bond with other people and say things I wouldn't normally get the chance to say. (The facilitator) is amazing."*

*"I like these groups because they make me feel positive and I don't need to impress people. They make me happier."*

*"Because it helps with problems and your confidence ... you are never forced to say anything."*

*"learning about funny balloons and drugs"*

*"enjoyed learning about risks, drugs, stereotypes, and the games"*

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The positive impact of Hope's Place courses often prompts teaching staff to comment:

*"(The facilitator) was great, chatty and relatable...chat after (named facilitator) left was very positive."*

*"The breakdown of the activities worked really well. As some involved talking, others writing or scrapbooking. All the girls could find something they were good at/enjoyed. Short burst activities meant the girls never got bored and if they could have stayed longer, they definitely would have."*

*"Some of the more withdrawn boys have become more self-confident, better in group relationships, kinder to each other with an improved ability to listen to each other."*

*"All the girls were very keen to share and (named facilitator) was very skilled at allowing them to speak while at the same time not letting them dominate the session. The expectations set out at the start helped them to feel that they all had something of value to add and as everything covered was relevant to them, they felt confident joining in."*

Looking forward, Hope's Place is in a good position to embrace the challenge of the expected demand for additional courses in the new academic year.

#### 5. Evidence of Need

Substantial research, both at a national and local level, highlights the need and increasing demand, for our work in Bristol, South Gloucestershire and surrounding areas. Recent research includes:

##### **National level**

The Children's Commissioner for England's study on *The State of Children's Mental Health Services* (2020) which found:

- "The current system is still far away from adequately meeting the needs of all the estimated 12.8% of children in England with mental health problems - or the many more children who just fall below the threshold for clinical diagnosis."
- "Children account for 20% of the population, but only 10% of total mental health spending."

The Department of Education's *State of the Nation 2019: Children and Young People's Wellbeing Research report* (October 2019) revealed:

- "... wellbeing was consistently lower in older children entering early adolescence (13-15 years) than their younger counterparts (10-12 years)."
- "Wellbeing declines as children and young people get older. This highlights the need to equip children and young people with the skills to support their wellbeing as they move into the world."
- "The majority of children and young people are happy with their lives, but it remains the case that many are not." Children's wellbeing "has dropped slightly since 2009, with a concurrent small increase in the proportion of children reporting feeling relatively unhappy with their lives."

The UK Government document *Mental Health of Children and Young People in England* (November 2018) found:

- "12.5% of 5 to 19 year olds had at least one mental disorder when assessed (2017), and 5% met the criteria for 2 or more mental disorders."
- "There also appears to be a slight increase over time in the prevalence of mental disorder in 5 to 15 year olds, rising from 9.7% (1999) to 10.1% (2004) to 11.2% (2017)."
- "There are opportunities to promote good mental health and wellbeing and to build resilience throughout childhood and youth. It's important to take these opportunities both for the health and wellbeing of children and young people, and for people's health and wellbeing throughout their life."

##### **Local level**

The World Health Organisation and many others recognise that "Mental health and many common mental disorders are shaped to a great extent by the social, economic, and physical environments in which people live" and The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and other local publications provide a wealth of information about young people's lives in Bristol and South Gloucestershire:

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## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

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#### *State of Bristol Key Facts 2019:*

- "16,440 children under 16 live in low-income families in Bristol, which is 19.7%, significantly higher than national average which is 17.2%."
- "27% of Bristol pupils are disadvantaged (i.e. have been in care, adopted or been eligible for free school meals in last year)."
- Rates of young people admitted to hospital due to self-harm (618 per 100,000) continued to increase and are still significantly worse than the England average (421 per 100,000).
- First-time entrants to the Youth Justice System in Bristol are significantly higher than nationally.

#### *Bristol Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2020-25*

- "In Bristol, 20% of children live in poverty. This reality affects every aspect of health and wellbeing and life chances in the economically deprived parts of the city."

#### *2019 Bristol Pupil Voice Survey suggests that*

- Bristol secondary school pupils have access to a large range of illegal drugs, but the two substances most frequently reported by respondents were cannabis and nitrous oxide (laughing gas).
- 7% of year 6 pupils (10/11yrs), 14% of year 8 pupils (12/13yrs) and 36% (14/15yrs) reported drinking alcohol in the 4-weeks prior to the survey.

#### *Bristol Health Needs Report 2020*

- "Bristol has higher than average levels of violence."
- "Bristol has a Preventing Youth Violence Board."

#### *Bristol - One City Plan 2019*

- "Schools need to take more responsibility for the mental health of young people, and teach mental health and resilience skills."
- "We want to see mental health viewed as equally important as physical health, a reduction in health inequalities, and children growing up free of adverse childhood experiences having had the best start in life and support through their lives."

#### *South Gloucestershire website 2020, Joint Strategic Needs Assessment*

- The level of deprivation in South Gloucestershire is generally very low with the majority of areas being among the least deprived nationally.
- 7.2% of secondary pupils were habitual self-harmers.
- Hospital admissions due to mental health conditions has increased over the last 5 years as have admissions for self-harm in those under 19
- In children, there has been an increase in hospital admissions for self-harm and mental health conditions in recent years.

#### *South Gloucestershire's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWBS) 2017-21*

##### Key areas of focus:

- Improve educational attainment of children and young people, and promote their wellbeing and aspirations.
- Promote and enable positive mental health and wellbeing for all.

Research data clearly indicates that many young people are struggling with life's challenges and this is impacting upon behaviour and their future prospects. The severity of concern about young people's wellbeing is reflected in the high priority placed upon it by both Bristol and South Gloucestershire. Hope's Place is able to provide valuable support to help young people overcome the challenges they face and live happy and fulfilling lives.

## 6. Funding

Fundraising this year has been particularly successful, with some sizeable grants received during the second half of the year. Indeed, grant income for the year at £48k. is more than double any prior year. It is

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## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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ironic, and frustrating, that Covid has effectively meant that we have 'sat' on these grants whilst we await the resumption of our work.

Trustees wish to particularly acknowledge grants received from the Bain's Capital Children's fund and the Garfield Weston Foundation, both two-year awards. Grants were also received during the year from a number of 'historic' supporters of Hope's Place, to include the Burden Trust, the Nisbet Trust, and the Henry Smith Charity. Trustees are equally appreciative of these awards.

In addition, a long-standing strategic objective to recruit a part-time dedicated fundraiser was realised in early 2020. The position reports to a Trustee and regular 'funding' discussions are held between the two of them along with the treasurer. The job-holder has considerable experience of fund-raising and has settled very well into her role. This is evidenced by 30 funding applications submitted during the year, almost double that of the prior year. 19 applications are live at year-end. It is also worth noting that of 17 applications closed during the year, over one-third of these were successful.

Schools continue to make a financial contribution to the work, the size of which varies dependent on available funds within their budget. Receipts this year, at almost £6k., were inevitably lower than for prior years. Budgetary constraints continue to impact upon many schools; it continues to be difficult for them to make a significant contribution towards the course costs.

We continue to have a number of regular private donors contributing to our income, support which is much appreciated.

Funding status reports (to include the number and names of all live applications at the time) are presented to, and reviewed at, each Trustee meeting.

In addition to the above, this year funding includes receipts from the government's CJRS scheme. Both our part-time facilitators were placed on furlough at the start of April and, other than a few hours worked in August, have remained on furlough for the remainder of the year. A total of £6k. was received as CJRS income during the five relevant months.

#### **7. Financials (figures in italics are prior year)**

Financially, this year has been the most successful since its inception in 2004. Total income was £61k (*£24k.*) and with expenditure reduced, largely Covid-related, to £25k. (*£31k*) a surplus of £36k. (*deficit of £7k.*) is reported. This compares with an annual small surplus or deficit during most recent years.

Other than reduced costs with the cessation of courses in the latter half of the year, spend was much as forecast. The appointment of the fundraiser is a small exception as is the purchase, late in the year, of a replacement laptop (the majority of which was funded by an insurance claim) for one of our facilitators. It should be also be recognised that the four trustees continue to give freely of their time and are actively involved in the management of Hope's Place.

As indicated in the prior section, much of the successful fundraising during the year remains to be spent. Consequently, reserves have increased substantially over the year from £12k. to £47k.

Financial statements, detailing income and expenditure on both a 'year-to-date actual' and a 'rest-of-year forecast' are submitted to all Trustee meetings.

All the above mean of course that, at least for the time being, the 'funding risks' to Hope's Place are mitigated. Whilst difficult to accurately assess (as dependent on the number and timing of future courses as well as the success of funding applications), Trustees at August 2020 consider it reasonable to assume that Hope's Place is well funded for at least another eighteen months.

#### **8. Trustees**

Four trustees, all of whom have been in place for at least five years, oversee the work of Hope's Place. Three either are or have been regular worshippers at Christ Church, Clifton. As mentioned under Finance,

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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all volunteer their time not just at formal meetings but also to provide all 'support services'. Trustees are therefore in regular informal contact with each other between meetings as well as with our facilitators. A few specialist services (e.g. IT and payroll) are bought-in.

Six formal meetings were held across the year. A draft agenda is issued beforehand with draft minutes published within a few days of each meeting. In addition, two 'Away days' were held (virtually) during early summer 2020 during which all Hope's Place policies were reviewed, updated as necessary and duly ratified. The specific policies included Safeguarding & Child Protection, Health & Safety and Equality & Diversity. The opportunity was also taken at the time to review and update both our Strategic Objectives and our Business Plan through to summer 2022. As part of this, we formally ratified our Mission Statement, our Vision Statement and our Values.

Informal contact is maintained with a number of other charities in the Bristol area and also with Bristol-based Voscur who offer much appreciated professional support to charities based in the city.

#### **9. Risk Assessment**

As already reported, it is pleasing to report that the principal risk to Hope's Place noted in prior reports is, for the time being, mitigated by both the successful fund-raising during the past year and the appointment of a part time fundraiser.

But risk continues with our current four Trustees who, as well as all now retired from their professional lives, have all been in the role for at least the past five years. They continue to give their (voluntary) time to the charity, in particular the 'Finance Trustee' who both manages and performs all our financial processes with little back-up. All four are prepared, for the time being, to continue working in this manner for the foreseeable future but there is obvious risk that this can only continue for so long.

Trustees will continue to seek to mitigate this specific risk during the coming year.

Experience suggests that it is 'not difficult' to recruit well qualified, experienced and high calibre facilitators for our girls' groups. Recruitment of the same role for our boys' groups can be more of a challenge. We have however been able to identify at least one individual with relevant experience who, subject to his availability and should the need arise, is prepared to lead one or more courses on an ad hoc basis.

Current funding will, hopefully at some point during 2020/21, allow Hope's Place to significantly increase the number of courses. This brings a certain risk as this assumes we have the requisite facilitators to run the courses. For personal reasons, neither of our two part-time facilitators are able to increase their hours so a need to recruit additional facilitators is probable, possibly on a consultant basis. If called for, contracts for both a paid employee and a consultant have been recently reviewed by Trustees and are ready for any appointment.

#### **10. Reserves Policy**

This continues to be defined as to maintain free reserves to cover, at least, the projected next six months of expenditure. Pre-Covid, this would equate to a spend of £15k.-£20k. but, with fewer courses anticipated over the next six months, our 20/21 budget projects a spend of £10k for the first half of the year. Projected spend thereafter will depend on the number of courses we run.

Thanks to a number of large grants received over the past year (section 6 refers), year-end reserves during 2019/20 improved significantly from £12k. to £47k. Hope's Place, at the end of August 2020, is therefore well funded, and free reserves are greater than our policy states. This is due to increased income during the year, and the unexpected reduction in costs as a result of having to cancel courses during the Covid pandemic. This does however, enable the charity to pick up quickly when schools are able to accept courses again.

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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### 11. The year ahead

At the time of writing (November 2020), there is obvious uncertainty as to when and indeed how Hope's Place resumes its work at pre-Covid levels; indeed, with our current reserves, we would normally seek to significantly increase these previous levels, subject of course to any new logistical and safety arrangements. However, and understandably, the schools with whom we work have other priorities at the moment.

We will continue to explore how we can resume our courses both with existing and new schools. For most schools however, it will not be until 2021 that they are ready to host our courses.

### 12. Governing Document

Hope's Place was incorporated in May 2004 as a company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission in July 2004. The charity's governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

### 13. Recruitment and appointment of trustees

New trustees invited to join the board are selected on the basis of their experience and skills. The induction process includes an invitation to attend a board meeting, the provision of the appropriate governing documents for review and discussions with existing board members. The personal networks of existing trustees have in the recent past proved adequate in identifying potential new trustees although other sources would also be considered if required.

### 14. Organisation

Hope's Place has, at August 2020, four trustees, all active. The board which administers the charity met on eight occasions during the year to 31 August 2020.

### Responsibilities of the Trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Hope's Place for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the strategic report and directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting 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 financial statements; and

# HOPE'S PLACE

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

Approved by the trustees on 6 January 2021 and signed on their behalf by

.....  
Robin Williams  
(Trustee)

# HOPE'S PLACE

## REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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<b>TRUSTEES</b>	Mrs A Bath Mr R Williams Mr A Richards Mr J G Sykes
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Mr R Williams
<b>REGISTERED OFFICE</b>	Bristol City Mission Great George Street St Judes Bristol BS2 9ED
<b>COMPANY NUMBER</b>	05134542
<b>CHARITY NUMBER</b>	1105139
<b>INDEPENDENT EXAMINER</b>	Neil Kingston, FCA Burton Sweet Chartered Accountants The Clock Tower 5 Farleigh Court Old Weston Road Flax Bourton Bristol BS48 1UR

# HOPE'S PLACE

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 August 2020.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

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

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

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

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

Neil M Kingston FCA  
Burton Sweet Chartered Accountants  
The Clock Tower  
5 Farleigh Court  
Old Weston Road  
Flax Bourton  
Bristol BS48 1UR

Date: 6 January 2021

## HOPE'S PLACE

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2018 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations (Including Gift aid)	2	9,441	6,000	15,441	25,695
Charitable activities					
Fees		8,225	-	8,225	7,800
Investments		27	-	27	5
Other sources - sale of asset		750	-	750	-
<b>Total income</b>		<u>18,443</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>24,443</u>	<u>33,500</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	3	25,118	6,000	31,118	28,832
Raising funds		-	-	-	15
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>25,118</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>31,118</u>	<u>28,847</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds</b>	4	(6,675)	-	(6,675)	4,653
<b>Total funds at 1 September</b>		18,320	-	18,320	13,667
<b>Total funds at 31 August</b>	10	<u>11,645</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,645</u>	<u>18,320</u>

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above

All of the activities of the charitable company are classed as continuing

Comparative fund transactions are shown in note 7

The notes on pages 13 to 18 form part of these financial statements

**HOPE'S PLACE****BALANCE SHEET**

Company Registration Number 05134542

**AS AT 31 AUGUST 2019**

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	<b>Note</b>	<b>2019 £</b>	<b>2018 £</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>		-	-
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	<b>8</b>	949	1,000
Cash at bank		<u>12,060</u>	<u>19,580</u>
		13,009	20,580
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>9</b>	(1,364)	(2,260)
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>11,645</u>	<u>18,320</u>
<b>Income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	<b>10</b>	11,645	18,320
Restricted funds	<b>10</b>	-	-
Total funds		<u>11,645</u>	<u>18,320</u>

For the year ended 31 August 2019 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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 Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 6 January 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

.....  
Robin Williams  
(Trustee)

.....  
Amanda Bath  
(Trustee)

**The notes on pages 13 to 18 form part of these financial statements**

## HOPE'S PLACE

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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#### 1 Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice FRS102, the Financial Reporting Standard FRS102 and the 'small companies' provisions of the Companies Act 2006. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

There are no material uncertainties casting doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation and allocated to the same fund as the original donation.

#### Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

#### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees. Designated funds are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

#### Debtors

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

#### Cash & cash equivalents

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

#### Creditors

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

# HOPE'S PLACE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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### 2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2018 £
Donations (including Gift Aid)	2,441	-	2,441	11,685
Grants	7,000	6,000	13,000	21,815
	<u>9,441</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>15,441</u>	<u>33,500</u>

During the year, donations of £120 (2018: £120) were received from trustees and related parties.

### 3 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted 2019 £	Restricted 2019 £	Total Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2018 £
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Staff costs	18,355	4,384	22,739	20,994
Staff supervision	291	69	360	270
Materials and other costs	1,308	312	1,620	2,119
Training	125	30	155	436
Establishment costs	1,211	289	1,500	1,500
IT	2,687	642	3,329	812
Other	229	55	284	577
Professional fees	206	49	256	1,169
<b>Governance Costs</b>				
Accountancy fees	646	154	800	750
Trustee insurance	61	14	75	219
	<u>25,118</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>31,118</u>	<u>28,847</u>

Governance costs are included within Charitable Activities and are £875 (2018: £969).

### 4 Net income for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2019 £	2018 £
Independent examiner's fee:		
for current year preparation of statutory accounts	160	150
for current year independent examination	640	600
Trustees' remuneration	-	-
Payment of Trustees' travel expenses	-	-
	<u>800</u>	<u>750</u>

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## HOPE'S PLACE

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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#### 5 Staff costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Salaries and pension contributions	22,566	20,938
Social security costs	-	-
Employer's pension costs	174	56
	<u>22,739</u>	<u>20,994</u>

Key management personnel of the Charity are the Trustees. No benefits were paid either in the current or previous years.

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

No Trustees have been remunerated or reimbursed for their out of pocket travel expenses or waived any expenses (2018: Nil)

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for eligible employees.

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

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Facilitators	2	3

#### 6 Taxation

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

**HOPE'S PLACE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**7 Comparative Fund Transactions**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2018 £</b>
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations (Including Gift aid)	24,031	1,665	25,696
Charitable activities	7,800	-	7,800
Investment income	5	-	5
<b>Total income</b>	<u>31,836</u>	<u>1,665</u>	<u>33,500</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities	22,666	6,165	28,831
Raising funds	15	-	15
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>22,681</u>	<u>6,165</u>	<u>28,846</u>
<b>Net income/expenditure</b>	9,154	(4,500)	4,654
<b>Total funds at 1 September</b>	9,166	4,500	13,666
<b>Total funds at 31 August</b>	<u>18,320</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,320</u>

**8 Debtors**

	<b>2019 £</b>	<b>2018 £</b>
Other debtors	824	-
Gift aid claim	-	1,000
Prepayments	125	-
	<u>949</u>	<u>1,000</u>

**9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2019 £</b>	<b>2018 £</b>
PAYE	287	226
Other Creditors	87	8
Accruals	990	2,026
	<u>1,364</u>	<u>2,260</u>

# HOPE'S PLACE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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### 10 Movement in funds

	At 01-Sep 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31-Aug 2019 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	18,320	18,443	(25,118)	-	11,645
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Henry Smith Fund	-	6,000	(6,000)	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>18,320</u>	<u>24,443</u>	<u>(31,118)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,645</u>

#### Restricted funds

Henry Smith Fund - these are funds received from The Henry Smith Charity to run our education courses specifically within South Gloucestershire.

### Movement in funds - prior year

	At 01-Sep 2017 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31-Aug 2018 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	9,166	31,835	(22,681)	-	18,320
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Henry Smith Fund	4,500	-	(4,500)	-	-
South Gloucestershire MAF	-	1,665	(1,665)	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>13,666</u>	<u>33,500</u>	<u>(28,846)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,320</u>

**HOPE'S PLACE**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**11 Analysis of funds**

<b>As at August 31 2019</b>	<b>Fixed Assets £</b>	<b>Net Current Assets £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	-	11,645	11,645
<b>Restricted funds</b>	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>-</u>	<u>11,645</u>	<u>11,645</u>

Analysis of funds - prior year

	<b>Fixed Assets £</b>	<b>Net Current Assets £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	-	18,320	18,320
<b>Restricted funds</b>	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>-</u>	<u>18,320</u>	<u>18,320</u>

**12 Company limited by guarantee**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee having no share capital. Every member is liable to contribute £1 towards the costs of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the charity in the event of the charity being wound up.