

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st**  
**March 2024**

**Company Number: 04911086**  
**Charity Number: 1107466**

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Report and accounts**  
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**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st**  
**March 2024**

**Company Number: 04911086**

**Charity Number: 1107466**

**Statement of Trustees Responsibilities**

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 as at the balance sheet and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial years. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principle in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue as a going concern
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, Companies Act 2006,

Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice (Sorp 2015) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective January 2015).

By the Order of the board,

Signed: .....



## ANCHOR Project Overview

### Introduction

The ANCHOR project (Advocacy & Nurturing Change at Home: Our Response), funded by a £50,000 grant from Liverpool City Council under the Safe Accommodation Fund, has made significant progress in supporting

domestic abuse survivors in Liverpool. ANCHOR is dedicated to enabling survivors and their children to achieve stability, safety, and well-being in their own homes. This project embodies the crucial question: why should women and children have to flee their homes?

During this funding period, we have provided advocacy and support for minority ethnic survivors, addressing systemic barriers and leveraging our expertise in immigration and intersectionality. This enabled several black and minority ethnic survivors to remain in their

homes despite significant challenges. ANCHOR also focused on increased accessibility for survivors with disabilities, particularly those with mental health disabilities resulting from domestic abuse trauma.

However, we identified systemic barriers within Children's Services, where

minority ethnic survivors were often encouraged to flee due to a lack of understanding of protective legislation. We aim to address these failings in our future training plans for the next financial year and beyond.

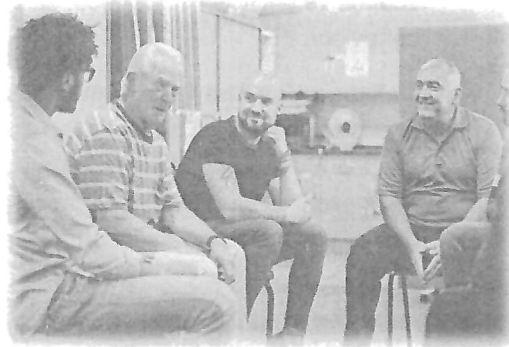
Looking ahead, we are planning to roll out a stalking referral pathway with Merseyside Police to increase support for stalking victims. We are also pursuing additional funding opportunities to ensure the sustainability of ANCHOR services, integrating ANCHOR's services into core operations, expanding staff training programs, engaging in policy advocacy to address systemic barriers, and leveraging AI technology to improve service delivery and communication with survivors, particularly those with language barriers and disabilities



Liverpool  
City Council



Make a Change is an early intervention programme developed by Respect, the UK charity stopping perpetrators of domestic abuse, in partnership with Women's Aid Federation of England (Women's Aid), the national charity working to end domestic abuse against women and children. By coming together, we have created a quality response to perpetrators that places survivors at its heart.



## Why Addressing Harmful Behaviour is Critical

Each year, **more than two million adults in England and Wales** experience domestic abuse, with an **estimated 1.4 million women and 751,000 men affected**. Despite the prevalence of this issue, **fewer than 1% of domestic abuse perpetrators** receive specialist intervention. This stark disparity underscores the urgent need for interventions which focus on early intervention and behavioural change in individuals causing harm. By addressing abusive behaviour proactively, MAC aims to bridge the gap in services, ensuring that those causing harm are held accountable and more survivors are supported. Our commitment to expanding these services and increasing accessibility is crucial in our mission to create safer communities and reduce the devastating impact of domestic abuse.

In 2021, MDVS were commissioned by Respect to pilot Make a Change in Liverpool, securing £41,000 per year to deliver. Now in its third year, the Make A Change, continues to lead the way in addressing harmful behaviours in intimate relationships. This programme underscores our commitment to fostering long-term, sustainable change in abusers while ensuring the safety and well-being of survivors.

Throughout this year, MAC has made significant progress:

- **Accountability:** We have provided direct support to individuals concerned about their behaviour towards their partners, encouraging positive changes and reducing recidivism rates.
- **Survivor Support and Safety:** We have offered confidential and tailored support to partners and ex-partners of participants, ensuring their safety and well-being are prioritized while addressing the root causes of abuse through perpetrator intervention.
- **RRR Training:** Our programme has extended its reach through community outreach and professional training. Local organisations and professionals have received training to recognise harmful behaviours, respond effectively, and refer individuals to our services. This has increased community awareness and fostered a more

supportive environment for both survivors and those seeking to change their behaviour.

- **Collaboration and Partnership:** MAC has strengthened partnerships with local agencies, including Children's Services, Liverpool City Safe, and Merseyside Police, and the Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner to provide a coordinated response to domestic abuse. These collaborations have enhanced our ability to deliver comprehensive support and intervention.

**You may also be interested in:**

- **Make a Change's impact report for 2023/24** [MAC+impact+report+2324\\_final.pdf \(squarespace.com\)](#)

## **MDVS Overview and Mission**

Merseyside Domestic Violence Service (MDVS), established in 2003, and has been serving the most vulnerable families in North and South Liverpool for the past 20 years. Our vision is to work collaboratively to end domestic abuse, change attitudes, and improve policies related to domestic violence. We are committed to tackling domestic abuse through education, support, and advocacy.

Our mission is to educate the public on the realities of domestic abuse, support those affected by it, and empower individuals to improve their lives. We strive to break the cycle of domestic violence through comprehensive services that address both the needs of survivors and the behaviours of those who perpetrate abuse.

### **Registered Objectives**

MDVS is dedicated to:

- **Promoting and Protecting Well-Being:** We are committed to safeguarding the physical and mental health of women, girls, and young people affected by domestic abuse. We provide integrated support services, offering specialised prevention and intervention programs for those who have committed or are at risk of committing domestic abuse.
- **Education and Awareness:** We educate the public on domestic abuse, focusing on its causes, effects, and prevention. Our goal is to raise awareness and foster understanding within the community.

### **Collaboration and Impact**

Our funders, partner agencies, and supporters—both local and national—play a critical role in enabling our charity's work to continue. The demand for our services has never been higher, particularly in the current climate marked by the cost-of-living crisis and the growing challenges of homelessness that many families and individuals in our city face.

Through collective efforts, we have forged new partnerships and supported hundreds of the most high-risk families and individuals. Our work is dedicated to breaking the cycle of domestic violence, providing groundbreaking programs and services that are in high demand, particularly for women and young people.

### **Expertise and Leadership**

MDVS's knowledge and collaborative approach are highly respected by professionals and partners at both the local and national levels. We continue to lead with integrity, providing essential services that make a lasting impact on our community and work tirelessly towards a future free from domestic violence.

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Statement of Trustees Responsibilities**

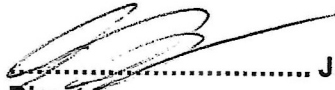
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and:

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

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, Companies Act 2006, Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice (Sorp 2015) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015).

**By the Order of the board,**

  
..... J Jones  
**Director**  
54 James Street  
Liverpool  
L1 0AB

Date: 24th July 2024

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Merseyside Domestic Violence**

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 8 to 17.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity 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 company'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 that in any material respect:

- 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.

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.

  
Gary Wood, FCCA  
Business Accounting Services  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
111 Mount Pleasant  
Liverpool  
L3 5TF

24th July 2024

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the**  
**year ended 31 March 2024**

Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	7,750	-	7,750	2,488
Charitable Activities	3,165	314,680	317,845	912,614
<b>Total income</b>	<b>10,915</b>	<b>314,680</b>	<b>325,595</b>	<b>915,102</b>
Charitable Activities	-	418,225	418,225	728,438
	-	418,225	418,225	728,438
Net income/(expenditure)	10,915	(103,545)	(92,630)	186,664
Total funds brought forward	46,769	227,511	274,280	87,616
Total funds carried forward	57,684	123,966	181,650	274,280

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities of the charitable company.

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Registered number:** 04911086  
**Balance Sheet**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	5	140	186
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	6	624	624
Cash at bank and in hand		186,553	279,074
		<u>187,177</u>	<u>279,698</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	7	(5,667)	(5,606)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>181,510</u>	<u>274,092</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>181,650</u>	<u>274,278</u>
<b>Funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		57,684	46,769
Restricted funds		123,966	227,511
		<u>181,650</u>	<u>274,280</u>

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The member has not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with with FRS 102 SORP.

J Jones  
Director



Approved by the board on 24th July 2024

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**1 Limited Liability**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. Each member's liability is limited to £5.

**2 Accounting policies**

***Basis of accounting***

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The 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)(SORP 2015) (effective 1st January 2015), Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

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

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

***Going concern***

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

***Fund accounting***

Unrestricted funds are the charity's free reserves available for the trustees to apply in accordance with the charitable company's charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific restrictive conditions imposed by the donor. All restricted funds are accounted for as restricted income and expenditure for the purpose is charged to that fund.

***Income recognition***

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

Donations and legacies comprise of donations and general grants which are recognised in the accounts when received, with the exception of known legacies which are accounted for when their receipt is certain.

Income from charitable activities is recognised on an accruals basis except for grants receivable, which are recognised on the date on which their unconditional payment is confirmed by the donor.

Income from investment relates to bank interest received and is recognised when the amount is certain.

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

***Expenditure recognition***

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the Statement of Financial Activities. Support and governance costs are applied to the unrestricted funds unless specifically included in the restrictions as specified by the donor. Expenditure on charitable activities relate to the operation of the charity comprising of direct charitable expenditure to meet the objectives of the charitable company. Support and governance costs relate to the management and operation of the organisation and also compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements in producing the annual report. These are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities when payment has been approved by the charitable company.

***Tangible fixed assets***

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative depreciation and any accumulative impairment losses. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant and machinery	25% p.a. on a reducing balance basis
Fixtures, fittings, tools and equipment	fully depreciated
Computers	fully depreciated

***Cash and cash equivalents***

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank

***Financial Instruments***

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amount presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise and settle the liability simultaneously.

***Basic financial assets***

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

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

***Basic financial liabilities***

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

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

***Derecognition of financial liabilities***

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

***Taxation***

Income and gains are exempt from taxation as they are received and applied for charitable purposes only. The charitable company benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to Corporation Tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions.

***Critical accounting estimates and judgements***

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**3 Income**

	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total funds 2024
<b>a. Donations and legacies:</b>			
Donations	7,750	-	7,750
	<u>7,750</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,750</u>

	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total funds 2024
<b>b. Charitable activities</b>			
ANCHOR LCC		50,000	50,000
Reaching Communities		67,689	67,689
Lottery		41,680	41,680
General Fund - Various	3,165		3,165
PCC St Helens		54,960	54,960
PCC Liverpool		54,961	54,961
Respect		45,390	45,390
	<u>3,165</u>	<u>314,680</u>	<u>317,845</u>

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**4 Expenditure on Charitable Activities**

	Direct Charitable Expenditure	Support and Governance Costs	Total 2024
To promote and protect the physical and mental health of women, girls and young children who have been affected in some way by the issues of domestic violence by the provision of a non-judgemental advice and support service	385,819	32,406	418,225

**a. Analysed as follows:**

	2024	2023
<i>Direct charitable expenditure</i>		
Staff salary costs	330,750	374,816
CGL	-	175,174
Recruitment	5,771	36,531
Staff training and welfare	4,455	4,700
Activities and events	3,406	13,644
Service user support	14,887	22,881
Pension	9,268	11,604
Building running costs	7,884	24,134
Travel costs	2,709	3,885
Consultancy/Management fees		
Solicitors fees		
DBS and HR costs	6,689	10,909
	<u>385,819</u>	<u>678,278</u>
<i>Support &amp; Governance Costs</i>		
Office costs/equipment	14,720	27,998
Insurance	3,338	3,910
Marketing and publicity	2,801	3,960
Subscriptions and memberships	8,893	11,520
Bookkeeping and payroll fees	658	820
Accountancy	1,950	1,890
Depreciation	46	62
	<u>32,406</u>	<u>50,160</u>
<b>Total expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<u>418,225</u>	<u>728,438</u>

£418,225 (2023:£728,438) of the above expenditure related to restricted funding.

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

b. Staff costs	2024	2023
Gross wages and salaries	307,993	347,658
Social security costs	22,757	27,158
	<u>330,750</u>	<u>374,816</u>

c. Particulars of employees

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2024	2023
Charitable activities	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

No employees received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year (2023 : none)  
The trustees are not remunerated for their services and are not included in the above number of employees.

No out of pocket expenses were reimbursed to trustees in the year (2023 : £nil).

**5 Tangible fixed assets**

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment £	Computers £
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2023	10,734	1,890	2,596
At 31 March 2024	<u>10,734</u>	<u>1,890</u>	<u>2,596</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2023	10,548	1,890	2,596
Charge for the year	46	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>10,594</u>	<u>1,890</u>	<u>2,596</u>
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 March 2024	<u>140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>186</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**6 Debtors**

	<b>2024</b> <b>£</b>
Other debtors	<u>624</u>

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

	<b>2024</b> <b>£</b>
Trade creditors	<u>5,667</u>

**Merseyside Domestic Violence Service Ltd**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**Description of Funds**

These are monies given to the Charitable company to be spent at the discretion of the Board of Trustees for specific charitable purposes as follows:

**Big Lottery Grant Fund - Reaching Communities** - Contributions towards "Males Actively Seeking Change" project

**PCC** - funding for the perpetrator programme

**Anchor** - is a fund for staff member/s to carry out aspects of safety work

**Liverpool City Council** - Contribution from the Safe Partnership fund

**8 Related party transactions**

There were no related party transactions as at year ended 31st March 2024 (2023 : none)

**9 Contingent liabilities**

The charitable company did not have any contingent liabilities at 31st March 2024 or 31st March 2023.

**10 Guarantees**

As at 31st March 2024, five members had given a guarantee of £5 each in the event of the company being wound up. Total £25 (2023: 5 members £25)