

Charity registration number: 1108304

Speakeasy Advocacy

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Speakeasy Advocacy

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Speakeasy Advocacy

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees

Mr I Speed

Mr A Azimi

Mr M Ansell

Ms M Le Warne

Mr G Jones (Resigned January 2024)

Mr D Easton (Resigned November 2023)

Ms C Over (Resigned November 2023)

Charity Registration Number

1108304

Principal Office

The Orchard White

Hart Lane

Basingstoke

Hampshire

RG21 4AF

Independent Examiner

MMO Limited

Senior Statutory Auditor

Wellesley House

204 London Road

Waterlooville

Hampshire

PO7 7AN

Speakeasy Advocacy

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The objects in our constitution are "To protect and preserve the good health of children, young people and adults with autistic spectrum disorders and/or learning disabilities".

As an advocacy organisation our aim is to:

- Make sure people are listened to
- Empower people to take control of their lives, making their own decisions and choices so that they become as independent as possible
- Support people to become part of their local communities and prevent social exclusion

We have worked with 505 people during the year, an increase of 49% (166 more people) than the previous year. We provided Statutory Advocacy for 142 people funded by individual spot purchase commissions from local authorities, Non Statutory Advocacy for 96 people using grant funding or local authority commissions, Signposting and Information to 184 people, and Self Advocacy Groups for 83 people in Basingstoke (including 25 people funded to attend Friday Network as part of the Hampshire County Council Learning Disability Day Opportunities programme). We have provided advocacy across the whole area of Hampshire working in partnership with Choices Advocacy (based in Southampton), and until September with Havant & East Hants Mind as well as providing support and supervision for their advocate.

We continue to co-ordinate the county wide delivery of the Statutory Advocacy Relevant Person's Representative (RPR) service for people placed 'out of area' in Hampshire, funded by individual spot purchase commissions from local authorities.

We completed the Hampshire County Council grant funded Advocacy Safety Net project in September 2023, offering a reduced service for the remainder of the year using reserves while looking for new funding. We completed the hospital avoidance project for adults and young people with a learning disability and/or autism with grants from the NHS Integrated Commissioning Board. We also received a 'Strengthening Communities' grant from Basingstoke & Deane Council which supported improvements to our website and the development of service user stories.

We further developed our partnership with Basingstoke Voluntary Action Back Office Support Service, receiving support with payroll, migration to a new accounts package, and with marketing and content creation.

We continued our strategic work as members of Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board, and participation in local and national networks for the voluntary sector, disability and advocacy.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

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Trustees' Report (continued)

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The charity is governed by a Constitution based on the Charity Commission model and is a Registered Charity. Having previously identified the benefits of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, the Trustees continue to work towards this in order to update the governing document to reflect changes to both the organisation and beneficiaries. The Trustee Policy states that we should have representatives of named self advocacy groups. Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting or appointed in between times by the Board, all receive training to do their role and those who are users of the service also have support from an advocate.

The Trustees have met four times during the year in addition to the Annual General Meeting. Two new trustees were appointed in September 2023 with one taking on the role of interim chair until he resigned in January 2024. Two longstanding Trustees (Carole Over and Derek Easton) resigned in November 2023 and were thanked for their many years of service. One of the other new appointments, Iain Speed, took over as chair of Trustees in February 2024. The Trustees have worked with the Chief Executive on updating the charity's development and marketing plan as well as updating key organisational policies and processes.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 6 January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

I R Speed
Mr I Speed
Trustee

Speakeasy Advocacy

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity 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 judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable 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 charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 6 January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

.....I R Speed.....

Mr I Speed
Trustee

Speakeasy Advocacy

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Speakeasy Advocacy

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Speakeasy Advocacy for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Speakeasy Advocacy you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Speakeasy Advocacy's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Speakeasy Advocacy as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.



Mrs Gillian McIntosh
Senior Statutory Auditor

Wellesley House
204 London Road
Waterlooville
Hampshire
PO7 7AN

Date 07/01/2025

Speakeasy Advocacy

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Other trading activities		11,889	173,378	185,267
Total income		11,889	173,378	185,267
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities		(62,020)	(78,864)	(140,884)
Total expenditure		(62,020)	(78,864)	(140,884)
Net (expenditure)/income		(50,131)	94,514	44,383
Net movement in funds		(50,131)	94,514	44,383
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		94,358	48,762	143,120
Total funds carried forward	10	44,227	143,276	187,503
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies		-	69,652	69,652
Other trading activities		10,000	42,456	52,456
Other income		1,305	-	1,305
Total income		11,305	112,108	123,413
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities		(51,508)	(60,714)	(112,222)
Other expenditure		(17,362)	(7,031)	(24,393)
Total expenditure		(68,870)	(67,745)	(136,615)
Net (expenditure)/income		(57,565)	44,363	(13,202)
Net movement in funds		(57,565)	44,363	(13,202)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		151,922	4,399	156,321
Total funds carried forward	10	94,357	48,762	143,119

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

The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 10.

The notes on pages 8 to 18 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Speakeasy Advocacy

(Registration number: 1108304)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	3,029	229
Current assets			
Debtors	7	19,739	18,478
Cash at bank and in hand	8	175,622	150,904
		195,361	169,382
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	(10,887)	(26,491)
Net current assets		184,474	142,891
Net assets		187,503	143,120
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	10	143,276	48,762
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		44,227	94,358
Total funds	10	187,503	143,120

The financial statements on pages 6 to 18 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 6 January 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

I R Speed

Mr I Speed
Trustee

The notes on pages 8 to 18 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Speakeasy Advocacy

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

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Speakeasy Advocacy meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts (financial statements) 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.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Expenditure

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

Charitable activities

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

Governance costs

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

Speakeasy Advocacy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

Government grants

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Depreciation and amortisation

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

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

Trade creditors

are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Fund structure

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

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

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

Debt instruments

Debt instruments which meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method:

(a) The contractual return to the holder is (i) a fixed amount; (ii) a positive fixed rate or a positive variable rate; or (iii) a combination of a positive or a negative fixed rate and a positive variable rate.

(b) The contract may provide for repayments of the principal or the return to the holder (but not both) to be linked to a single relevant observable index of general price inflation of the currency in which the debt instrument is denominated, provided such links are not leveraged.

(c) The contract may provide for a determinable variation of the return to the holder during the life of the instrument, provided that (i) the new rate satisfies condition (a) and the variation is not contingent on future events other than (1) a change of a contractual variable rate; (2) to protect the holder against credit deterioration of the issuer; (3) changes in levies applied by a central bank or arising from changes in relevant taxation or law; or (ii) the new rate is a market rate of interest and satisfies condition (a).

(d) There is no contractual provision that could, by its terms, result in the holder losing the principal amount or any interest attributable to the current period or prior periods.

(e) Contractual provisions that permit the issuer to prepay a debt instrument or permit the holder to put it back to the issuer before maturity are not contingent on future events, other than to protect the holder against the credit deterioration of the issuer or a change in control of the issuer, or to protect the holder or issuer against changes in levies applied by a central bank or arising from changes in relevant taxation or law.

(f) Contractual provisions may permit the extension of the term of the debt instrument, provided that the return to the holder and any other contractual provisions applicable during the extended term satisfy the conditions of paragraphs (a) to (c).

Debt instruments that are classified as payable or receivable within one year on initial recognition and which meet the above conditions are measured at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received, net of impairment.

With the exception of some hedging instruments, other debt instruments not meeting these conditions are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Commitments to make and receive loans which meet the conditions mentioned above are measured at cost (which may be nil) less impairment.

Investments

Investments in non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary or preference shares (where shares are publicly traded or their fair value is reliably measurable) are measured at fair value through profit or loss. Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, investments are measured at cost less impairment.

Investments in subsidiaries and associates are measured at cost less impairment. For investments in subsidiaries acquired for consideration including the issue of shares qualifying for merger relief, cost is measured by reference to the nominal value of the shares issued plus fair value of other consideration. Any premium is ignored.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

Derivative financial instruments

The charity uses derivative financial instruments to reduce exposure to foreign exchange risk and interest rate movements. The charity does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value at the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured to their fair value at each reporting date. The resulting gain or loss is recognised in statement of financial activities immediately unless the derivative is designated and effective as a hedging instrument, in which event the timing of the recognition in statement of financial activities depends on the nature of the hedge relationship.

Fair value measurement

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price for an identical asset in an active market. When quoted prices are unavailable, the price of a recent transaction for an identical asset provides evidence of fair value as long as there has not been a significant change in economic circumstances or a significant lapse of time since the transaction took place. If the market is not active and recent transactions of an identical asset on their own are not a good estimate of fair value, the fair value is estimated by using a valuation technique.

2 Expenditure on charitable activities

		Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
	Note			
Staff costs		32,062	69,534	101,596
Governance costs		29,958	9,330	39,288
Total for 2024		62,020	78,864	140,884
Total for 2023		51,508	60,714	112,222

		Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
	Note			
Staff costs		44,121	58,705	102,826
Governance costs		7,387	2,009	9,396
		51,508	60,714	112,222

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff salaries & NIC	32,062	69,534	101,596	102,826
Rent	10,181	64	10,245	9,347
Travelling	249	2,080	2,329	2,307
Office stationery	2,413	72	2,485	1,964
Postage & carriage	168	-	168	109
Telephone	1,245	-	1,245	1,095
IT costs	11,122	50	11,172	9,347
Audit & accountancy fees	900	-	900	900
Professional fees	767	6,739	7,506	5,058
Premises expenses	20	-	20	49
Insurance	2,410	-	2,410	2,410
Refreshments	32	79	111	53
Bank charges	108	-	108	108
Depreciation	-	246	246	1,042
Training costs	344	-	344	-
Cross charging	(88,912)	88,912	-	-
	(26,891)	167,776	140,885	136,615

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

3 Trustees remuneration and expenses

4 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	<u>101,596</u>	<u>102,826</u>

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

Speakeasy Advocacy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

5 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

6 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	8,833	8,833
Additions	3,046	3,046
At 31 March 2024	11,879	11,879
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	8,604	8,604
Charge for the year	246	246
At 31 March 2024	8,850	8,850
Net book value		
At 31 March 2024	3,029	3,029
At 31 March 2023	229	229

7 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	19,739	18,478

8 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank	175,622	150,904

Speakeasy Advocacy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	5,050	3,525
Other creditors	-	15,000
Accruals	5,837	7,966
	<u>10,887</u>	<u>26,491</u>

10 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
<i>General</i>				
General funds	94,358	11,889	(62,020)	44,227
Restricted funds				
Restricted	48,762	173,378	(78,864)	143,276
Total funds	<u>143,120</u>	<u>185,267</u>	<u>(140,884)</u>	<u>187,503</u>
	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
<i>General</i>				
General funds	151,922	11,305	(68,869)	94,358
Restricted				
Restricted	4,399	112,108	(67,745)	48,762
Total funds	<u>156,321</u>	<u>123,413</u>	<u>(136,614)</u>	<u>143,120</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

11 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,029	3,029
Current assets	195,361	195,361
Current liabilities	(10,887)	(10,887)
Total net assets	187,503	187,503
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 March 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	229	229
Current assets	169,382	169,382
Current liabilities	(26,491)	(26,491)
Total net assets	143,120	143,120

12 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	150,904	150,904
Net debt	150,904	150,904