

**Safer Communities Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2023**

**CENSIS**

Chartered accountants & statutory auditor  
Exchange Building  
66 Church Street  
Hartlepool  
TS24 7DN

# **Safer Communities Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Financial Statements**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

	<b>Page</b>
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	<b>1</b>
Independent auditor's report to the members	<b>9</b>
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	<b>15</b>
Statement of financial position	<b>16</b>
Statement of cash flows	<b>17</b>
Notes to the financial statements	<b>18</b>

---

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2023

---

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** Safer Communities Limited

**Charity registration number** 1112657

**Company registration number** 3186535

**Principal office and registered office** Corvette House  
Falcon Court  
Preston Farm  
Stockton on Tees  
TS18 3TX

#### The trustees

I Hayton  
M F Home  
A Timothy  
L M Casey  
N B Dent  
M E Laden

#### Auditor

Censis  
Chartered accountants & statutory auditor  
Exchange Building  
66 Church Street  
Hartlepool  
TS24 7DN

# **Safer Communities Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

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

##### **Governance and Accountability**

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

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated as a company on 16th April 1996 and registered as a charity on 9th January 2006. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which was revised to accommodate and clarify charitable status.

###### **Governance Arrangements**

Overall responsibility for Safer Communities rests with the directors of the company. The number of directors should not normally exceed ten and be representative of local authorities, the business community, and organisations working in the field of crime prevention and community safety.

The directors have the power to appoint any person as a director as long as the conditions above are satisfied.

All directors are provided with information regarding their responsibilities and participate in an annual development day to consider progress of the organisation and agree future priorities.

Day to day management is delegated to the Chief Executive who is responsible for operational matters including the work programme, ongoing financial management, safeguarding and human resource matters.

###### **Safer Communities - Our Vision**

To work in partnership to make communities safer, support victims of crime and create opportunities to change people's lives for the better.

Our ambition is to be a centre of excellence in community safety. We aim to develop and deliver local programmes, assess the impact and success of our work, and offer evidence-based models of best practice to other partners and organisations.

# **Safer Communities Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

#### **Objectives and activities**

The objectives for which the company is established are the advancement of public safety by the promotion of crime prevention and community safety and by the promotion of public, private, and voluntary participation in planned and co-ordinated approaches to the development of crime prevention and community safety in England and Wales.

Safer Communities achieves these objects by:

- Identifying areas of common concern, gaps in service and providing leadership to develop area-wide solutions;
- Raising awareness of community safety and, wherever possible, attracting additional resources; and
- Providing services and support to local partnerships through project management, research, and consultancy.

#### **Statement from the Chief Executive**

After my official appointment as the CEO, my initial focus was to steady the ship with both staff and partners and alleviate any uncertainties.

We carried out an anonymous survey for feedback on staff morale. This survey highlighted some staff concerns which we have taken onboard and are addressing. I intend to carry out another survey in the following few months to compare the results and I am confident that there will be a marked improvement.

I have been able to build upon the relationships with partners including OPCC and the Cohen Trust. To date, this improved relationship has resulted in more transparent dialogue between all concerned as well as some short-term funding opportunities.

#### **Strategic report**

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

# **Safer Communities Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

#### **Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

##### **Achievements and performance**

The following summarises the main achievements of the organisation for the period covered by this audit.

##### **Corporate Service**

The Corporate team is a very lean but skilled department, which manages to service all areas of the business effectively and efficiently within budget. As a business, we have continued to successfully reduce the capital on our mortgage for Corvette House. As at 31.3.23 we have 6 years remaining on the loan.

We are successfully managing the Working Capital budget by continuously re-investing back into it. At the 31.03.22 the balance was £183,843 and during the financial year this increased to £222,161 at 31.03.23. This fund is used to invest in new pilot projects / development ideas and all associated costs. Income is generated from contributions throughout the year from current projects.

During this financial year we were successful in securing some funding from 'Growth Spark'- Teesside University, for a new website that will support our digital offer. The new interactive website brings all the services together to promote the Safer Communities brand as well as the individual projects.

We have begun to explore the possibility of a training arm as an extra service to capitalise of the skills and knowledge of the team. This is still in the development stages.

We continue to grow and offer our umbrella DBS services across the region which is used by other charities and businesses therefore promoting the Safer Communities brand.

##### **Cleveland VCAS**

During the financial year ending March 2023, the VCAS team continued to provide support to anyone affected by crime (excluding Serious Sexual Violence and Domestic Abuse).

A summary of the support provided is as follows:-

- Enhanced Victim Care (face to face support)...1,210
- Emotional Support provided over the phone...332
- Additional Support provided to family members of victims of crime...120
- Fraud Victims provided crime Fraud awareness and prevention information...2,161
- Total number of victims supported 3,824
- We have 124 Call blockers installed in fraud victim's homes and have blocked in excess of 10, 000 criminal calls during the 12 month period

In addition to the above numbers, the Service have delivered Victim Awareness Sessions to all Cleveland Police Student Officers, CID Courses, Control Room Operators and Family Liaison Officers.

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

---

#### Achievements and performance *(continued)*

##### **Financial Fraud Advocacy Service**

Temporary Home Office funding was used to pilot the scheme, using a skilled financial investigator to support elderly and vulnerable victims to obtain compensation from their banks. This was a highly successful and resulted in £270,000 worth of compensation being recovered into the pockets of victims.

Although Safer Communities capital fund financially supported this role temporarily when initial funding had ceased, sadly, we were unable to secure any continuity funding and the pilot closed. The processes, procedures and agreements are available and we hope that there will be future opportunities to re-visit this important role.

We are in discussions with the Teesside University Law clinic to assess the feasibility to recruit suitably skilled students to provide a volunteer fraud financial advocacy.

##### **Professional Witness Service (PWS)**

The initiative involves close collaborative working with partners including Police, Local Authority and Housing providers. The partnership task the professional witnesses into identified public areas affected by crime and ASB to observe incidents and where appropriate, record those incidents. Subsequent evidence/intelligence obtained is duly shared with the partnership to enable enforcement activity to take place.

The PWS has been operating within target areas and to date has been very successfully and delivered the following results:-

- Housing off road motorcycles
- Identifying Robbery Suspects
- Evidencing street dealing
- Recovery of stolen property
- Intervention and prevention of a street robbery
- Identifying youths pelting passing vehicles with missiles
- Identifying youths on shop roofs spitting and throwing objects at passing shoppers
- Identifying suspects involved in a gang attack on a property, throwing bricks through the windows
- Evidence against suspects for organised retail and vehicle theft

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

---

#### **Achievements and performance *(continued)***

##### **Restorative Justice**

The service has had another really successful year to March 2023, achievements have included:-

- Successfully renewing our Service Registration with the Governing Body-the Restorative Justice Council.
- Nominating our Lived Experience RJ Ambassador for a NEPACS Best Practice in Rehabilitation Award so await the results.
- Opening a total of 112 new victim and offender cases during the course of this financial period, consisting of 49 victim and 63 offender cases.
- A total of 207 cases were closed as successfully complete during the last financial year, with some form of restorative intervention and support having been provided (110 of which related to victims of crime and 97 to the responsible offender).
- Of the additional 52 cases closed to Restorative Cleveland, it was not possible to progress some form of Restorative Justice in 18 victim and 34 offender cases.

##### **We have also supported:**

- The facilitation of 258 separate RJ interventions, including: 16 face-to-face meetings, 113 pieces of shuttle mediation, 115 letters of explanation, 7 voluntary financial payments, 6 recorded messages and one piece of direct reparation.
- In addition to the direct and indirect RJ interventions, a further 149 informal restorative approaches were facilitated (namely, the delivery of victim awareness sessions) and 6 Criminal Justice Outcomes obtained, including the outcomes such as the inclusion of sentence plan targets and licence conditions.

##### **Seen, Heard, Believed**

Seen Heard Believed began its third year of delivery with further investment from the KPMG Foundation adding to the continued support of the Colonel Cohen Trust. We continue to receive referrals from our partnership with Middlesbrough Council Early Help team. Our staff deliver a range of interventions underpinned by trauma informed practice to families in Middlesbrough.

We are continuing to evidence all positive outcomes for those families involved, including reduced Anti-Social Behaviour; re-engaging in Schools; accessing specialist services such as Domestic Abuse, Adult and Child Mental Health services.

We are awaiting on a decision from funders as to whether they will continue to run this project in its current format.

##### **Safer Communities Plans for the Future:**

- Strengthen the Safer Communities brand and identity
- Continue to build upon the Safer Communities website
- Continue to source new funding streams in order to increase our portfolio
- Sustain and enhance our Cleveland Victim Care and Advice Service
- Sustain and enhance our Restorative Justice Service
- Sustain and enhance the Professional Witness Service
- Sustain and enhance the Seen, Heard, Believed Service
- Develop partnership and joint working arrangements and build upon existing relationships
- Further develop the training arm of the business

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

---

#### Financial review

##### Reserves policy

On 31 March 2023 Safer Communities held unrestricted reserves of £626,800. General reserves includes fixed assets of £203,697. It is considered that reserves of this order are required for the following reasons: These are very uncertain times and with most contracts operating on an annual basis significant funding can be lost at short notice. Reserves are vital to ensure that the organisation has the capacity to find alternative funding and/or meet all outstanding obligations.

Reserves at this level provide 6 months running costs and sufficient funds to cover all contractual liabilities and when required can support cash flow where payments are made in arrears.

##### Funding sources

The principle sources of funding received by Safer Communities are:

Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner  
Durham Police Crime and Victim Commissioner  
NHS England

#### Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, 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 applicable 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;
- 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and 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 Companies Act 2006. They 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.

# **Safer Communities Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

#### **Auditor**

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

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

The trustees' annual report and the strategic report were approved on 17 October 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

I Hayton  
Trustee

# **Safer Communities Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Safer Communities Limited**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Safer Communities Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position, statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### **Basis for opinion**

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

#### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

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

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

# **Safer Communities Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Safer Communities Limited**

*(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

#### **Other information**

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

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

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

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

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

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

# **Safer Communities Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Safer Communities Limited**

*(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

#### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Safer Communities Limited

(continued)

Year ended 31 March 2023

---

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations;

To address the risk of fraud in revenue recognition, we:

- performed tests on controls relating to grant funding and checking internal and external monitoring procedures;
- detailed analysis of revenue and the timing of recognition based on expectations, following up variance from expectations;
- income from services raised assessed against third party evidence.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias;
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions;

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but are not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- inquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

# **Safer Communities Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Safer Communities Limited**

*(continued)*

#### **Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

# **Safer Communities Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Safer Communities Limited** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

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

#### **Use of our report**

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

Karen Harrison (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of:

Censis  
Chartered accountants & statutory auditor  
Exchange Building  
66 Church Street  
Hartlepool  
TS24 7DN

18 October 2023

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2023

			2023		2022
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
Donations and legacies	5	27,820	1,060,281	1,088,101	2,028,772
Charitable activities	6	–	–	–	11,966
Other trading activities	7	2,518	–	2,518	236,333
Investment income	8	3,186	–	3,186	69
<b>Total income</b>		<u>33,524</u>	<u>1,060,281</u>	<u>1,093,805</u>	<u>2,277,140</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on charitable activities	9	–	1,063,682	1,063,682	1,990,747
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>–</u>	<u>1,063,682</u>	<u>1,063,682</u>	<u>1,990,747</u>
<b>Net income</b>		<u>33,524</u>	<u>(3,401)</u>	<u>30,123</u>	<u>286,393</u>
Transfers between funds		3,824	(3,824)	–	–
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>37,348</u>	<u>(7,225)</u>	<u>30,123</u>	<u>286,393</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		589,452	279,697	869,149	582,756
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>626,800</u>	<u>272,472</u>	<u>899,272</u>	<u>869,149</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 18 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	15	203,697	218,442
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	16	225,521	47,374
Cash at bank and in hand		654,842	818,838
		880,363	866,212
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	17	75,736	93,443
<b>Net current assets</b>		804,627	772,769
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		1,008,324	991,211
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	18	109,052	122,062
<b>Net assets</b>		899,272	869,149
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		272,472	279,697
Unrestricted funds		626,800	589,452
<b>Total charity funds</b>	20	899,272	869,149

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 17 October 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

I Hayton  
Trustee

The notes on pages 18 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	30,123	286,393
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	14,745	14,741
Other interest receivable and similar income	(3,186)	(69)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	(178,147)	(13,976)
Trade and other creditors	(16,618)	(31,626)
Cash generated from operations	(153,083)	255,463
Interest received	3,186	69
Net cash (used in)/from operating activities	<u>(149,897)</u>	<u>255,532</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Proceeds from borrowings	(14,099)	(16,472)
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(14,099)</u>	<u>(16,472)</u>
<b>Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	(163,996)	239,060
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	818,838	579,778
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<u>654,842</u>	<u>818,838</u>

The notes on pages 18 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

# **Safer Communities Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

#### **1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Corvette House, Falcon Court, Preston Farm, Stockton on Tees, TS18 3TX.

#### **2. Statement of compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### **3. Accounting policies**

##### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

##### **Going concern**

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

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

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

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

---

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

##### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

---

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### **Tangible assets *(continued)***

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

##### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Freehold property	-	5% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	-	25% straight line

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

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

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

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

##### **Financial instruments**

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

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

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

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

---

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Defined contribution plans

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

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

#### 4. Limited by guarantee

Safer Communities is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 to the assets if the charitable company in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

#### 5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	215	89	304
Tees Valley Community Foundation	16,000	–	16,000
<b>Grants</b>			
Cleveland PCC	–	762,753	762,753
Middlesbrough Borough Council	–	113,939	113,939
Lt Colonel N L Cohen Charitable Trust	–	165,000	165,000
PCC - Seen Heard Believed	–	18,500	18,500
Teesside University	11,605	–	11,605
	<u>27,820</u>	<u>1,060,281</u>	<u>1,088,101</u>

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	1,654	1,164	2,818
Tees Valley Community Foundation	7,000	–	7,000
<b>Grants</b>			
Cleveland PCC - Safer Streets	–	38,000	38,000
Cleveland PCC	–	577,054	577,054
KPMG Foundation	–	45,000	45,000
Durham & Tees Valley CRC Ltd	–	192,978	192,978
Middlesbrough Borough Council	–	56,205	56,205
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	–	8,661	8,661
MOJ Funding	–	26,380	26,380
NHS England	–	529,035	529,035
Durham PCC	–	351,397	351,397
PCC ISVA	–	27,814	27,814
PCC Safer Streets	–	60,237	60,237
SIBF YEF	–	19,696	19,696
Lt Colonel N L Cohen Charitable Trust	–	75,000	75,000
Youth Focus North East	–	11,497	11,497
	<u>8,654</u>	<u>2,020,118</u>	<u>2,028,772</u>

#### 6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Room hire	10,000	–	10,000
Cleveland Police Cadet Programme	–	(210)	(210)
ASB Mediation Services	–	2,176	2,176
	<u>10,000</u>	<u>1,966</u>	<u>11,966</u>

#### 7. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
DBS & other services	2,498	–	2,498
Other	20	–	20
	<u>2,518</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>2,518</u>

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 7. Other trading activities *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
DBS & other services	3,146	–	3,146
Seconded salary recharges	–	233,048	233,048
Other	11	128	139
	<u>3,157</u>	<u>233,176</u>	<u>236,333</u>

#### 8. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Bank interest receivable	<u>3,186</u>	<u>3,186</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>69</u>

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Corporate costs £	Total funds 2023 £	Total fund 2022 £
VCAS	344,098	174,708	518,806	831,116
Police Cadets	–	–	–	3,851
Restorative Justice	94,484	44,973	139,457	156,949
Colonel Cohen Trust	–	–	–	10,335
YEF	–	–	–	36,786
Peer Mentor	–	–	–	228,368
The Big Local Project	–	–	–	6,835
SARC	–	–	–	515,767
PAYP	–	–	–	50
Policy Support & Research Officer	–	–	–	4,723
Seen, Heard Believed	223,942	36,129	260,071	184,536
Drug Drive Rehabilitation	5,910	701	6,611	11,431
One Off Projects	25,614	7,029	32,643	–
VCAS - Professional Witness	18,536	8,893	27,429	–
CURV	18,227	3,681	21,908	–
VCAS - MOJ Youth Work	1,660	23,516	25,176	–
VCAS - Fraud	14,789	16,792	31,581	–
	<u>747,260</u>	<u>316,422</u>	<u>1,063,682</u>	<u>1,990,747</u>

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

---

#### 10. Analysis of corporate costs

	Analysis of corporate costs £	<b>Total 2023</b> £	Total 2022 £
Staff costs	145,263	145,263	227,221
Premises	37,623	37,623	31,339
Communications and IT	52,278	52,278	35,700
General office	16,684	16,684	27,352
Human resources	6,694	6,694	909
Finance costs	7,281	7,281	8,796
Governance costs	6,300	6,300	6,350
Depreciation	14,745	14,745	14,741
Consultancy fees	29,554	29,554	—
	<u>316,422</u>	<u>316,422</u>	<u>352,408</u>

#### 11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2023</b> £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>14,745</u>	<u>14,741</u>

#### 12. Auditors remuneration

	<b>2023</b> £	2022 £
Fees payable for the audit of the financial statements	<u>6,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
Fees payable to the charity's auditor and its associates for other services: Taxation compliance services	<u>300</u>	<u>350</u>

#### 13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	<b>2023</b> £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	719,342	1,487,688
Social security costs	63,717	126,089
Employer contributions to pension plans	48,555	76,170
	<u>831,614</u>	<u>1,689,947</u>

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

---

##### 13. Staff costs *(continued)*

The average head count of employees during the year was 38 (2022: 58). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>No.</b>	No.
Charitable activities	35	51
Management and administration	3	7
	<u>38</u>	<u>58</u>

The number of employees whose remuneration for the year fell within the following bands, were:

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>No.</b>	No.
£60,000 to £69,999	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

##### 14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

##### 15. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	<b>Total</b> £
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	<u>234,356</u>	<u>31,761</u>	<u>266,117</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2022	23,436	24,239	47,675
Charge for the year	11,718	3,027	14,745
At 31 March 2023	<u>35,154</u>	<u>27,266</u>	<u>62,420</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>			
At 31 March 2023	<u>199,202</u>	<u>4,495</u>	<u>203,697</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>210,920</u>	<u>7,522</u>	<u>218,442</u>

##### 16. Debtors

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
Trade debtors	225,504	47,357
Other debtors	17	17
	<u>225,521</u>	<u>47,374</u>

---

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

---

#### 17. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	15,383	16,472
Trade creditors	6,325	12,852
Accruals and deferred income	6,200	6,200
Social security and other taxes	38,850	46,170
Other creditors	8,978	11,749
	<u>75,736</u>	<u>93,443</u>

#### 18. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	<u>109,052</u>	<u>122,062</u>

Included in bank loans is an amount of £124,435; (2022 - £138,354); the loan is secured against the freehold property of the charity.

The loan is repayable over 10 years with interest charged at 6% per annum. The outstanding loan greater than 5 years amounts to £47,524; (2022 -£56,174).

#### 19. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

##### Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £48,555 (2022: £76,170).

#### 20. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	<u>589,452</u>	<u>33,524</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>3,824</u>	<u>626,800</u>

  

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	<u>341,995</u>	<u>21,880</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>225,577</u>	<u>589,452</u>

##### General and Corporate Fund

The general and corporate fund represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for any particular purpose.

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 20. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
VCAS	54,960	465,892	(518,806)	(2,111)	(65)
Restorative Justice	–	140,000	(139,457)	(543)	–
Seen Heard	6,615	315,962	(260,071)	192,541	255,047
Beleived/Homesteps	25,144	(18,523)	(6,611)	(10)	–
Drug Drive Rehabilitation	192,978	–	–	(192,978)	–
Homesteps	–	32,727	(32,643)	(84)	–
One Off Projects	–	32,494	(27,429)	(107)	4,958
VCAS - Professional	–	34,485	(21,908)	(45)	12,532
Witness	–	25,460	(25,176)	(284)	–
CURV	–	31,784	(31,581)	(203)	–
VCAS - MOJ Youth	–	–	–	–	–
Worker	–	–	–	–	–
VCAS - Fraud	–	–	–	–	–
	<u>279,697</u>	<u>1,060,281</u>	<u>(1,063,682)</u>	<u>(3,824)</u>	<u>272,472</u>

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
VCAS	66,661	948,111	(831,116)	(128,696)	54,960
Police Cadets	11,802	(210)	(3,851)	(7,741)	–
Restorative Justice	34,252	137,323	(156,949)	(14,626)	–
Colonel Cohen Trust	33,165	–	(10,335)	(22,830)	–
YEF	17,476	19,695	(36,786)	(385)	–
Peer Mentor	5,396	233,048	(228,368)	(10,076)	–
The Big Local Proect	1,394	6,435	(6,835)	(994)	–
SARC	48,769	530,112	(515,767)	(63,114)	–
PAYP	21,846	–	(50)	(21,796)	–
Policy Support & Research Officer	–	5,063	(4,723)	(340)	–
Seen Heard	–	–	–	–	–
Beleived/Homesteps	–	145,500	(184,536)	45,651	6,615
Drug Drive Rehabilitation	–	37,205	(11,431)	(630)	25,144
Homesteps	–	192,978	–	–	192,978
	<u>240,761</u>	<u>2,255,260</u>	<u>(1,990,747)</u>	<u>(225,577)</u>	<u>279,697</u>

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

---

#### 20. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### **Victim Care and Advice Service**

To deliver care and advice for vulnerable victims of crime in both the Cleveland Police areas.

##### **Restorative Justice**

A restorative programme focused on persistent offenders with complex needs.

##### **Financial Fraud Advocacy Service**

Provision of a skilled financial investigator to support elderly and vulnerable victims to obtain compensation from their banks.

##### **Professional Witness Service**

The initiative involves close collaborative working with partners including Police, Local Authority and Housing providers to share evidence/intelligence to enable enforcement activity to take place.

# Safer Communities Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 21. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	203,697	–	203,697
Current assets	607,891	272,472	880,363
Creditors less than 1 year	(75,736)	–	(75,736)
Creditors greater than 1 year	(109,052)	–	(109,052)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>626,800</u>	<u>272,472</u>	<u>899,272</u>

  

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	218,442	–	218,442
Current assets	586,515	279,697	866,212
Creditors less than 1 year	(93,443)	–	(93,443)
Creditors greater than 1 year	(122,062)	–	(122,062)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>589,452</u>	<u>279,697</u>	<u>869,149</u>

#### 22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 Mar 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	818,838	(163,996)	654,842
Debt due within one year	(16,472)	1,089	(15,383)
Debt due after one year	(122,062)	13,010	(109,052)
	<u>680,304</u>	<u>(149,897)</u>	<u>530,407</u>

#### 23. Related parties

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with related parties:

	Transaction value		Balance owed by/(owed to)	
	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Razorblue Ltd	<u>12,163</u>	<u>17,565</u>	<u>(998)</u>	<u>(2,638)</u>

The charity engaged the services of an organisation in which one of the trustees is a director.

Razorblue Ltd - services provided by the company to the charity were made under normal commercial terms.