

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

England & Wales · Charity number 1118403

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	06058360
Registered	2007-03-15
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil 89-90 Pontmorlais Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8UH
Phone	01685353900
Email	sharon.richards@vamt.net
Website	www.vamt.net

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF MERTHYR TYDFIL AS DEFINED IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) ACT 1994 AND SURROUNDING AREA ("THE AREA OF BENEFIT") AND IN PARTICULAR (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION, THE FURTHERANCE OF HEALTH AND THE RELIEF OF POVERTY, DISTRESS AND SICKNESS.

Activities: To provide a unique, quality service which supports, represents and helps develop third sector organisations and volunteering in the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil

Classification

- **How:** Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF MERTHYR TYDFIL AS DEFINED IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) ACT 1994 AND SURROUNDING AREA
- Merthyr Tydfil

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,080,769	£961,172	£1,230,560	13
2024-03-31	£1,066,123	£894,810	£1,115,238	11
2023-03-31	£998,787	£1,020,370	£936,207	11
2022-03-31	£1,016,604	£867,874	£961,063	10
2021-03-31	£1,212,846	£954,666	£805,447	9

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anne Roberts		2014-03-24
Carol Evans		2026-02-02
Dr Victoria Winkler		2026-02-02
Gareth Gerwyn Marshall		2025-09-27
Julia Burgess		2025-09-27
Kayleigh Anne Nor-val		2018-11-16
Michael Ronan		2019-11-20
NICOLA BARBARA MAHONEY		
Ryan James		2025-09-27

Accounts

Charity registration number 1118403 (England and Wales)

Company registration number 06058360

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025



VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Contents

	Page
Legal and administrative information	1
Trustee report	2 - 11
Statement of trustee responsibilities	12
Independent auditor's report	13 - 15
Statement of financial activities	16
Balance sheet	17
Statement of cash flows	18
Notes to the financial statements	19 - 32

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustee	Mr J Evans Mr H W Jackson Ms N B Mahoney Ms K A Nor-val Ms A Roberts Mr M Ronan
Secretary	Ms S Richards
Charity number (England and Wales)	1118403
Company number	06058360
Principal address	89 -90 High Street Merthyr Tydfil Mid Glamorgan CF47 8UH
Registered office	89 -90 High Street Merthyr Tydfil Mid Glamorgan CF47 8UH
Auditor	RCH Accountants Limited Wellfield House Temple Street Llandrindod Wells Powys LD1 5HG

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Trustees Report (Including Directors' Report)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025.

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity & Company Name	Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil
Charity Registration Number	1118403
Company Registration Number	6058360
Registered Office	89-90 Pontmorlais, High Street, Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8UH
Trustees	Dr Hefin Jones OBE, Chair (Resigned 26.09.24) Michael Ronan, Treasurer (and Chair from 21.10.24) Anne Roberts MBE Kayleigh Nor-Val Nicola Mahoney David Hughes (Resigned 17.02.25) Howard Jackson from 27.09.24 Jeff Evans from 14.10.24
Chief Officer / Company Secretary	Sharon Richards
Banker	HSBC, 127-128 High Street, Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8DN
Auditor	RCH Accountants Limited, Wellfield House, Temple Street, Llandrindod Wells LD1 5HG

ACCOUNTABILITY AND GOVERNANCE

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (VAMT) is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. The current company / charity became operational on 1 October 2007 with assets and liabilities transferred from the old charity with the same name (registered number 1060242).

Directors/Trustees are recruited and appointed in accordance with the articles and memorandum of association. Nominations are invited from the members of the company/charity and are elected at the AGM. Officers are elected by the Board. No outside party can nominate Trustees; however elected Trustees may appoint or co-opt members in accordance with the constitution. Trustees are onboarded to the organisation following a clear induction process, which explains the role and function of the organisation, and outlines the expectations of a Trustee and the support they will have in undertaking their duty. Training and development opportunities for Trustees are incorporated within the overarching organisational training and development matrix.

VAMT has adopted the Charity Commission's Hallmarks of an Effective Charity, and its Board of Trustees adhere to the Nolan Seven Principles of Public Life.

Full Board Meetings are held quarterly, and the Board has one current sub-group, which deals with Finance & Risk.

Day-to-day management of the Charity is delegated to the Chief Officer. The staff structure of the organisation includes a Senior Leadership Team (Chief Officer, Business & Finance Manager and Operations Manager), who all participate in Board Meetings and advise/ report on different aspects of the Charity.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Trustees Report (Including Directors' Report)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

OBJECTIVES

The Objects of the Charity are to promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the community in the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil and surrounding area ('the area of benefit') and in particular, but not limited to, the advancement of education, the furtherance of health and the relief of poverty, distress, and sickness.

The principal aims of the charity are to:

- Enable third sector organisations to deliver services, improve in all aspects of their work and become resilient
- Strengthen representation and influence of third sector organisations; and
- Enhance volunteering and wellbeing through participation and community action

VAMT is a member of Third Sector Support Wales (TSSW); a collaboration of the 19 County Voluntary Councils in Wales together with Wales Council for Voluntary Action. TSSW provide a universal offer to the third sector based on four pillars of activity: volunteering; good governance; sustainable funding and engagement and influencing which align with the overall objectives of VAMT.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees confirm they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives in planning future activities.

The main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit are detailed below.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

TSSW organisations utilise an integrated Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system which provides functionality to record and monitor activity. The table below captures VAMT data across the previous two reporting periods:

Key Performance Indicators	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025
Total number of interactions (instances of advice / support) with organisations/stakeholders	712	543
Number of volunteers placed / supported	95	127
Number of Third Sector organisations provided with direct advice/support	502	269
Amount of funding received by Third Sector organisations following support (from VAMT)	£341,221	£484,366
Amount of funding provided through grants schemes administered by VAMT	£327,240	£278,537
Number of attendees at forums and events organised by VAMT	523	663
Number of participants at training courses provided (digital and face to face)	56	88
Total membership (at 31 st March)	345	369

VOLUNTEERING

As part of our core business we provide the services of a Volunteer Centre delivered by our Lead Officer for Volunteering (0.5wte). During the year we were able to increase our capacity temporarily via funding from the UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund.

Our Volunteer Centre work includes provision of information, advice, guidance and 1:1 support to both individuals wanting to explore volunteering, and also organisations who wish to have the support of volunteers as part of their workforce, or undertake corporate volunteering themselves. We support organisations by promoting their volunteering opportunities, as well as offering information and advice on volunteer recruitment, selection and onboarding. For individuals, we offer advice and guidance on the range of volunteering opportunities locally, and also across the wider area via the Volunteering Wales website. Each volunteers' needs are addressed individually, and our advice is tailored to meet their requirements/aspirations.

Over the course of the year the Volunteer Centre provided support to 90 individual volunteers and then brokered and supported a further 37 to undertake volunteer placements.

We continue to facilitate a Volunteer Managers' Forum; however, attendance has been sporadic. Therefore we will

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Trustees Report (Including Directors' Report)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

actively review our approach to ensure that our members are supported with current information around good practice, and appropriate governance when onboarding volunteers to enhance their workforce.

As part of our annual calendar of events to celebrate and recognise Volunteers' Week, we facilitated a Volunteer Fair in Merthyr Tydfil Town Centre. Through collaboration with the Shopping Centre Manager, we were able to acquire individual pitches for 18 member organisations to promote their services and volunteering opportunities, and engage directly with the public.

83 people attended our annual Volunteer Recognition Awards ceremony was held at the end of June, and recognised six categories of award, including for the first time, a Volunteer in Sport award borne from our collaboration with Active Merthyr. Presiding over the event was our guest host for the evening - acclaimed broadcaster, presenter, author and podcaster, Andrea Byrne.

A particular area of the VAMT website is dedicated to Volunteering, and includes links to resources and information relating to the Volunteer Awards and Volunteers' Week activities.

We maintained our collaboration with Merthyr Tydfil College and co-led a Volunteering Fair for students. Held at the College, we brought forward a range of third sector organisations who attended on the day, and as an organisation we took 24 new volunteering enquiries.

With additional capacity we introduced outreach sessions at the Job Centre, where Work Coaches could directly refer their customers to explore interest in volunteering.

We continued to provide advice and support to EE on corporate volunteering opportunities, as well as facilitating a corporate volunteering placement for Barclays Bank staff.

Staff at VAMT utilised our Corporate Volunteering Policy again this year to volunteer at Merthyr/Cynon Foodbank and also Merthyr Tydfil Poppy Appeal. A total of 48 hours of direct support was provided.

As in previous years, we administered a Youth Led Grants programme. This involved active promotion of the opportunity, collation of applications, convening and facilitating a multi-agency grants panel who then assessed the applications and agreed the awards. A total of £6,350 was allocated to five separate organisations.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

Our Lead Officer for Community Development continued to provide a range of 1:1 support which included offering information, advice and guidance relating to business planning; development of policies and procedures; and support/access to a range of training and development opportunities. This work accounted for 12.7% of our overall interactions across the year.

Our core offer includes supporting the establishment of a range of new organisations and community groups. In this regard, this year we undertook a specific area of work and supported the development of a number of Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) or Friends of Groups within a number of schools throughout the Borough. This work resulted in six Groups becoming formally constituted, having business plans that supported their individual ambitions, and access to training programmes to enable them to become upskilled in areas such as safeguarding, health and safety, financial responsibilities. Further support is accounted in the following sections of the report.

For the sixth year consecutively we have seen an increase in our membership - with 7% increase on the previous year, and a huge 32% membership growth recorded since the pandemic, ie, March 2020.

As a Board of Trustees some of us contributed to the development of a training course on "Being a Trustee", which is to become a TSSW-wide resource.

In Trustees' Week 2024 a bespoke session was offered through our membership which intended to address "How to Recruit and Retain Trustees". Disappointingly this was subsequently cancelled due to low sign up.

We continue to promote the TSSW Knowledge Hub and its resources to support Trustees, as well as utilise our own website to share information and tools to support Trustees in executing their roles and responsibilities.

As in previous years we have supported a number of Partner Grant Panels, including Merthyr Tydfil Community Trust; Merthyr Valleys Homes' Grant and also the Shared Prosperity Grant for Sport and Social Economy. In addition, we have been involved in the Amser Grant Panel which is administered by Interlink RCT and offers funding

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Trustees Report (Including Directors' Report)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

to provide respite opportunities for unpaid carers.

In our administration of grant funding opportunities we implement a robust governance framework which guarantees transparency of process; due diligence is exercised in respect of financial accountability; and ensures recipients of grant awards are compliant with monitoring and reporting responsibilities.

SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

The demand for our support in relation to sustainable funding is at an all-time high, with 39.9% of our total interactions in the reporting period relating to this area of our work. The demand reflects a 17.9% increase on the previous year, and is more than double the level of enquiries at the height of the pandemic (15.8%). The requests for support we are witnessing continue to be driven by the ongoing financial crisis, cuts to service contracts and noticeable decline in alternative and accessible funding sources.

Across the year we provided support to 33 organisations who collectively secured £484,336 of funding. When compared to the previous year this is an increase in the number of organisations, but the average award per organisation is now 26.8% less.

We continued in our administration of grant schemes across the local and regional area, which are detailed below, and which reflects the downward trend of grant funding available for us to pass on to our members. This year we allocated a total of £278,537 to 10 organisations, yet in the year prior we supported 34 organisations with £327,240.

Local Grant Schemes

- **Sustainable Food Grant (5 awards)** - We administered this grant funding, which supports affordable food provision across the Borough, on behalf of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council. The grant spanned this, and the previous financial year and included both revenue and capital funding awards. In terms of outcomes for this reporting period - 5 organisations received funding; 1473 people benefitted from support (the majority were reported to be under 50's but closely followed by older people and then families); on average families saved £26.10 per week; and volunteers supporting the projects provided an average of 50+ hours per week of support which adds another £703.92 of social value per week.
- **Youth Led Grants (5 awards)** - we facilitated this grant scheme and collaborated with the Merthyr Tydfil Borough Wide Youth Forum who were engaged as part of the overall governance of the scheme. They also participated in the panel and decision-making of grant awards. Overall, a total of £6,350 was allocated to five organisations to support small volunteering projects/activities, delivered or led by young people.
- **Global Village Legacy Fund** - The funding was allocated in the previous year; however the monitoring reports were received in the current report period. The grant recipients were from across the whole county of Merthyr Tydfil. Beneficiaries included Polish, Indian, Portuguese and Afro Caribbean community members. The grant recipients reported that the majority of their beneficiaries were families, closely followed by older people. The funding supported a total of 1982 beneficiaries. Projects included volunteers who gave an average of 506 hours of support, which adds a social value contribution of £7,084.
-

Regional Grant Schemes (Cwm Taf / Cwm Taf Morgannwg)

- **Regional Integration Fund to retain Befriending Support** - With no uplift in funding the grant was able to make 3 awards compared with 5 awards previously. Volunteers continue to be essential to the delivery of befriending services and this particular grant fund. The 3 providers recruited 131 volunteers throughout the year to complement their existing volunteer workforce who went on to collectively deliver 8189 hours of support. Their contribution added a social value contribution of £114,646, which is an increase of 2,865 hours and £40,110 on the year before.
- **Regional Integration Fund Community Capacity Grant Scheme to support people living with Demedntia and/or their Carers (2 awards)** - 480 people were supported across the two projects and 75.6% reported feeling less isolated as a result. One project introduced 4 volunteers who gave 34 hours of support.

This year we expanded our "Meet the Funder" programme and worked with 7 different funding bodies. We facilitated the programme and brokered 60 people from member organisations into the sessions.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Trustees Report (Including Directors' Report)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

We also provided one-to-one finance support, including accounts checking service for two small community groups, via our Business & Finance Team.

INFLUENCE AND ENGAGEMENT

VAMT exercises a range of approaches for engaging with member organisations and partners as demonstrated below:

Newsletters/Bulletins

- We issued 3 editions of our “Inform” newsletter directly to our membership, network contacts and wider stakeholders. Copies are also available via the website after dissemination.
- To complement our “Meet the Funder” programme, we now issue quarterly funding newsletters/bulletins which provide timely information on funding opportunities via a range of Funders.
- 16 direct member bulletins featuring over 100 articles were sent across the year to raise awareness of events/ consultations/ training opportunities and to promote the sector.

Social Media

- There were 6,500 users to our website (1,800 more than last year) and 20,000 page views (25% more than last year). For the second year running, the most accessed pages related to Job vacancies.
- Facebook continues to be a priority for our social media and we have achieved 146.1% increase in our interactions, with 27.6% of information being reposted by non-followers.
- We prioritised our Facebook interactions this year and increased our followers to 1500. Our reach increased by 37.8% to 42.4k, and we received 195.4k impressions on our posts.
- We are building our profile and expanding connections on Linked-In.
- We no longer use X.

Network and Forum Meetings

VAMT continued to convene and facilitate the following Network and Forum meetings:

- Health & Wellbeing (including befriending and environment/green prescribing);
- Children, Young People and Families;
- Volunteer Managers;
- Food Prosperity and Food Pantries
- Funders’ Forum
- Third Sector Leaders’ Forum

Partnership Meetings

The Staff Team and also the Chair support the TSSW Partnership Structure, inputting to practitioner and strategic meetings, where we can influence change/developments at a national level. Our participation enables us to keep our members updated on developments and best practice.

In addition, VAMT team engaged in 67 strategic partnerships and planning groups at a local/ regional level. Some key developments include:

- The Welsh Government programme of “Promote, Prevent and Prepare for Planned Care” is known as the 3Ps Programme. In regard to this VAMT worked closely with Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board colleagues, to explore and develop a pathway of support where appropriate individuals on waiting lists are referred to Community Coordinators for third sector interventions/activities. The development has incorporated both RCT and Bridgend CVCs and now spans the whole CTM footprint. This development was recognised at the National 3Ps Conference held in Cardiff City Stadium in Q4, where it received an award in the Partnerships category for innovation.
- Climate Change is a key priority of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board (PSB). The Board appointed Consultants to work with all partners to inform and develop a Climate Change Risk Assessment for the region. As active members of the PSB, VAMT supported this work and convened a local workshop for VAMT members and local stakeholders to share information around the local geography and emerging

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Trustees Report (Including Directors' Report)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

impact of climate change. After extensive development across the region, the PSB has now published the final risk assessment on its website: www.ourcwm Daf.wales.

- As a member of the Welsh Small Charities Forum, VAMT became involved in supporting Lloyds Bank Foundation with their "Finding the Good" project, which aimed to drive conversation about commissioning of services. VAMT and Interlink worked with Lloyds Bank Foundation and Cwmpas to hold a local workshop in Merthyr Tydfil which was attended by over 45 stakeholders. The Agenda featured Alliance Commissioning, and it was agreed to explore this as a future commissioning approach in relation to some existing services reliant on Regional Integration Funding, including social prescribing. This is now being taken forward by the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Commissioning Manager, with input from VAMT and Interlink.

PROJECT FUNDED STAFF

As outlined in our previous report we were expecting some change around our project funded staff this year.

We have been able to increase our capacity of Community Coordinators and work with the University Health Board to reconfigure our mental health project. Also, with new funding agreements via Invest Local Ynysowen and Transport for Wales, we successfully introduced additional members to the VAMT team in Q2.

Some of our project staff are grant funded and some have Service Agreements. However, all of the projects align with our overarching core business and contribute to our engagement with individuals in the community, our members and wider partners/ stakeholders. Their work this year includes:

- **Community Coordinator: via Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Integration Fund (RIF)**
This project provides support to people aged 50+ to access services and activities in the community to benefit their health and wellbeing.
Referrals received 402 - 32% of which are self-referrals and 10% of referrals were by GPSO's
Referrals made 243 which is a 29.3% increase on the previous year.
Social prescribing /signposts to third sector support 818 which is 112% higher than the year before.
With additional capacity, the Team now provide outreach support in a range of venues including Keir Hardie Health Park and Citizens Advice offices. Raising awareness of the project in these sessions has directly increased the number of referrals.
- **Mental Health: via Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board**
A particular development this year has been a collaboration with both residents and staff of Pinewood House; a facility which provides Mental Health recovery and rehabilitation in an in-patient setting. The aim was to co-produce a leaflet (and logo) that would better represent residents' needs. As a result of this comprehensive and fully coproduced process a co-designed leaflet has now been finalised. Additionally, a staff facing poster was created, providing clear contact details for SUIOs to ensure staff feel confident and well equipped to respond when approached by residents who wish to be involved in further coproducing opportunities.

This project has helped to improve communication, increased staff and resident awareness of coproduction work, strengthened relationships and empowered residents by making key information more visible and easier to access. By embedding co-production into Pinewood's approach future service developments are more likely to be resident-led, leading to more effective and meaningful change.

- **Community Resilience Officer: part funded via MTCBC**
This Officer has explored training needs of member organisations and developed a responsive training programme which included Business Planning; Data Protection; First Aid and Paediatric First Aid. Also supported the development of our "Meet the Funder" events to respond to the shrinkage of accessible grant funding, and collated and disseminated our Funding Newsletter.

The Officer takes a lead role in the facilitation of the multi-agency Food Prosperity Network and third sector Food Pantries Network. Time pressures on Pantry leads determined that going forward they will link to the overarching Food Prosperity Network and contact VAMT with any individual support requirements.

In facilitating the Children, Young People & Families Forum, the Officer has developed the Forum in terms of membership; engaged members in a number of consultations, including NSPCC Listen Up, Speak Up Campaign, and MTCBC'S data gathering on the Welsh Government Youth Work in Wales: Delivering for Young People consultation.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Trustees Report (Including Directors' Report)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

- **Invest Local Ynysowen Development Office: via Invest Local Ynysowen (ILY)**
Appointed in Q2, this Officer's role is to support the Invest Local Ynysowen Steering Group and deliver on its Driving Change Plan which has five key priorities.

They have been working in partnership with other organisations in the area to collaborate on projects and activities, in order to avoid duplication and ensure the needs of the community are met. This included, but is not limited to, working with Community Focused Schools to run activities for families of all ages including a Scarecrow Trail; World Book Day event. They have linked with Skateboard Academy UK to provide outdoor sport activities in response to a youth consultation held last year, and worked with Coalfields Regeneration Game On project to provide Footie Families Sessions for younger children and their parents.

The Officer provides a range of advice and guidance and provided funding support to the local Aquafit group for over 50's who subsequently received £6,720 for their ongoing activities. Funding support for the Ynysowen Events & Social Group resulted in them receiving £14,791. A transport survey was devised as an engagement approach to explore the communities' response to accessibility and frequency of train and bus services, and the findings have been shared with Transport for Wales and Stagecoach.

Community engagement is vital for this project so the Officer holds weekly drop-in sessions in Aberfan Community Centre, and reinvigorated the ILY social media platforms, particularly Facebook. This has resulted in increased engagement and greater awareness of what's being offered in the area, and how people can get involved. The work will develop further in the year ahead.

- **Community Rail Officer: via Transport for Wales**
The role is to develop and support a Community Rail Partnership (CRP) covering the Merthyr Tydfil, Aberdare and Treherbert lines to Cardiff (35 stations). The overall aim is to connect local communities with their railway, delivering social benefit and increasing rail use within this area through strategic activities.

Appointed in Q2 extensive engagement has been undertaken across the region and the Officer has (1) formed a Community Rail Partnership involving a range of Stakeholders across different sectors, representing the different areas of the CRP (2) undertook community consultation on a name that would represent the geographical area of the CRP - this was agreed as The Three Valleys Community Rail Partnership (3) created a logo which gives identity to the CRP and (4) developed a social media presence, and landing page for a website. Accreditation of the CRP via Community Rail is underway. Details of projects undertaken to date can be found on the CRP Facebook page.

Comprehensive mapping of all 35 stations, plus surrounding areas is part of the forward plan, with intention to meet groups/organisations in those areas who may support the CRP growth. Given the extent of the CRP region and Officer capacity (1.0wte), we will likely explore the support of volunteers going forward.

A NEW WAY OF WORKING

As a Board of Trustees, this year we supported the Team to trial a four-day workweek. Our decision-making was based on, but not limited to having experienced multiple failed recruitment campaigns and needing to exert a competitive stance in the recruitment and retention of staff; sustained financial pressures, and an ongoing permacrisis. Mindful of the negative effects on staff and the impact that working under sustained pressure has on individuals, our duty of care to protect our most valuable assets, was another key factor in the decision.

The trial was based on a National Study involving over 60 organisations across the UK, on the 100-80-100 principle: 100% input in 80% of the time for 100% salary.

To inform our decision, we consulted with existing and potential new funders. Without exception they found this to be an innovative approach; confirmed it demonstrated the value we placed in the wellbeing of our workforce; and they were supportive of the trial.

The trial was closely monitored throughout the year, and the overall findings (relating to recruitment/retention; sickness/absence; staff wellbeing and not least of all performance) were entirely positive. The Board of Trustees have therefore agreed (May 2025) this change be adopted on a permanent basis.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Trustees Report (Including Directors' Report)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

PLANS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

In 2018 we experienced a redundancy programme as a consequence of loss of funding, and it has taken a number of years to recover and stabilise both our financial and majority of our human resources. Given that the organisation is still largely reliant on annually renewed funding agreements for both its core staff and some project staff, we are taking a cautious approach when looking to the year ahead. We recognise that we are under-resourced with our volunteering capacity, and this is something that we would want to increase in the future. However, grant funding uncertainties influence our ability to plan over an extended period of time and so we are mindful of protecting our reserves to ensure that we do not have a repeat of 2018.

That being said, we can commit wholeheartedly to deliver the following as part of our core priorities in the coming year, and are confident in our ability to do so:

Governance:

- Providing information, advice and support to our members and their Trustees on effective governance.
- Gathering information on the training needs of members, and developing our training offer to meet identified needs.
- Developing our work in relation to diversity, equality and inclusion.
- Exploring AI technology in relation to our business.

Sustainable Funding:

- Working with existing funders to sustain services, particularly our project staff.
- Expanding our "Meet the Funder" programme.
- Regular and timely provision of new funding opportunities.

Engagement and Influence:

- Continued facilitation and development of our third sector networks and Forum meetings to provide engagement opportunities for both our members and our partners.
- Continued collaboration with CVC colleagues across the Cwm Taf Morgannwg footprint.

Volunteering:

- Ongoing provision of 1:1 information, advice and support for individuals wishing to volunteer.
- Supporting organisations who wish to benefit from volunteer involvement and/or undertake corporate volunteering activities.
- Revising our approach to the Volunteer Managers' Forum to incorporate training and information at each of the meetings.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal Funding Sources

VAMT continues to derive its funding from a number of sources. The principal ones being Welsh Government; Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council; Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board and Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Partnership Board.

In this report period we obtained funding via Invest Local Ynysowen and also Transport for Wales for the hosting of two new members of staff.

We were successful in applying for UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund administered by Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council. This funding enabled us to:

- replace the front and rear doors and also the lift facility at the Voluntary Action Centre; thereby increasing safety and accessibility.
- work with a developer to renew our current website; improving the user-experience.
- temporarily increase capacity around volunteering and community development; supporting individuals to explore volunteering, as well as supporting Parent/Teacher Associations in schools to become fully constituted organisations, enabling them to independently source funding to benefit the children in the school.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Trustees Report (Including Directors' Report)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Reserves Policy and Going Concern

The overall surplus for the year was £115,322 (2024 £179,031)

It is the Charity's policy that free reserves should be sufficient to allow the ongoing operation of the Charity in the event of an unexpected fall in funding. At 31 March 2025 the reserves of the Charity were:

	31/03/2025	31/03/2024
Unrestricted funds	£1,004,364	£890,209
Of which free funds amount to:	£927,425	£814,318
Restricted Funds	<u>£226,196</u>	<u>£225,029</u>
Total Funds	£1,230,560	£1,115,238

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

The Trustees of the charity regularly review and update the charities Risk Register which has a specific section on financial risk.

Pay Policy for Senior Staff

VAMT has an organisational policy which relates job roles to job groupings and an associated pay scale. Senior staff are incorporated in that policy. The spinal column points on the pay scales relate to the nationally agreed local government NJC scales (based on the rates as of 1st April 2024).

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

Company law requires the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the 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 management committee should follow best practice and:

- 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 UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charitable company will continue on that basis.

The Management Committee are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ascertain to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Management Committee is 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.

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

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Trustees Report (Including Directors' Report)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE TO OUR AUDITORS

In accordance with company law, as the company's directors, we certify that:

- so far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and
- as the directors of the company, we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 9 September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Michael Ronan
Chair & Treasurer

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The trustee, who are also the directors of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustee 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 trustee 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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

The trustee are responsible for keeping adequate 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 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.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Trustee of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- 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 trustee 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 trustee with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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 trustee are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustee report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Trustee of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Responsibilities of trustee

As explained more fully in the statement of trustee responsibilities, the trustee, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose 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 trustee 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 trustee 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 trustee either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

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.

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.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we 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. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the entity through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures as 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 trustee and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Trustee of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

M L Barnes FCA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of RCH Accountants Limited, Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

Wellfield House

Temple Street

Llandrindod Wells

Powys

LD1 5HG

10 September 2025

RCH Accountants Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Statement of Financial Activities Including Income and Expenditure Account

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:					
Charitable activities	2	323,132	701,998	1,025,130	1,014,704
Other Activities	3	36,492	-	36,492	39,212
Investments	4	19,147	-	19,147	12,207
Total income		378,771	701,998	1,080,769	1,066,123
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	347,495	613,677	961,172	894,810
Net gains/(losses) on investments	11	(4,275)	-	(4,275)	7,718
Net incoming resources before transfers		27,001	88,321	115,322	179,031
Gross transfers between funds		87,154	(87,154)	-	-
Net movement in funds		114,155	1,167	115,322	179,031
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		890,209	225,029	1,115,238	936,207
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		1,004,364	226,196	1,230,560	1,115,238

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

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

The notes on pages 19 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		79,681		77,915
Investments	15		87,464		91,738
			<u>167,145</u>		<u>169,653</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	16	59,688		38,387	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,043,493		959,897	
		<u>1,103,181</u>		<u>998,284</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(39,766)		(52,699)	
Net current assets			<u>1,063,415</u>		<u>945,585</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u><u>1,230,560</u></u>		<u><u>1,115,238</u></u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	20		226,196		225,029
Unrestricted funds	19		1,004,364		890,209
			<u><u>1,230,560</u></u>		<u><u>1,115,238</u></u>

The notes on pages 19 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011.

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

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in accordance with s. 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements were approved by the trustee on 9 September 2025

Mr M Ronan
Trustee

Company registration number 06058360 (England and Wales)

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	24		72,431		176,149
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(7,982)		(4,881)	
Investment income received		19,147		12,207	
Net cash generated from investing activities			11,165		7,326
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			83,596		183,475
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			959,897		776,422
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			1,043,493		959,897

The notes on pages 19 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 89 -90 High Street, Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, CF47 8UH.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustee have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustee continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustee in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Government and other grants

Government and other 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.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation 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.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

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.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

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

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold Land and Buildings	2% straight line, Land not depreciated
Leasehold land and buildings	Over the remaining term of the lease
Computers	25% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 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 overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 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 amounts 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 the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are measured at transaction price including transaction costs.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are recognised at transaction.

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

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	-	-	-	700
Grants and contracts	323,132	701,998	1,025,130	1,014,004
	<u>323,132</u>	<u>701,998</u>	<u>1,025,130</u>	<u>1,014,704</u>
Grants receivable for core activities				
CwmTaf Local Health Board	73,926	535,822	609,748	572,381
Merthyr Tydfil CBC	41,665	95,949	137,614	147,636
WCVA	207,541	6,650	214,191	205,336
Interlink	-	-	-	2,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	-	-	15,564
Global Village	-	-	-	13,231
Invest Local Ynysowen	-	36,077	36,077	276
Transport For Wales	-	27,500	27,500	57,580
	<u>323,132</u>	<u>701,998</u>	<u>1,025,130</u>	<u>1,014,004</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Miscellaneous Income	4,275	3,716
Rental Income	32,117	30,366
Other Activities	100	5,130
	<u>36,492</u>	<u>39,212</u>

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	<u>19,147</u>	<u>12,207</u>

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable Expenditure 2025 £	Charitable Expenditure 2024 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	465,510	387,877
Grants payable	<u>301,118</u>	<u>342,306</u>
	766,628	730,183
Share of support and governance costs (see note 7)		
Support	173,405	143,777
Governance	<u>21,139</u>	<u>20,850</u>
	961,172	894,810
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	347,495	371,287
Restricted funds	<u>613,677</u>	<u>523,523</u>
	961,172	894,810

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

6 Grants payable

	Charitable Expenditure 2025 £	Charitable Expenditure 2024 £
Grants to institutions 2025 (22 grants): 2024 (40 grants):		
Youth Led Grants	6,350	5,000
Regional Integrated Fund Grants	288,250	253,800
VAMT Grants	6,518	83,506
	<u>301,118</u>	<u>342,306</u>

7 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs	-	14,000	14,000	14,000
Premises expenses	89,060	-	89,060	62,562
Advertising & publications	4,250	-	4,250	2,667
Insurance	5,045	-	5,045	4,879
Bank charges	5,472	-	5,472	6,635
Development costs	18,052	-	18,052	21,605
Office costs	37,867	-	37,867	31,965
Motor & Travel	1,555	-	1,555	851
Legal & professional	2,467	-	2,467	3,071
Other costs	3,421	-	3,421	2,428
Depreciation	6,216	-	6,216	7,114
Audit fees	-	5,200	5,200	5,000
Accountancy	-	1,939	1,939	1,850
	<u>173,405</u>	<u>21,139</u>	<u>194,544</u>	<u>164,627</u>
Analysed between Charitable activities	<u>173,405</u>	<u>21,139</u>	<u>194,544</u>	<u>164,627</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

8 Auditor's remuneration

Fees payable to the charity's auditor and associates:	2025 £	2024 £
Audit of the charity's annual accounts	5,200	5,000
Non-audit services		
All other non-audit services	1,939	1,850

9 Trustee

None of the trustee (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year. One trustee was reimbursed a total of £31 in respect of travel costs, (2024 nil)

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
	13	11
Employment costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	406,142	341,440
Social security costs	33,819	26,926
Other pension costs	39,549	33,511
	479,510	401,877

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

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2025	2024
Aggregate compensation	106,954	97,071

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

11 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	(4,275)	7,718

12 Operating Profit

	2025 £	2024 £
Operating Profit for the year is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	6,216	7,115
Operating Leases	2,332	2,176

13 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Leasehold land and buildings £	Computers £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2024	87,979	427,433	126,147	641,559
Additions	-	-	7,982	7,982
At 31 March 2025	87,979	427,433	134,129	649,541
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 April 2024	20,153	427,433	116,058	563,644
Depreciation charged in the year	1,260	-	4,956	6,216
At 31 March 2025	21,413	427,433	121,014	569,860
Carrying amount				
At 31 March 2025	66,566	-	13,115	79,681
At 31 March 2024	67,826	-	10,089	77,915

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

15 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2024	91,738
Valuation changes	(4,274)
	<u>87,464</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>87,464</u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2025	<u>87,464</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>91,738</u>

16 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	2,137	2,846
Other debtors	56,549	33,242
Prepayments and accrued income	1,002	2,299
	<u>59,688</u>	<u>38,387</u>

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security	9,188	8,032
Trade creditors	14,023	32,056
Accruals and deferred income	16,555	12,611
	<u>39,766</u>	<u>52,699</u>

18 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025 £	2024 £
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>39,549</u>	<u>33,511</u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

19 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	890,209	378,771	(347,495)	87,154	(4,275)	1,004,364
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	807,851	346,399	(371,287)	99,528	7,718	890,209
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

20 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

Transfers of funds represent agreed management charges for the operation of the fund, contributions to core costs and similar items.

	Movement in funds				Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Transport for Wales	-	57,580	(590)	(1,243)	55,747	27,500	(31,086)	(7,553)	44,608
Youth led Grants	450	6,650	(5,000)	(1,200)	900	6,650	(6,350)	(1,200)	-
Community Resilience	-	8,000	(18,010)	63,619	53,609	61,496	(68,349)	5,447	52,203
Regional Integrated Fund	12,000	396,752	(301,102)	(57,829)	49,821	453,230	(397,113)	(65,591)	40,347
Community Zone	-	35,044	(32,787)	(2,257)	-	-	-	-	-
Lonliness and Isolation	-	36,435	(20,465)	(15,970)	-	-	-	-	-
Global Village	-	13,231	(10,500)	-	2,731	-	(2,731)	-	-
Invest Local Ynysowen	-	276	(276)	-	-	36,076	(26,823)	(8,479)	774
Interlink COVID	12,161	-	(323)	-	11,838	-	-	-	11,838
BAME	447	-	-	-	447	-	(223)	(224)	-
MTCBC - Food Poverty	-	63,900	(53,689)	(6,423)	3,788	-	(3,788)	-	-
Lloyds Foundation	474	15,564	(9,661)	(5,844)	533	-	(237)	(296)	-
Recovery	47,627	-	-	(46,877)	750	-	-	-	750
Shared Prosperity Fund	-	-	-	-	-	34,453	(38,612)	4,159	-
Mental Health Involvement & Development	55,197	86,292	(71,120)	(25,504)	44,865	82,593	(38,366)	(13,416)	75,676
Feeding Britain	-	-	-	-	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
	<u>128,356</u>	<u>719,724</u>	<u>(523,523)</u>	<u>(99,528)</u>	<u>225,029</u>	<u>711,998</u>	<u>(623,678)</u>	<u>(87,153)</u>	<u>226,196</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

20 Restricted funds

Transport for Wales - To promote and develop the community railway lines on behalf of the Heads of the Valleys Railway Partnership. Working in partnership with the local community, business, and tourism to establish and implement a community rail development plan that will benefit the community and the railway. The Officer will support the Community Rail Partnership and have responsibility for the delivery of the Activity Plan that will be agreed by the regional steering group each year in line with the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.

Gwirvol User Led Grants - Grants given to all CVC's to encourage youth led projects.

RIF Befriending Services - Funding is provided to improve loneliness and isolation in the 50+ population by providing befriending services via one to one and group sessions.

Community Resilience Fund - For provision of community development support to third sector organisations, in particular around the children, young people and families and food prosperity agenda.

RIF Dementia - Grant funding for third sector organisations providing dementia care in the Cwm Taf Region. This includes an element to host a Dementia conference and produce a film demonstrating third sector delivery in supporting people living with dementia and their carers. This element has been delayed by Covid.

Community Zone - For provision of Community Development and Information, Advice and Assistance support to the Community Zone within the Gurnos.

Loneliness and Isolation represents funding to host a staff member to work collaboratively with third sector organisations and partners, to tackle loneliness and isolation in Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf. along with a grant scheme that will be used to build the capability and sustainability of front-line grass roots voluntary and community organisations that bring people of all ages together and help them build social connections.

Global Village - Legacy fund to administer a small grant scheme for organisations, to fund workshops promoting equality, diversity, culture and inclusion.

Invest Local Ynysowen - To support the Invest Local Ynysowen Steering Group, residents, volunteers, groups, stakeholders and partners to deliver the projects and programmes of work identified in the Driving Change plan. The officer will engage with local residents and develop a sustainable volunteer base, build local capacity to develop a sustainable funding strategy to secure the long-term future of the community beyond the Invest local funding.

Interlink Covid - Support, administration and evaluation relating to Mental Health Covid-19 grants.

BAME - Public Health provided funding to employ a Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) Engagement Officer. The key aim of the project was to influence Covid-19 safe behaviours in local BAME communities by ensuring the messaging is appropriate and culturally sensitive, encouraging adherence to guidance and encouraging uptake of testing and vaccinations.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

20 Restricted funds

MTCBC - Food Poverty - This grant contributes to food supplies and equipment for the pantries, food banks and food co-ops in Merthyr Tydfil.

Lloyds Foundation - a grant to host a Local Implementation Lead officer, to support their people and places programme of work in Merthyr Tydfil.

Recovery - a grant scheme to assist with post covid recovery and promote well-being.

Shared Prosperity Fund - grant funding to improve access within the Charity's building, for social enterprise web development and salary costs to support volunteering and development staff.

Mental Health Involvement & Development - an agreement with Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB to host two posts as part of their model of service delivery for mental health, along with funding to take forward recommendations of a report to review of service user and carer representation, engagement and involvement: Cwm Taf Morgannwg Together for Mental Health Partnership Board.

Feeding Britain - Funding towards food supplies and equipment for the pantries and food co-ops in Merthyr Tydfil.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2025 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	76,939	2,742	79,681	77,915
Investments	87,464	-	87,464	91,738
Current assets/(liabilities)	839,961	223,454	1,063,415	945,585
	<u>1,004,364</u>	<u>226,196</u>	<u>1,230,560</u>	<u>1,115,238</u>

22 Operating lease commitments

Lessee

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Within one year	2,260	2,104
Between two and five years	4,784	640
	<u>7,044</u>	<u>2,744</u>

23 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

24 Cash generated from operations

	2025 £	2024 £
Surplus for the year	115,322	179,031
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(19,147)	(12,207)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	4,275	(7,718)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	6,215	7,114
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(21,301)	(137)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(12,933)	10,066
Cash generated from operations	<u>72,431</u>	<u>176,149</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

25 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no material debt during the year.

Accounts

Charity registration number 1118403

Company registration number 06058360 (England and Wales)

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024



VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustee	D Hughes Dr H Jones OBE Ms N B Mahoney Ms K A Nor-val Ms A Roberts Mr M Ronan	(Appointed 28 November 2023)
Secretary	Ms S Richards	
Charity number	1118403	
Company number	06058360	
Principal address	89 -90 High Street Merthyr Tydfil Mid Glamorgan CF47 8UH	
Auditor	RCH Accountants Limited Wellfield House Temple Street Llandrindod Wells Powys LD1 5HG	

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustee report	1 - 8
Statement of trustee responsibilities	9
Independent auditor's report	10 - 12
Statement of financial activities	13
Balance sheet	14
Statement of cash flows	15
Notes to the financial statements	16 - 27

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024.

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity & Company Name	Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil
Charity Registration Number	1118403
Company Registration Number	6058360
Registered Office	89-90 Pontmorlais, High Street, Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8UH
Trustees	Dr Hefin Jones OBE, Chair Michael Ronan, Treasurer Anne Roberts MBE Kayleigh Nor-Val Nicola Mahoney David Hughes Tanya Edwards (to 30.01.24)
Chief Officer / Company Secretary	Sharon Richards
Banker	HSBC, 127-128 High Street, Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8DN
Auditor	RCH Chartered Accountants, Wellfield House, Temple Street, Llandrindod Wells LD1 5HG

ACCOUNTABILITY AND GOVERNANCE

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (VAMT) is an incorporated association and a registered charity. The current company / charity became operational on 1 October 2007 with assets and liabilities transferred from the old charity with the same name (registered number 1060242).

Directors/Trustees are recruited and appointed in accordance with the articles and memorandum of association. Nominations are invited from the members of the company/charity and are elected at the AGM. Officers are elected by the Board. No outside party can nominate Trustees, however elected Trustees may appoint or co-opt members in accordance with the constitution.

VAMT has adopted the Charity Commission's Hallmarks of an Effective Charity, and its Board of Trustees adhere to the Nolan Seven Principles of Public Life.

OBJECTIVES

The Objects of the Charity are to promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the community in the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil and surrounding area ('the area of benefit') and in particular, but not limited to, the advancement of education, the furtherance of health and the relief of poverty, distress, and sickness.

The principal aims of the charity are to:

- Enable third sector organisations to deliver services, improve in all aspects of their work and become resilient
- Strengthen representation and influence of third sector organisations; and
- Enhance volunteering and wellbeing through participation and community action

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

VAMT is a member of Third Sector Support Wales (TSSW); a collaboration of the 19 County Voluntary Councils in Wales together with Wales Council for Voluntary Action. TSSW provide a universal offer to the third sector based on four pillars of activity: volunteering; good governance; sustainable funding and engagement and influencing which align with the overall objectives of VAMT.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees confirm they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives in planning future activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

TSSW organisations utilise an integrated Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system which provides functionality to record and monitor activity. The table below captures VAMT data across the previous two reporting periods:

Key Performance Indicators	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024
Total number of interactions (instances of advice / support) with organisations/stakeholders	527	712
Number of volunteers placed / supported	116	95
Number of Third Sector organisations provided with direct advice/support	269	502
Amount of funding received by Third Sector organisations following support (from VAMT)	£1,500,176	£341,221
Amount of funding provided through grants schemes administered by VAMT	£353,454	£327,240
Number of attendees at forums and events organised by VAMT	414	523
Number of participants at training courses provided (digital and face to face)	25	56
Total membership	328	345

VOLUNTEERING

We continue to provide the services of a Volunteer Centre as part of our core business, with 0.5 wte officer leading this area of our work. The type of service offered is the provision of information, advice and one-to-one support for individuals wishing to volunteer their time. To compliment this work with individuals, we also provide information and advice to organisations on recruiting and onboarding volunteers, as well as the service of advertising volunteer opportunities on their behalf. In addition to promoting opportunities at a local level, we routinely utilise the Volunteering Wales website to achieve wider exposure of the opportunities available, and support to individuals to access opportunities outside of the area, if they so wish.

Over the course of the year the Volunteer Centre provided support to 61 individual volunteers and then brokered and supported a further 34 to undertake volunteer placements.

For the purpose of promoting best practice, providing policy advice, and sharing information and networking, we facilitate a Volunteer Managers' Forum which is open to any of our member organisations who involve volunteers in supporting their work.

For the second year running we organised a Volunteer Fair in Merthyr Tydfil Town Centre as part of our annual celebration of Volunteers' Week. We facilitated the involvement of 25 member organisations who were able to promote their services and volunteering opportunities. Feedback was incredibly positive and gave recognition that as well as engaging directly with the public, 'the variety of organisations represented made for good networking'. We followed up this event with a similar event in January, again in the town centre, where 26 organisations attended to promote their services and engage with the public. As a consequence of this event, 20 individuals expressed interest in volunteering.

We were incredibly pleased to reinstate a formal Volunteer Awards Event - our first since pre-pandemic - to formally recognise the contribution of volunteers across 5 separate categories; Young Volunteer of the Year (25 years and under); Volunteer of the Year; Community Group; Trustee and Outstanding Contribution Award. We were privileged to be supported by the acclaimed Welsh actor and writer, Steve Speirs who compered the evening and presented the awards.

A new collaboration has been entered into with VAMT supporting Active Merthyr and their 'Volunteer of the Month'

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

programme which recognises the efforts of volunteers who have made an impact on the community through their contribution to sport / sporting groups. The monthly winners will then be proposed for a new category of award which will be incorporated into VAMT's formal Volunteer Recognition Awards process and Ceremony in June 2024.

The Volunteer Centre is collaborating with The College Merthyr Tydfil on their Supported Internship Programme for 16-25 year olds who have a diagnoses of additional learning needs. Towards the end of the internship the Volunteering Officer will arrange a presentation to the interns, outlining the benefits of volunteering and how it might help them move into employment.

Also, the Volunteer Centre works closely with the Employability and Enterprise Coach to organise Information Days specifically for learners. A Global Citizenship event was held, and VAMT brokered 10 member organisations who supported the event.

We are seeing an increase in request for support by Job Centre Work Coaches referring potential customers interested in volunteering.

Each year VAMT staff volunteer to support member organisations as part of our Employee Volunteering Policy, which is our way of 'giving back' to the local area. This year the team have provided a total of 42 hours to support organisations including Merthyr/Cynon Foodbank and Merthyr Tydfil Poppy Appeal.

The VAMT website dedicates an area to our work to support volunteering, and also showcases pictures and film clips which are gathered to capture members' activity of Volunteers' Week.

As in previous years, we administered a Youth Led Grants programme. This involved active promotion of the opportunity, collation of applications, convening and facilitating a multi-agency grants panel who then assessed the applications and agreed the awards. A total of £5,000 was allocated to five separate organisations.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

Our work in supporting members to achieve and exercise good governance accounts for 16.5% of our interactions across the year, and has increased more than three-fold since the pandemic. Our Lead Officer for Community Development has provided a range of 1:1 support which has included offering information, advice and guidance relating to business planning; development of policies and procedures; and support/access to a range of training and development opportunities. We have supported the establishment of a range of new organisations/community groups, and are pleased to report another year of growth in our membership.

The responsibility placed upon a Board of Directors / Trustees in providing support to organisations cannot be underestimated. Therefore for Trustees' Week in November we provided a week-long calendar of support opportunities for our members to offer their Trustees. The calendar included an introductory session to becoming a Trustees; a session on diversity; through to an overview of safeguarding and understanding responsibilities. We also held an afternoon 'cuppa and catch up' session where those attending were able to network and share experiences, and also asked whether VAMT could run a Trustees' Network. This is something for us to explore.

We provide a range of information and tools to support Trustees in their roles which can be found under the "Good Governance" section of our website. Also, we routinely signpost to additional resources via the TSSW Knowledge Hub.

Access to good quality training and development is a key benefit for any organisation's workforce, yet may be something that is of lesser priority at present due to the ongoing financial crisis. To support this we have been exploring the needs of members with a view to sourcing and providing low cost / no-cost training opportunities. We will continue to work with members to ensure we understand their requests, and provide solutions whenever and wherever possible.

During the year we have collaborated with colleagues in Democratic Services of MTCBC to reinstate a structured process of engaging and appointing third sector representation and involvement in Scrutiny Committees. As the interface between the third sector and Local Authority our agreed, rigorous, 9-step process of support aligns with the whole journey of becoming a representative and fulfilling the representative role. We will actively promote opportunities through our membership and contacts; manage enquiries and provide information packs, advice and guidance on the process of nomination; support the onboarding of representatives to Committees and provide platforms for engagement through our Networks and Forum meetings for Scrutiny Representatives to gather information and also provide feedback to the wider sector.

The process has been welcomed by Democratic Services and agreed by Cabinet and we will continue to work together to ensure that the governance process remains strong. VAMT has held information sessions for vacancies,

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

and supported a nominee to be accepted as a Representative on the Social Services Scrutiny Committee.

As in previous years we have implemented a robust governance framework when administering grant schemes, ensuring the process is transparent; exercising due diligence in respect of financial accountability; and in ensuring recipients of grant awards are compliant with monitoring and reporting responsibilities.

We have supported a number of external Partner Grant Panels in this period. This support includes pre panel support with applications submitted to the Merthyr Tydfil Community Trust and will lead to a VAMT Team member sitting on the panel for 24/25. Grant panel support includes Merthyr Valleys Homes grant and the Shared Prosperity Grant panels for Sport and Social Economy. In addition, we continue to have representation on the CTM Carers Steering Group and support any grant panels awarding funding via this workstream.

SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

We are witnessing a continued increase in demand for our support in relation to sustainable funding with 22% of our interactions across the year relating to this area of work. It is remarkable that this is at a higher level than when the pandemic was at its height (15.8%), yet unsurprising given the ongoing financial crisis, cuts to service contracts, and shrinkage of accessible funding sources.

Following our support, 17 organisations have collectively secured £341,222 of funding. This is a higher number of organisations when compared with the previous year, but comparatively less funding achieved, as the previous year included a number of high value awards via the Lottery.

We continued to administer a range of grant schemes across the local and regional area, and allocated a total of £327,240 to 34 organisations:

Local Grant Schemes

- **Loneliness & Isolation Grant (11 awards)** - to support connected/cohesive and supportive communities and promoting positive attitudes. This grant supported a range of opportunities from which 1053 people benefitted. Volunteers gave 6841 hours of support, which added a social value of £95,774 to the overall grant.
- **Sustainable Food Grant (7 awards)** - to support affordable food provision across the Borough. This grant supported a total number of 3591 beneficiaries, and enabled families to save an average of £26.10. Volunteers supporting these schemes gave an average of 50+ hours per week which equates to over £703.00 per week in added social value.
- **Global Village Legacy Fund (4 awards)** - VAMT was approached to administer this grant scheme on behalf of the Merthyr Tydfil Global Village Committee as the organisation were drawing to a close. It was agreed the remaining funds of the organisation be offered as grants to support arts-based projects that champion the diversity of the Borough and align with the ethos of Merthyr Tydfil Global Village. Projects will run up until August 2024, and evaluation information for the grants awarded to date will feature in our next report.
- **Youth Led Grants (5 awards)** - to support small volunteering projects and activities, led and carried out by young people. Facilitated by VAMT, applications are selected and awards agreed by a panel of young people. Successful awards included setting up a senior youth club; developing workshops on 'survival skills' such as 'how to look after a house', 'fixing things safely'; running a healthy snack shack; and developing an animation film regarding safeguarding.

Regional Grant Schemes (Cwm Taf / Cwm Taf Morgannwg)

- **Regional Integration Fund to retain Befriending Support (5 awards)** - Volunteers are an essential component of delivering befriending services and across this particular grant fund an additional £74,536 was achieved through the social value contribution of volunteers who delivered 5324 hours of support.
- **Regional Integration Fund Community Capacity Grant Scheme (2 awards for consortia projects)** - purposely supporting people living with dementia and/or their Carers.

The ongoing permacrisis is impacting third sector at a time when we witness a reduction in accessible grant funding for us to administer onwards for members' benefit. In the current report period we see a 32% reduction in the value

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

of grants we administered when compared to the 2019-20 period and that reduction increases to almost 40% when compared to the height of the pandemic. To try and redress this we organised events for members to meet directly with Funders on six separate occasions throughout the year. These included a workshop with the Heritage Lottery and bespoke "Meet the Funder" events for The Postcode Lottery, Easyfundraising and others. Overall 75 people from member organisations participated in the events.

We are concerned that a number of grant schemes that we have administered in the past few years will not be available in the year ahead, eg, Loneliness & Isolation Grant; Comic Relief Funding and Community Foundation in Wales. We will therefore continue our "Meet the Funder" approach, and strengthen our connection with as many funding bodies as possible, for member benefit.

A survey of members confirmed their value of our Funding Newsletter which aims to promote funding opportunities and raising awareness of new funding bodies. We distributed six issues across the year with an average of 10 items per newsletter.

Through our Business & Finance Team we provided one-to-one finance support, including accounts checking service for two small community groups, plus an accounts and payroll service for one member organisation. It is our first full year of utilising XERO as our financial management system and all reports, including end of year reports, have been undertaken without issue.

INFLUENCE AND ENGAGEMENT

VAMT exercises a range of approaches for engaging with member organisations and partners as demonstrated below:

Newsletters/Bulletins

- Continuation of our formal newsletter "Inform" which is distributed to our membership and network contacts directly, and available via the website after dissemination - [Inform Newsletter](#)
- A bulletin specific to funding information, produced initially each month, but reduced to quarterly based on members' feedback. 6 issues distributed across the year promoting 60 funding opportunities.
- A fortnightly bulletin sent directly to members which is used to promote the sector and raise awareness of events/consultations. 24 issues distributed which featured in excess of 140 articles.

Social Media

- There were 4,700 users to our website and 16,000 page views. The most accessed pages related to Job vacancies.
- Our blog was viewed on 2,495 occasions.
- We prioritised our Facebook interactions this year and increased our followers to 1500. Our reach increased by 37.8% to 42.4k, and we received 195.4k impressions on our posts.
- Our use of Twitter (X) dropped markedly, and we will aim to redress this going forward.
- In Q4 we introduced Linked-In to our suite of social media platforms, particularly to support our recruitment needs.

Network and Forum Meetings

VAMT has a long history of facilitating Network and Forum meetings around a range of themes. However, an internal review revealed duplication of input by members and our own Team, across varying Fora. A streamlining exercise was undertaken and networks with common themes were aligned to increase efficiency and reduce duplication.

We will therefore facilitate the following networks going forward:

- Health & Wellbeing (including befriending and environment/green prescribing);
- Children, Young People and Families;
- Volunteer Managers;
- Food Prosperity and Food Pantries
- Funders' Forum

A Third Sector Leaders' Forum was also piloted with positive effect and will continue to be developed in the year ahead.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Partnership Meetings

All levels of the organisations are involved in supporting the TSSW Partnership Structure, including the Chair. In addition to that VAMT team routinely engages in around 40 partnerships and planning groups at a local/ regional level. Some key developments this year have been:

- Supporting the introduction of the Accelerated Cluster Development Programme which is the Primary Care Component of Place Based Care, delivered through a range of Professional Collaboratives and Clusters. VAMT proposed the Health & Wellbeing Forum serves the purpose of a third sector collaborative, given its extensive reach and ability to engage with a wide variety of professionals and their ability to bring forward the voice of service users. This offer has been accepted; and VAMT will represent the Forum at Cluster level, and also the overarching Board, to ensure the views of third sector are put forward.
- Working in partnership with Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board colleagues to deliver a community engagement event entitled 'Let's Talk Women's Health'. The purpose was to achieve understanding of what women need to feel 'at their best', so that the UHB may collate feedback and use it to inform their future planning. VAMT was able to host the event, and bring forward innovative guest speakers from our membership.
- Working alongside a range of key local organisations to hold the first ever Merthyr Pride event. As an active member on the Planning Group, VAMT's specific role included recruiting and training volunteers who then undertook a wide variety of roles to support the event and those participating. The event was a huge success and is likely to become part of the annual schedule of events in the Borough.
- We collaborated with colleagues in Interlink RCT to introduce, administer and support a third sector grant scheme on behalf of the Carers Trust. The purpose of the Scheme "Amser" was to provide short breaks for unpaid carers. A total of 11 organisations received funding totalling £80,000, which enabled 622 unpaid carers (including young carers) to access a break. The breaks took the form of health and wellbeing activities; days out and also mini breaks.

PROJECT FUNDED STAFF

VAMT currently has staff delivering against particular project areas; some grant funded and some with Service Agreements. The outline of all projects align with our overarching core business. These projects contribute to our engagement with individuals in the community, our members and our partners. Their work this year includes:

- **Community Coordinator: via Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Integration Fund (RIF)**
The Community Coordinator provides support to those aged 50+ to access services and activities in the community to benefit their health and wellbeing.
Referrals received 355 - 39% of which are self-referrals
Referrals made 188
Social prescribing /signposts to third sector support 386 - more than double the previous year.
We continue to see high level of demand for this support and increasing complexity of referrals received. Therefore we are pleased to confirm project expansion for the year ahead, during which time we will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of project inception.
A key aspect of the Community Coordinator role is the ability to identify gaps in service provision. This year our Coordinator has been able to work in collaboration with Marie Curie to set up and deliver a monthly bereavement support group at our office.
- **Tackling Loneliness & Isolation Development Officer: via RIF**
Given the longstanding vacancy position, during the year we have been able to achieve agreement from the Funder to reconfigure this role as a Community Coordinator. The new role will become fully effective in the year ahead at which time the Funder will also support the introduction of a further Community Coordinator role, as a means of levelling up provision across the CTM region.
- **Calon Las Community Hub: via Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council**
This dedicated Community Development Officer role supports the developments at Calon Las Community Hub to benefit those living and/or working within the Gurnos area of the Borough. The type of support provided includes information, advice and support for group development; funding and involvement with local activities, as well as managing the social media accounts for the Hub.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

- **Local Implementation Lead: via Lloyds Bank Foundation England & Wales:**
VAMT have been working alongside LBF to reintroduce a Local Implementation Lead to continue their work in Merthyr Tydfil, and reintroduce the Steering Group, of which VAMT is a member. LBF plan to scope out a tender opportunity which will be issued early in the new financial year.
- **Mental Health: via Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board**
VAMT is host to two roles, covering both development, and service user/carer involvement. There are equivalent roles in both Bridgend and RCT Voluntary Councils and officers collaborate in order to provide a regional response to the mental health agenda. VAMT facilitated localised events during Mental Health Awareness Week and World Mental Health Day, and continues to raise awareness of local activities/services to support mental health and wellbeing.
The Service User Involvement officer is currently working towards gathering views of those who are in specialised facilities across the area, to understand their needs and expectations, and to use the feedback to help inform future service developments. A particular development has been the work with service users and carers to design a rewards and recognition framework to ensure that individuals taking part in engagement, involvement and co-production activities are suitably rewarded.
With Development Officer vacancies in VAMT and another CVC, the UHB is planning to revisit the overall model of support required, and we will continue to support the UHB in their forward planning.
- **Community Resilience Officer: via MTCBC**
The remit of this role is to work collaboratively to support third sector organisations to respond to the cost-of-living crisis. A successful recruitment drive was achieved, and the appointee commenced role late Quarter 3. Work to date includes mapping provision of warm hubs/spaces across the Borough and working with groups to enhance their projects' sustainability.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Our core priorities will include:

Governance:

- Providing information, advice and support to our members and their Trustees on effective governance.
- Continued mapping of the training needs of members, and the ongoing development our training offer to meet identified needs.
- Progressing our work in relation to diversity, equality and inclusion.

Sustainable Funding:

- Working with funders of our existing project staff to sustain services.
- Increase our Meet the Funder sessions to increase awareness of potential support available to our members and communities.
- Progressing our work in relation to diversity, equality and inclusion.

Engagement and Influence:

- Continued facilitation of a range of third sector networks to provide engagement opportunities for both our members and our partners.
- Continued development of our Health & Wellbeing Forum as a third sector collaborative supporting the Accelerated Cluster Development agenda in our area.
- Development of a Third Sector Leaders' Forum
- Collaboration with Interlink RCT and BAVO in relation to regional partnerships and joint service delivery across the Cwm Taf Morgannwg footprint.

Volunteering:

- Ongoing provision of 1:1 information, advice and support for individuals wishing to volunteer.
- Supporting organisations who wish to benefit from volunteer involvement and/or undertake corporate volunteering activities.
- Continued facilitation and support in relation to volunteer recruitment, training and onboarding for the annual Merthyr Pride event.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal Funding Sources

VAMT continues to derive its funding from a number of sources. The principal sources being Welsh Government; Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council; Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board and Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Partnership Board.

In this report period additional funding has been received from Lloyds Bank Foundation (England & Wales).

Reserves Policy and Going Concern

The overall surplus for the year was £179,031 (2023 Deficit £24,856)

It is the Charity's policy that free reserves should be sufficient to allow the ongoing operation of the Charity in the event of an unexpected fall in funding. At 31 March 2024 free reserves amounted to £814,318 (2023 £728,833)

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity. The trustees of the charity regularly review and update the charities Risk Register which has a specific section on financial risk.

The Trustees of the charity regularly review and update the charities Risk Register which has a specific section on financial risk.

Pay Policy for Senior Staff

VAMT has an organisational policy which relates job roles to job groupings and an associated pay scale. Senior staff are incorporated in that policy. The spinal column points on the pay scales relate to the nationally agreed local government NJC scales (based on the rates as of 1st April 2023).

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In accordance with company law, as the company's directors, we certify that:

- so far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and
- as the directors of the company, we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 29 July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Dr H Jones
Chair

M Ronan
Treasurer

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustee, who are also the directors of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustee 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 trustee 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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

The trustee are responsible for keeping adequate 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 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.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEE OF VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- 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 trustee 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 trustee with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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 trustee are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustee report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEE OF VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Responsibilities of trustee

As explained more fully in the statement of trustee responsibilities, the trustee, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose 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 trustee 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 trustee 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 trustee either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

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.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we 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. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the entity through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures as 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 trustee and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEE OF VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

M L Barnes FCA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of RCH Accountants Limited

29 July 2024

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Wellfield House
Temple Street
Llandrindod Wells
Powys
LD1 5HG

RCH Accountants Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

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 £
Income from:					
Charitable activities	2	294,980	719,724	1,014,704	935,972
Other Activities	3	39,212	-	39,212	41,476
Investments	4	12,207	-	12,207	4,468
Total income		346,399	719,724	1,066,123	981,916
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	371,287	523,523	894,810	1,003,499
Net gains/(losses) on investments	10	7,718	-	7,718	(3,273)
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(17,170)	196,201	179,031	(24,856)
Gross transfers between funds		99,528	(99,528)	-	-
Net movement in funds		82,358	96,673	179,031	(24,856)
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		807,851	128,356	936,207	961,063
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		890,209	225,029	1,115,238	936,207

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

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

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

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		77,915		80,148
Investments	13		91,738		84,020
			<u>169,653</u>		<u>164,168</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	14	38,387		38,250	
Cash at bank and in hand		959,897		776,422	
		<u>998,284</u>		<u>814,672</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	52,699		42,633	
		<u>52,699</u>		<u>42,633</u>	
Net current assets			945,585		772,039
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>1,115,238</u>		<u>936,207</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	18	225,029		128,356	
Unrestricted funds	17	890,209		807,851	
		<u>1,115,238</u>		<u>936,207</u>	

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011.

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

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustee on 29 July 2024

Dr H Jones OBE
Trustee

Company registration number 06058360 (England and Wales)

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	21		176,149		108,599
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(4,881)		(5,400)	
Investment income received		12,207		4,468	
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities			7,326		(932)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			183,475		107,667
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			776,422		668,755
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			959,897		776,422

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is .

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustee have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustee continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustee in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

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.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation 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.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

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

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold Land and Buildings	2% straight line, Land not depreciated
Leasehold land and buildings	Over the remaining term of the lease
Computers	25% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 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 overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

1.9 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 amounts 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 the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are measured at transaction price including transaction costs.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are recognised at transaction.

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

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	-	700	700	-
Grants and contracts	294,980	719,024	1,014,004	935,972
	<u>294,980</u>	<u>719,724</u>	<u>1,014,704</u>	<u>935,972</u>
Grants receivable for core activities				
CwmTaf Local Health Board	67,629	504,752	572,381	183,449
Merthyr Tydfil CBC	26,665	120,971	147,636	84,566
WCVA	198,686	6,650	205,336	657,957
Interlink	2,000	-	2,000	-
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	15,564	15,564	-
Feeding Britain	-	-	-	10,000
Global Village	-	13,231	13,231	-
Invest Local Ynysowen	-	276	276	-
Transport For Wales	-	57,580	57,580	-
	<u>294,980</u>	<u>719,024</u>	<u>1,014,004</u>	<u>935,972</u>

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Miscellaneous Income	3,716	6,214
Rental Income	30,366	30,032
Other Activities	5,130	5,230
	<u>39,212</u>	<u>41,476</u>

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	<u>12,207</u>	<u>4,468</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable Expenditure 2024 £	Charitable Expenditure 2023 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	387,877	385,863
Grants payable	342,306	462,964
	<u>730,183</u>	<u>848,827</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 6)		
Support	143,777	134,437
Governance	20,850	20,235
	<u>894,810</u>	<u>1,003,499</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	371,287	368,083
Restricted funds	523,523	635,416
	<u>894,810</u>	<u>1,003,499</u>

6 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs	-	14,000	14,000	13,500
Premises expenses	62,562	-	62,562	35,028
Advertising & publications	2,667	-	2,667	3,174
Insurance	4,879	-	4,879	4,689
Bank charges	6,635	-	6,635	1,229
Development costs	21,605	-	21,605	33,033
Office costs	31,965	-	31,965	29,704
Motor & Travel	851	-	851	980
Legal & professional	3,071	-	3,071	17,782
Other costs	2,428	-	2,428	1,835
Depreciation	7,114	-	7,114	6,983
Audit fees	-	5,000	5,000	5,000
Other governance costs	-	1,850	1,850	1,735
	<u>143,777</u>	<u>20,850</u>	<u>164,627</u>	<u>154,672</u>
Analysed between Charitable activities	<u>143,777</u>	<u>20,850</u>	<u>164,627</u>	<u>154,672</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Auditor's remuneration

Fees payable to the charity's auditor and associates:	2024 £	2023 £
Audit of the charity's annual accounts	5,000	5,000

8 Trustee

None of the trustee (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
	11	11

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	341,440	335,200
Social security costs	26,926	32,122
Other pension costs	33,511	32,041
	401,877	399,363

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

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2024	2023
Aggregate compensation	97,071	92,401

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

10 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	7,718	(3,273)

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Leasehold land and buildings £	Computers £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2023	87,979	427,433	121,266	636,678
Additions	-	-	4,881	4,881
At 31 March 2024	87,979	427,433	126,147	641,559
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 April 2023	18,893	427,433	110,203	556,529
Depreciation charged in the year	1,260	-	5,855	7,115
At 31 March 2024	20,153	427,433	116,058	563,644
Carrying amount				
At 31 March 2024	67,826	-	10,089	77,915
At 31 March 2023	69,085	-	11,063	80,148

13 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2023	84,020
Valuation changes	7,718
At 31 March 2024	91,738
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2024	91,738
At 31 March 2023	84,020

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	2,846	2,072
Other debtors	33,242	30,131
Prepayments and accrued income	2,299	6,047
	<u>38,387</u>	<u>38,250</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other taxation and social security	8,032	7,289
Trade creditors	32,056	12,398
Accruals and deferred income	12,611	22,946
	<u>52,699</u>	<u>42,633</u>

16 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £33,511 (2023 - £32,041).

17 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	<u>807,851</u>	<u>346,399</u>	<u>(371,287)</u>	<u>99,528</u>	<u>7,718</u>	<u>890,209</u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>751,493</u>	<u>341,457</u>	<u>(368,083)</u>	<u>86,257</u>	<u>(3,273)</u>	<u>807,851</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

18 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	Movement in funds					Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Transport for Wales	-	-	-	-	-	57,580	(590)	(1,243)	55,747
Gwirvol user-led grants	-	6,650	(5,000)	(1,200)	450	6,650	(5,000)	(1,200)	900
World Mental Health Day	182	-	(182)	-	-	-	-	-	-
RIF Befriending Services	34,633	150,000	(205,666)	21,033	-	150,000	(133,116)	(16,884)	-
Community Resillience	-	-	-	-	-	8,000	(18,010)	63,619	53,609
RIF	43,863	90,000	(99,026)	(22,837)	12,000	246,752	(167,986)	(40,945)	49,821
Community Zone	-	35,184	(31,937)	(3,247)	-	35,044	(32,787)	(2,257)	-
ICF VAMT Staff Fund	-	66,501	(37,955)	(28,546)	-	-	-	-	-
WCVA Comic Relief	-	96,667	(96,667)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lonliness and Isolation	-	73,587	(45,328)	(28,259)	-	36,435	(20,465)	(15,970)	-
Global Village	-	-	-	-	-	13,231	(10,500)	-	2,731
Invest Local Ynysowen	-	-	-	-	-	276	(276)	-	-
Interlink COVID	12,161	-	-	-	12,161	-	(323)	-	11,838
BAME	671	-	(224)	-	447	-	-	-	447
MTCBC - Food Poverty	-	-	-	-	-	63,900	(53,689)	(6,423)	3,788
Lloyds Foundation	15,844	-	(10,362)	(5,008)	474	15,564	(9,661)	(5,844)	533
Recovery	47,915	-	(288)	-	47,627	-	-	(46,877)	750
Cwm Taf Mental Health	54,301	111,870	(92,781)	(18,193)	55,197	86,292	(71,120)	(25,504)	44,865
Feeding Britain	-	-	-	-	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
	<u>209,570</u>	<u>630,459</u>	<u>(625,416)</u>	<u>(86,257)</u>	<u>128,356</u>	<u>729,724</u>	<u>(533,523)</u>	<u>(99,528)</u>	<u>225,029</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

18 Restricted funds

Transport for Wales - To promote and develop the community railway lines on behalf of the Heads of the Valleys Railway Partnership. Working in partnership with the local community, business, and tourism to establish and implement a community rail development plan that will benefit the community and the railway. The Officer will support the Community Rail Partnership and have responsibility for the delivery of the Activity Plan that will be agreed by the regional steering group each year in line with the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.

Gwirvol User Led Grants - Grants given to all CVC's to encourage youth led projects.

World Mental Health Day - The fund is made up of income from sponsorship and fundraising events which will fund the World Mental Health Day events. VAMT is in receipt of the fund which is managed by the World Mental Health Steering Group.

RIF Befriending Services - Funding is provided to improve loneliness and isolation in the 50+ population by providing befriending services via one to one and group sessions.

Community Resilience Fund - For provision of community development support to third sector organisations, in particular around the children, young people and families and food prosperity agenda.

RIF Dementia - Grant funding for third sector organisations providing dementia care in the Cwm Taf Region. This includes an element to host a Dementia conference and produce a film demonstrating third sector delivery in supporting people living with dementia and their carers. This element has been delayed by Covid.

Community Zone - For provision of Community Development and Information, Advice and Assistance support to the Community Zone within the Gurnos.

ICF - VAMT Staff Fund represents funding towards staff and core costs

WCVA Comic Relief Emergency Fund - is to enable those providing vital support to groups affected by Covid-19, such as: people in isolation, the elderly, carers, people struggling to access food etc. so that they can be supported during this time. Applications could also address one of Comic Relief's four strategic themes: Children Survive and Thrive; Mental Health Matters; Gender Equality; A Safe Place to Be. Grant Funding could be used for smaller capital or revenue expenditure including consumables. However, the request must fit in with the grant aims of maintaining or increasing voluntary services for vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

Loneliness and Isolation represents funding to host a staff member to work collaboratively with third sector organisations and partners, to tackle loneliness and isolation in Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf. along with a grant scheme that will be used to build the capability and sustainability of front-line grass roots voluntary and community organisations that bring people of all ages together and help them build social connections.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

18 Restricted funds

Global Village - Legacy fund to administer a small grant scheme for organisations, to fund workshops promoting equality, diversity, culture and inclusion.

Invest Local Ynysowen - To support the Invest Local Ynysowen Steering Group, residents, volunteers, groups, stakeholders and partners to deliver the projects and programmes of work identified in the Driving Change plan. The officer will engage with local residents and develop a sustainable volunteer base, build local capacity to develop a sustainable funding strategy to secure the long-term future of the community beyond the Invest local funding.

Interlink Covid - Support, administration and evaluation relating to Mental Health Covid-19 grants.

BAME - Public Health provided funding to employ a Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) Engagement Officer. The key aim of the project was to influence Covid-19 safe behaviours in local BAME communities by ensuring the messaging is appropriate and culturally sensitive, encouraging adherence to guidance and encouraging uptake of testing and vaccinations.

MTCBC - Food Poverty - This grant contributes to food supplies and equipment for the pantries, food banks and food co-ops in Merthyr Tydfil.

LLoyds Foundation - a grant to host a Local Implementation Lead officer, to support their people and places programme of work in Merthyr Tydfil.

Recovery - a grant scheme to assist with post covid recovery and promote well-being.

Cwm Taf mental Health - an agreement with Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB to host two posts as part of their model of service delivery for mental health, along with funding to take forward recommendations of a report to review of service user and carer representation, engagement and involvement: Cwm Taf Morgannwg Together for Mental Health Partnership Board.

Feeding Britain - Funding towards food supplies and equipment for the pantries and food co-ops in Merthyr Tydfil.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	75,891	2,024	77,915	80,148
Investments	91,738	-	91,738	84,020
Current assets/(liabilities)	722,580	223,005	945,585	772,039
	<u>890,209</u>	<u>225,029</u>	<u>1,115,238</u>	<u>936,207</u>

20 Operating lease commitments

Lessee

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	2,104	2,104
Between two and five years	640	2,744
	<u>2,744</u>	<u>4,848</u>

21 Cash generated from operations

	2024 £	2023 £
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	179,031	(24,856)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(12,207)	(4,468)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	(7,718)	3,273
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	7,114	6,983
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(137)	126,715
Increase in creditors	10,066	952
Cash generated from operations	<u>176,149</u>	<u>108,599</u>

22 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no material debt during the year.

Accounts

Charity registration number 1118403

Company registration number 06058360 (England and Wales)

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023



VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustee	Ms N B Mahoney	
	Ms K A Nor-val	
	Dr H Jones OBE	
	Ms A Roberts	
	Mr M Ronan	
	Ms T P Edwards	(Appointed 25 July 2022)
	Ms S E Davies	(Resigned 23 March 2023)
Secretary	Ms S Richards	
Charity number	1118403	
Company number	06058360	
Principal address	89 -90 High Street Merthyr Tydfil Mid Glamorgan CF47 8UH	
Auditor	Mitchell Meredith Ltd St Davids House 48 Free Street Brecon Powys UK LD3 7BN	

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustee report	1 - 7
Statement of trustee responsibilities	8
Independent auditor's report	9 - 11
Statement of financial activities	12
Balance sheet	13
Statement of cash flows	14
Notes to the financial statements	15 - 27

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023.

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Administrative Details

Charity & Company Name	Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil
Charity Registration Number	1118403
Company Registration Number	6058360
Registered Office	89-90 Pontmorlais, High Street, Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8UH
Trustees	Suzanne Davies, Chair (from 31.01.22 to 23.03.22) Nicola Mahoney, Treasurer Michael Ronan, Treasurer Anne Roberts MBE Kayleigh Nor-Val Dr Hefin Jones OBE acting Chair, from 23.03.23 Tanya Edwards (from 29.09.22)
Chief Officer / Company Secretary	Sharon Richards
Banker	HSBC, 127-128 High Street, Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8DN
Auditor	Mitchell Meredith Limited, St David's House, 48 Free Street, Brecon, Powys LD3 7BN

Accountability and Governance

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (VAMT) is an incorporated association and a registered charity. The current company / charity became operational on 1 October 2007 with assets and liabilities transferred from the old charity with the same name (registered number 1060242).

Directors/Trustees are recruited and appointed in accordance with the articles and memorandum of association. Nominations are invited from the members of the company/charity and are elected at the AGM. Officers are elected by the Board. No outside party can nominate Trustees, however elected Trustees may appoint or co-opt members in accordance with the constitution.

VAMT has adopted the Charity Commission's Hallmarks of an Effective Charity and its Board of Trustees adhere to the Nolan Seven Principles of Public Life.

Objectives

The Objects of the Charity are to promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the community in the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil and surrounding area ('the area of benefit') and in particular, but not limited to, the advancement of education, the furtherance of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

The principal aims of the charity are to:

- Enable third sector organisations to deliver services, improve in all aspects of their work and become resilient
- Strengthen representation and influence of third sector organisations; and
- Enhance volunteering and wellbeing through participation and community action

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

VAMT is a member of Third Sector Support Wales (TSSW); a collaboration of the 19 County Voluntary Councils in Wales together with Wales Council for Voluntary Action. TSSW provide a universal offer to the third sector based on four pillars of activity: volunteering; good governance; sustainable funding and engagement and influencing which align with the overall objectives of VAMT.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives in planning future activities.

Achievements and Performance

TSSW organisations utilise an integrated Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system which provides functionality to record and monitor activity. The table below captures VAMT data across the previous two reporting periods:

Key Performance Indicators	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023
Total number of interactions (instances of advice / support) with organisations/stakeholders	1339	527
Number of volunteers placed / supported	151	116
Number of Third Sector organisations provided with direct advice/support	469	269
Amount of funding received by Third Sector organisations following support (from VAMT)	£1,193,609	£1,500,176
Amount of funding provided through grants schemes administered by VAMT	£376,595	£353,454
Number of attendees at forums and events organised by VAMT	524	414
Number of participants at training courses provided	17	25
Total membership	296	328

Volunteering

The Volunteer Centre provides information, advice and support for individuals wishing to volunteer; also provides information and advice to organisations on recruiting and onboarding volunteers, as well as advertise volunteer opportunities on their behalf. We routinely promote opportunities available via the Volunteering Wales website.

Over the course of the year the Volunteer Centre provided support to 75 individual volunteers and then brokered and supported a further 41 to undertake volunteer placements.

We convened and facilitated 3 Volunteer Managers' Forum for our members for the purpose of promoting best practice, policy advice, sharing information and networking.

VAMT actively encourages participation in our Employee Volunteering Policy and all staff have volunteered to support member organisations including CancerAid Merthyr Tydfil; Merthyr & Cynon Foodbank and Hope Pantry during the year.

A major event in our calendar is the celebration of Volunteers' Week, held each year during the first week of June. This year we organised a Volunteer Fair in Merthyr Tydfil Town Centre which was officially supported by the High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan. The Fair provided opportunity for members to promote their services and volunteering opportunities. 12 members participated and all reported benefit in engagement with new potential volunteers and also service users.

We utilised our social media pages to highlight volunteering undertaken across member organisations and accepted 'thank you' film clips from newsreaders at ITV Wales who wanted to formally recognise and celebrate the volunteering efforts undertaken.

The VAMT website has a Volunteering page where more information, photos and links to the film clips can be found.

During the year, the Volunteering Officer role has expanded to incorporate a lead role for communications.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Good Governance

Our Lead on Community Development has worked with a range of our members throughout the year and has supported the establishment of a number of new groups. The standard offer of support for new groups includes the development of governing documents; advising on policy development, especially safeguarding; and ensuring financial procedures and bank accounts are in place. Training opportunities are routinely brokered or signposted.

We continue to disseminate information to members via a range of different communication channels, ie, via direct emails; blog and website. Also, we encourage and signpost organisations to use the Governance resources available via the TSSW Knowledge Hub.

VAMT website has a particular section dedicated to “Good Governance” and offers a range of information and tools to support Trustees in their roles.

As an organisation VAMT has a long history of administering grants and over time we have developed a very robust governance framework, ensuring transparency of process, exercising due diligence in terms of financial accountability; and in ensuring monitoring and reporting reflect original project intent.

In light of this we continue to secure a range of grant funding opportunities for member organisations and are pleased to report positive discussions with the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Dementia Steering Group. We have administered a Community Capacity Grant Scheme (Dementia) for a number of years across the Cwm Taf region, and have submitted a proposal to bring equity of opportunity across the entire Health Board footprint. The proposal has been agreed and will bring forward a grant scheme with increased funding of 33% for the 2023-24 period.

We have been administering a Befriending Grant on behalf of the CTM Regional Partnership Board for many years, and since funding and reporting requirements changed under the Regional Integration Fund, we have been facilitating a six-weekly meeting for the grant recipients to come together and be supported with grant/funding compliance around monitoring.

Sustainable Funding

£1,500,176 of funding was secured by 11 organisations following our support compared with the previous year (£1,193,609 for 36 organisations).

VAMT also administered a range of grant schemes across the local and regional area, allocating a total of £368,450 to 47 organisations.

- Loneliness & Isolation Grant (11 awards) in conjunction with Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
- Regional Integration Fund to retain Befriending Support (6 awards)
- Regional Integration Fund Community Capacity Grant Scheme (6 awards)
- Comic Relief Community Fund across Cwm Taf Morgannwg (12 awards)

As in previous years, the Volunteer Centre administered a Youth Led Grants programme, convening and supporting a panel who assessed grant applications and awarded a total of £5,000 to 6 organisations.

A funding event was held in June for members to engage with Funders including National Lottery Community Fund; Sport Wales and Coalfields Regeneration Trust. The event was attended by 20 individuals who were able to engage with Funders on a one-to-one basis.

A further £10,000 acquired from Feeding Britain was distributed to 7 food pantries throughout the Borough to enable them to provide additional support during the cost of living crisis.

We continue to provide a range of one-to-one finance support to our members, including accounts checking service for two small community groups. In addition we have provided an accounts and payroll service for a member organisation throughout the year, and in Q4 transferred our own payroll and accounts system from SAGE to XERO.

Via a WCVA small grant we held two community-based engagement events to help inform the refreshed Child Poverty Strategy for Wales. Utilising a framework for discussion provided by Welsh Government, information gathered was fed into WCVA for collation as a TSSW response.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Public Services Board approached VAMT, Interlink and BAVO with a request to develop an interactive mapping tool to visually present thematic activity and help assist and evidence delivery of the regional Wellbeing Plan and objectives. The PSB provided funding for a VAMT officer to undertake training on QGIS. Activity mapped related to warm hubs which had developed in response to the cost-of-living crisis.

Influence and Engagement

VAMT produced 3 editions of [Inform Newsletter](#) over the course of the year as well as introducing funding and general information bulletins which were disseminated to members more frequently.

An unidentified issue with our blog system meant that information was posted but not received by subscribers. Although the issue has been rectified, we have been unable to retrieve data for the report period.

However, there were 4,821 new users to our website and 14,207 page views. Our Facebook followers rose to 1267 and we achieved 517.5% increase in our reach of Facebook posts. Through Twitter we obtained almost 9k impressions on our activity, with most impact aligned with World Mental Health Day.

Outside of the TSSW structure VAMT routinely engages in over 30 partnerships and planning groups at a local/ regional level via the Chief Officer and Health & Wellbeing Manager.

VAMT facilitates a range of third sector networks/Fora which are highly valued. They provide opportunity for partners to engage with the third sector; networking amongst third sector organisations; information sharing and planning. Over the year we reintroduced face to face meetings, and participant feedback welcomed the ability to meet in person again.

We received similar feedback from the 414 people who attended workshops and one-off events we organised.

VAMT facilitates the following networks/Fora:

- Health & Wellbeing;
- Children, Young People and Families;
- Befriending (a network for Cwm Taf);
- Volunteer Managers;
- Environment & Green Spaces
- Food Prosperity
- Funders' Forum

VAMT collaborated with Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council on their Cost of Living Summit Event in November 2022 which was held in the Orbit Business Centre and attended by multi-agency professionals. The event outcomes led to four areas of concern which were: fuel poverty; food poverty; household bills; and health and wellbeing. VAMT agreed to utilise its existing Food Prosperity Network and Health & Wellbeing Forum and their respective membership to convey information, advice and support available to individuals, as well as gather intelligence around support being offered by member organisations.

Project Funded Staff

VAMT currently has staff delivering against particular project areas; some grant funded and some with Service Agreements. The outline of all projects align with our overarching core business. These projects contribute to our engagement with individuals in the community, our members and our partners. Their work this year includes:

- **Community Coordinator: via Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Integration Fund (RIF)**
The Community Coordinator providing support to those aged 50+ to access services and activities in the community to benefit their health and wellbeing.
Referrals received 344 (29.3% increase on the previous year)
Referrals made 213
Signposts to third sector support 191
We are witnessing a greater complexity in the referrals being received, where mental health issues are routinely more prevalent. Investment in additional and specific training for our Community Coordinator has been key.
- **Tackling Loneliness & Isolation Development Officer: via RIF**
Recruitment post-pandemic has proven difficult, and the post was vacant until the end of Q2.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The role aligns to the Public Services Board' theme of tackling loneliness and isolation and a key feature of the role has been the collaboration with Public Service partners, eg, Fire Service, who identify lonely/isolated individuals and refer them to the TLIDO as a conduit to Community / Wellbeing Coordinators within CVCs.

- **Calon Las Community Hub: via Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council**
Localised to the environs of Calon Las Community Hub for benefit to those living and/or working within the Gurnos area of the Borough. This Officer provides a range of information, advice and support for group development; funding and involvement with local activities, as well as managing the social media accounts for Calon Las.
- **Local Implementation Lead: via Lloyds Bank Foundation England & Wales:**
This part time role provided connection between LBF Development Team and local partners, to progress the LBF work around systems change and children and young people's mental health.
This secondment concluded at the end of Q2 when the incumbent returned to their substantive role and this gave opportunity for LBF EW to reassess the work programme with partners.
VAMT has agreed to host a new full-time Local Implementation Lead role for 2023-24 to continue this collaboration.
- **Mental Health: Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board**
Two roles, covering both service user/carer involvement and development and work in partnership with equivalent roles in both Bridgend and RCT Voluntary Councils to provide a regional response to the mental health agenda.
A key focus in Merthyr Tydfil has been bringing attention to the mental health agenda by hosting networking events and promoting local activities/services during Mental Health Awareness Week. Mapping and engaging with individuals and groups to establish interest in a Service User Involvement network. Also, successfully developing a film to show volunteering as a positive impact on mental health: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MR1KTyrZ0a8>

VAMT's 25th Anniversary

This year marked 25 years since the introduction of Voluntary Council's across Wales. A low key celebration was held to coincide with the Annual General Meeting and we were pleased to have our former Chief Officer deliver a presentation of reflection of the achievements and challenges of the organisation throughout the years.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Our core priorities will include:

Governance:

- Providing information, advice and support to our members and their Trustees on effective governance.
- Reviewing our own organisation's approach to Trustee Recruitment, Training and Development.

Sustainable Funding:

- Working with funders of our existing project staff to sustain services.
- Working with new funders to increase the support available to our members and communities.

Engagement and Influence:

- Continued facilitation of a range of third sector networks to provide engagement opportunities for both our members and our partners.
- Ongoing representation of the sector at all levels of Strategic Partnerships and Planning Groups at a National / Regional and Local level.
- Collaboration with Interlink RCT and BAVO in relation to regional partnerships and joint service delivery across the Cwm Taf Morgannwg footprint.

Volunteering:

- Providing information, advice and support to people wishing to volunteer
- Supporting organisations who wish to benefit from volunteer involvement and/or undertake corporate volunteering activities.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal Funding Sources

The organisation derives its funding from a variety of sources. The principal sources being Welsh Government; Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council; Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board and Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Partnership Board.

In this report period additional funding has been received from Lloyds Bank Foundation (England & Wales).

Reserves Policy and Going Concern

The overall deficit for the year £24,856.

It is the Charity's policy that free reserves should be sufficient to allow the ongoing operation of the Charity in the event of an unexpected fall in funding. At 31 March 2023 free reserves amounted to £728,833 (2022 £671,458)

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity. The trustees of the charity regularly review and update the charities Risk Register which has a specific section on financial risk.

Pay Policy for Senior Staff

VAMT has an organisational policy which relates job roles to job groupings and an associated pay scale. Senior staff are incorporated in that policy. The spinal column points on the pay scales relate to the nationally agreed local government NJC scales (based on the rates as of 1st April 2021).

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

Company law requires the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the 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 management committee should follow best practice and:

- 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 UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charitable company will continue on that basis.

The Management Committee are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ascertain to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Management Committee is 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.

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

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In accordance with company law, as the company's directors, we certify that:

- so far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and
- as the directors of the company, we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 28th September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Dr Hefin Jones
Acting Chair

Michael Ronan
Treasurer

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustee, who are also the directors of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustee 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 trustee 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustee 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustee are responsible for keeping adequate 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 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.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEE OF VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- 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 trustee 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 trustee with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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 trustee are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustee report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEE OF VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Responsibilities of trustee

As explained more fully in the statement of trustee responsibilities, the trustee, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose 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 trustee 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 trustee 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 trustee either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

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.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we 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. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the entity through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures as 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 trustee and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEE OF VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

M L Barnes FCA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Mitchell Meredith Ltd

28 September 2023

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

St Davids House
48 Free Street
Brecon
Powys
UK
LD3 7BN

Mitchell Meredith Ltd is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Income from:</u>					
Charitable activities	2	295,513	640,459	935,972	971,538
Other Activities	3	58,347	-	58,347	42,631
Investments	4	4,468	-	4,468	2,435
Total income		358,328	640,459	998,787	1,016,604
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Charitable activities	5	384,954	635,416	1,020,370	867,874
Net gains/(losses) on investments	11	(3,273)	-	(3,273)	6,886
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(29,899)	5,043	(24,856)	155,616
Gross transfers between funds		86,257	(86,257)	-	-
Net movement in funds		56,358	(81,214)	(24,856)	155,616
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		751,493	209,570	961,063	805,447
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		807,851	128,356	936,207	961,063

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		80,148		81,731
Investments	14		84,020		87,293
			<u>164,168</u>		<u>169,024</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	15	38,250		164,965	
Cash at bank and in hand		776,422		668,755	
		<u>814,672</u>		<u>833,720</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(42,633)		(41,681)	
Net current assets			772,039		792,039
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>936,207</u>		<u>961,063</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	19		128,356		209,570
Unrestricted funds			807,851		751,493
			<u>936,207</u>		<u>961,063</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustee on 28 September 2023

Dr H Jones OBE

Trustee

Company registration number 06058360

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	21		108,599		107,193
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(5,400)		(6,708)	
Investment income received		4,468		2,435	
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
Net cash used in investing activities			(932)		(4,273)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			107,667		102,920
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			668,755		565,835
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>776,422</u>		<u>668,755</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is .

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustee have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustee continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustee in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

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.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation 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.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

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

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold Land and Buildings	2% straight line, Land not depreciated
Leasehold land and buildings	Over the remaining term of the lease
Computers	25% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 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 overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

1.9 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 amounts 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 the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are measured at transaction price including transaction costs.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are recognised at transaction.

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

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £
Grants and contracts	295,513	640,459	935,972	971,538
Grants receivable for core activities				
CwmTaf Local Health Board	80,132	103,317	183,449	511,400
Merthyr Tydfil CBC	26,655	57,911	84,566	163,981
WCVA	188,726	469,231	657,957	231,612
Interlink	-	-	-	7,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	-	-	27,545
Tydfil Training Consortium	-	-	-	30,000
Feeding Britain	-	10,000	10,000	-
	295,513	640,459	935,972	971,538

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

3 Other Activities

	Other Activities 2023 £	Other Activities 2022 £
Miscellaneous Income	6,214	3,037
Rental Income	46,903	30,514
Other Activities	5,230	9,080
	<u>58,347</u>	<u>42,631</u>

4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Interest receivable	4,468	2,435
	<u>4,468</u>	<u>2,435</u>

5 Charitable activities

	Charitable Expenditure 2023 £	Charitable Expenditure 2022 £
Staff costs	385,863	339,661
Grants payable	462,964	403,776
	<u>848,827</u>	<u>743,437</u>
Share of support costs (see note 6)	151,308	104,621
Share of governance costs (see note 6)	20,235	19,816
	<u>1,020,370</u>	<u>867,874</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	384,954	266,592
Restricted funds	635,416	601,282
	<u>1,020,370</u>	<u>867,874</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	-	13,500	13,500	13,500
Premises expenses	51,899	-	51,899	31,165
Advertising & publications	3,174	-	3,174	3,715
Insurance	4,689	-	4,689	5,273
Bank charges	1,229	-	1,229	185
Development costs	33,033	-	33,033	7,740
Office costs	29,704	-	29,704	31,513
Motor & Travel	980	-	980	1,015
Legal & professional	17,782	-	17,782	7,199
Other costs	1,835	-	1,835	5,570
Depreciation	6,983	-	6,983	11,246
Audit fees	-	5,000	5,000	4,750
Other governance costs	-	1,735	1,735	1,566
	<u>151,308</u>	<u>20,235</u>	<u>171,543</u>	<u>124,437</u>
Analysed between				
Charitable activities	<u>151,308</u>	<u>20,235</u>	<u>171,543</u>	<u>124,437</u>

7 Auditor's remuneration

Fees payable to the charity's auditor and associates:	2023	2022
	£	£
Audit of the charity's annual accounts	<u>5,000</u>	<u>4,750</u>

8 Trustee

None of the trustee (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2023 Number	2022 Number
11	10
<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>

Employment costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	335,200	302,500
Social security costs	32,122	23,214
Other pension costs	32,041	27,447
	<u>399,363</u>	<u>353,161</u>

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

10 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2023 £	2022 £
Aggregate compensation	<u>87,579</u>	<u>85,893</u>

11 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Revaluation of investments	<u>(3,273)</u>	<u>6,886</u>

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Leasehold land and buildings £	Computers £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2022	87,979	427,433	115,866	631,278
Additions	-	-	5,400	5,400
At 31 March 2023	87,979	427,433	121,266	636,678
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 April 2022	17,634	427,433	104,479	549,546
Depreciation charged in the year	1,260	-	5,724	6,984
At 31 March 2023	18,894	427,433	110,203	556,530
Carrying amount				
At 31 March 2023	69,085	-	11,063	80,148
At 31 March 2022	70,344	-	11,387	81,731

14 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2022	87,293
Valuation changes	(3,273)
At 31 March 2023	84,020
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2023	84,020
At 31 March 2022	87,293

15 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	2,072	5,793
Other debtors	30,131	157,544
Prepayments and accrued income	6,047	1,628
	38,250	164,965

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security	7,289	11,170
Trade creditors	12,398	12,898
Other creditors	-	502
Accruals and deferred income	22,946	17,111
	<u>42,633</u>	<u>41,681</u>

17 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Within one year	2,104	887
Between two and five years	2,744	3,328
	<u>4,848</u>	<u>4,215</u>

18 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £32,041 (2022 - £27,447).

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

19 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds				Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Building stronger Bridges	-	38,578	(43,599)	5,021	-	-	-	-	-
Gwirvol user-led grants	-	6,650	(5,450)	(1,200)	-	6,650	(5,000)	(1,200)	450
World Mental Health Day	182	-	-	-	182	-	(182)	-	-
ICF Befriending Services	50,084	150,000	(165,451)	-	34,633	150,000	(205,666)	21,033	-
Community Capacity	21,340	60,000	(65,700)	(15,640)	-	-	-	-	-
ICF Dementia	41,472	45,000	(36,225)	(6,384)	43,863	90,000	(99,026)	(22,837)	12,000
Community Zone	3,636	26,254	(28,311)	(1,579)	-	35,184	(31,937)	(3,247)	-
ICF VAMT Staff Fund	-	66,501	(39,207)	(27,294)	-	66,501	(37,955)	(28,546)	-
WCVA Comic Relief	-	2,826	-	(2,826)	-	96,667	(96,667)	-	-
Lonliness and Isolation	-	73,587	(50,908)	(22,679)	-	73,587	(45,328)	(28,259)	-
ICF Capital Grants	8,781	-	(1,678)	(7,103)	-	-	-	-	-
Self Isolation	8,780	-	(1,527)	(7,253)	-	-	-	-	-
Interlink COVID	13,000	7,000	(6,325)	(1,514)	12,161	-	-	-	12,161
BAME	29,754	8,000	(30,602)	(6,481)	671	-	(224)	-	447
Emergency Fund	24,997	-	(24,999)	2	-	-	-	-	-
CRV Grant	2,609	-	(2,609)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foundation	-	27,545	(9,676)	(2,025)	15,844	-	(10,362)	(5,008)	474
Recovery	-	90,000	(35,335)	(6,750)	47,915	-	(288)	-	47,627
Winter Pressure	-	63,245	(40,000)	(23,245)	-	-	-	-	-
Cwm Taf Mental Health	-	70,907	(13,680)	(2,926)	54,301	111,870	(92,781)	(18,193)	55,197
Feeding Britain	-	-	-	-	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
	<u>204,635</u>	<u>736,093</u>	<u>(601,282)</u>	<u>(129,876)</u>	<u>209,570</u>	<u>640,459</u>	<u>(635,416)</u>	<u>(86,257)</u>	<u>128,356</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

19 Restricted funds

Building Strong Bridges - Part of a national project to improve the relationship between the voluntary sector and the NHS

Gwirvol User Led Grants - Grants given to all CVC's to encourage youth led projects.

World Mental Health Day - The fund is made up of income from sponsorship and fundraising events which will fund the World Mental Health Day events. VAMT is in receipt of the fund which is managed by the World Mental Health Steering Group.

ICF Befriending Services - Funding is provided to improve loneliness and isolation in the 50+ population by providing befriending services via one to one and group sessions.

Community Capacity Grant Scheme - Funded by the Integrated Care Fund, VAMT administered a £60,000 Community Capacity Grant Scheme which funded 15 projects who demonstrated significant impact in reducing isolation and loneliness, promoting healthy lifestyles and wellbeing, preventing unnecessary hospital admissions and supporting hospital discharges.

ICF Dementia - Grant funding for third sector organisations providing dementia care in the Cwm Taf Region. This includes an element to host a Dementia conference and produce a film demonstrating third sector delivery in supporting people living with dementia and their carers. This element has been delayed by Covid.

Community Zone - For provision of Community Development and Information, Advice and Assistance support to the Community Zone within the Gurnos.

ICF - VAMT Staff Fund represents funding towards staff and core costs

WCVA Comic Relief Emergency Fund - is to enable those providing vital support to groups affected by Covid-19, such as: people in isolation, the elderly, carers, people struggling to access food etc. so that they can be supported during this time. Applications could also address one of Comic Relief's four strategic themes: Children Survive and Thrive; Mental Health Matters; Gender Equality; A Safe Place to Be. Grant Funding could be used for smaller capital or revenue expenditure including consumables. However, the request must fit in with the grant aims of maintaining or increasing voluntary services for vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

Loneliness and Isolation represents funding to host a staff member to work collaboratively with third sector organisations and partners, to tackle loneliness and isolation in Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf. along with a grant scheme that will be used to build the capability and sustainability of front-line grass roots voluntary and community organisations that bring people of all ages together and help them build social connections.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

19 Restricted funds

ICF Capital Grants represents funding towards the ICF Grant scheme for third sector small capital items.

Friend In Need Grant - The aim of the funding was to support the third sector to continue to offer befriending services to those who would benefit from them, increase befriending capacity and recruit and train befriending volunteers.

Self isolation grants - a small grants scheme in order for third-sector organisations to provide support to those people identified as requiring to self-isolate, across Merthyr Tydfil.

Interlink Covid - Support, administration and evaluation relating to Mental Health Covid-19 grants.

Cwm Taf Self Isolation - As part of the Protect element of TTP (Track, Trace, Protect) to encourage safe behaviours around self-isolating, this funding was made available to cover the cost of food parcels with up to 10 days' worth of food. This funding was specifically for people who had been advised to self-isolate by track and trace due to either a positive Covid-19 test result or as a contact of a positive case.

BAME - Public Health provided funding to employ a Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) Engagement Officer. The key aim of the project was to influence Covid-19 safe behaviours in local BAME communities by ensuring the messaging is appropriate and culturally sensitive, encouraging adherence to guidance and encouraging uptake of testing and vaccinations.

Winter Slippage - Funding allocation via the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Winter Planning Programme to help alleviate pressure points within the voluntary sector during the winter period.

Covid 19 Transformation Funding - This funding is made available via the Transformation Programme Governance Framework. It is focused on supporting vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and covers small capital or revenue expenditure. Carol see TP56 email attached and you'll have the email trail which increased this to £15k.

Emergency Fund- 2 tranches of money from Welsh Government, received in April 2020 and March 2021. The purpose of the Voluntary Services Emergency Fund (VSEF) is to enable those providing vital support to groups affected by Covid-19, such as: people in isolation, the elderly, carers, people struggling to access food etc, so that they can be supported during this time. Grant Funding can be used for smaller capital or revenue expenditure including consumables (for example PPE, food items, toiletries etc). However, the request must fit in with the grant aims of maintaining or increasing voluntary services for vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

CRV Grant, Coronavirus Recovery Grant for volunteering - Funding via Welsh Government for a collaborative programme of support across Merthyr Tydfil which focusses on sustainability, standardisation and safeguarding.

Foundation - a grant to host a Local Implementation Lead officer, to support their people and places programme of work in Merthyr Tydfil.

Recovery - a grant scheme to assist with post covid recovery and promote well-being.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

19 Restricted funds

Winter Pressure - a grant scheme to enable VAMT members to continue to support their beneficiaries throughout the winter period in a variety of ways to meet their needs and help maintain individual and community well being and resilience.

Cwm Taf mental Health - an agreement with Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB to host two posts as part of their model of service delivery for mental health, along with funding to take forward recommendations of a report to review of service user and carer representation, engagement and involvement: Cwm Taf Morgannwg Together for Mental Health Partnership Board.

Feeding Britain - Funding towards food supplies and equipment for the pantries and food co-ops in Merthyr Tydfil.

VOLUNTARY ACTION MERTHYR TYDFIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	79,018	1,130	80,148	81,731
Investments	84,020	-	84,020	87,293
Current assets/(liabilities)	644,813	127,226	772,039	792,039
	<u>807,851</u>	<u>128,356</u>	<u>936,207</u>	<u>961,063</u>

21 Cash generated from operations

	2023 £	2022 £
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(24,856)	155,616
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(4,468)	(2,435)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	3,273	(6,886)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	6,983	11,246
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	126,715	(42,034)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	952	(8,314)
Cash generated from operations	<u>108,599</u>	<u>107,193</u>

22 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no debt during the year.

Accounts

Company registration number: 06058360

Charity registration number: 1118403

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Mitchell Meredith Limited
St Davids House
48 Free Street
Brecon
Powys
LD3 7BN

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Contents

Trustees' Report	1 to 8
Independent Auditors' Report	9 to 11
Statement of Financial Activities	12
Balance Sheet	13
Statement of Cash Flows	14
Notes to the Financial Statements	15 to 29

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

ACCOUNTABILITY AND GOVERNANCE

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil is an incorporated association and a registered charity. The current company / charity became operational on 1 October 2007 with assets and liabilities transferred from the old charity with the same name (registered number 1060242).

Directors/Trustees are recruited and appointed in accordance with the articles and memorandum of association. Nominations are invited from the members of the company/charity and are elected at the AGM. The Officers are elected by the Board.

No outside party can nominate trustees but the elected trustees may co-opt members in accordance with the constitution.

VAMT has adopted the Charity Commission's Hallmarks of an Effective Charity and its Board of Trustees adhere to the Nolan Seven Principles of Public Life.

OBJECTIVES

The Objects of the Charity are to promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the community in the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil and surrounding area ('the area of benefit') and in particular, but not limited to, the advancement of education, the furtherance of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

The principal aims of the charity are to:

- Enable third sector organisations to deliver services, improve in all aspects of their work and become resilient
- Strengthen representation and influence of third sector organisations; and
- Enhance volunteering and wellbeing through participation and community action

VAMT is a member of Third Sector Support Wales(TSSW); a collaboration of the 19 County Voluntary Councils in Wales together with Wales Council for Voluntary Action. TSSW provide a universal offer to the third sector based on four pillars of activity: volunteering; good governance; sustainable funding and engagement and influencing which align with the overall objectives of VAMT.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The trustees consider the charitable activities of the organisation to ensure that they provide benefit to the public. In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities the trustees always ensure that the programmes we undertake are in line with our main objective which is to promote all or any purposes for the benefit of the community deemed by law to be charitable and in particular the advancement of education, the furtherance of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives as they have overall responsibility for implementation of the Strategic Plan and monitor and scrutinise the Operational Plan.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Key Performance Indicators

TSSW organisations utilise an integrated Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system which provides functionality to record and monitor activity. The table below captures VAMT data across the previous two reporting periods:

Key Performance Indicators	2021/22	2020/21
Total number of interactions (instances of advice / support) with organisations/stakeholders	1,339	1,415
Number of volunteers placed / supported	151	212
Number of Third Sector organisations provided with direct advice/support	469	202
Amount of funding received by Third Sector organisations following support	£1,193,609	£620,551
Amount of funding provided through grants schemes administered by VAMT	£403,776	£494,449
Number of attendees at forums and events organised by VAMT	524	851
Number of participants at training courses provided	17	70
Total membership	296	281

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

Volunteering

The Volunteer Centre provided 98 volunteers with information, advice and support around volunteering and 53 people were supported into opportunities. The ongoing promotion of the Volunteering Wales website resulted in 38 local people registering for opportunities.

For the purpose of promoting best practice, policy advice, sharing information and networking, the Volunteer Centre facilitates a Volunteer Managers' Forum. 3 meetings have been held with 34 members attending.

Coordinated the development of a film to highlight community response to Covid and demonstrate how volunteers, groups and schools benefitted from additional grants/funding sourced and awarded via VAMT. This was showcased at the VAMT AGM, and commended by members and partners.

Welsh Government funding secured towards the end of the calendar year allowed a 20% increase in volunteer centre capacity throughout Quarter 4. The additional resource was used to focus on raising awareness and providing support around corporate volunteering. Enquiries from a number of organisations resulted in staff groups from EE, People Plus and Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB being brokered by the Volunteer Centre into volunteering opportunities across the Borough, all reporting positive experiences. Further, all VAMT staff took opportunity to volunteer with member organisations as part of our Employee Volunteering Policy.

Annual Volunteers' Week celebrations were impacted by the restrictions around community gatherings. The Volunteer Centre arranged for filming of three local organisations, the collection of local volunteers' stories and a series of photographs of local volunteers. These were shared via Facebook and VAMT website and within a volunteer-specific edition of VAMT's newsletter as a means of recognising and celebrating volunteering activity within the local area.

Good Governance

Information is disseminated via all VAMT communication channels, via direct emails to members and since the onset of the pandemic increasingly via the blog and website. Organisations are also encouraged to use the resources available via the TSSW Knowledge Hub.

A range of support has been provided around governance: one group assisted in their dissolution and transfer of assets; 3 organisations advised on setting up formally and adopting a constitution; another given information on incorporation. Support to a group on a recovery/development plan and one group supported to access missing legal documents.

VAMT continued its collaboration with Lloyds Bank Foundation (England & Wales) and brokered a series of workshops for the sector aimed at building relationships between small organisations and businesses as a non-transactional relationship. VAMT brokered introduction between a local supermarket and 3 local organisations who progressed to become identified as community partners and receive non-financial support and assistance. One of the workshops focussed on using LinkedIn and resulted in a Charity having its Amazon wishlist fulfilled by a local philanthropist, with a monetary value of around £2.4k. An agreement was made for the supermarket to transfer their waste cardboard to a local organisation who then make eco animal bedding. This helps the supermarket reduce their carbon footprint by approximately 10 tonnes of CO2 per annum in waste cardboard alone.

A section of the VAMT website is dedicated to "Good Governance" and offers supportive information and tools to support Trustees in their roles.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

Sustainable Funding

We are proud to report £1,193,609 of funding was secured by 36 organisations following our support - previous year £620,551 for 58 organisations.

In addition, VAMT administered the following grant schemes, making 87 awards totalling £403,776

- Loneliness & Isolation Grant - in collaboration with MTCBC this grant will be available annually for 3 years
- Wellbeing for Staff, Trustees and Volunteers Grant Scheme - in collaboration with MTCBC and via Recovery Funding
- Dementia Care Grant Scheme - via ICF to support people living with Dementia and their Carers.
- Community Capacity Grant Scheme - via ICF to support priority groups including children and young people / disabilities
- Coronavirus Recovery Grant for Volunteering - via Welsh Government to enhance volunteering in the recovery phase of the pandemic
- Mental Health Grant Scheme - supporting positive mental health within the community
- Befriending Services - ICF funding secured to retain services across Cwm Taf
- Third Sector Winter Pressures Fund - via WCVA. Opportunity to increase capacity / services across third sector and/CVCs.

VAMT Volunteer Centre administered a Youth Led Grants programme, supporting a panel of four young people who assessed grant applications and awarded £5,450 to 5 organisations.

From funding received via Public Health Wales, we hosted a full-time Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) Engagement Officer from June 2021 and for the remainder of the financial year. The purpose of the role was to influence Covid-19 safe behaviours in local BAME communities.

In Quarter 3 we signed a new Agreement with Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB to support the implementation of a new regional service model supporting mental health development and service user involvement. The Agreement funds two full time posts who took up post in January and will collaborate with counterparts in BAVO and Interlink as part of the regional delivery. Additional funding was secured by a separate, but related, Agreement to implement the recommendations of research into Service User and Carer experiences commissioned by the UHB in 2020.

In Quarter 3 we also appointed a Local Implementation Lead Officer via a new 12 month fixed term funding opportunity with Lloyds Bank Foundation (LBF). This post is part of their People & Communities Programme, which is delivered in 6 areas of the UK, with Merthyr Tydfil being the only Welsh area. The incumbent is seconded to the role by agreement of MS Society Cymru on a part-time contract to support the LBF development team and local programme of work around systems change relating to children and young people's mental health.

VAMT worked with a number of young people and local partners to develop an application to the National Lottery Community Fund "Mind Our Future" funding aimed at supporting mental health of Children and Young People. The local application, project name Snakes & Ladders, was successful and will be led by third sector organisations, commencing in 2022-23.

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council was successful in achieving Community Renewal Funding from the UK Government and as part of the application VAMT secured funding to support local social enterprises. VAMT sub-contracted to Cwmpas (formerly Wales Co-op) to conduct the work. This included the mapping of all social enterprises in the area and re-introducing a social enterprise/economy network, plus supporting 5 social enterprises within the Borough to develop their plans. The contract is due to complete June 2022.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

A collaborative bid to Welsh Government, co-written by VAMT, MTCBC and Merthyr Valleys Homes was successful. It benefits a wide range of organisations including members of the Food Prosperity Network, pre-schools and other third sector groups with financial support and will fund wider research into further sustainability for food provision. £100k secured and research will be completed in the year ahead.

Quarterly Funders' Forum meetings are held with local and national funding bodies. Support also provided for the annual funding surgery of local MP and Senedd Member, with 40 people attending.

We have provided a range of one-to-one finance support to our members, including accounts overview service for 4 members. We also provided an accounts and payroll service for another organisation and agreed a new contract with them for 2022-23.

Influence and Engagement

VAMT are engaged in over 35 partnerships and planning groups at a local/ regional level. Some were paused during the pandemic; some met virtually and now some are returning to face to face meetings.

At VAMT we facilitated a number of third sector forums/networks throughout the year themed around:

- Health & Wellbeing;
- Children, Young People and Families;
- Befriending;
- Volunteer Managers;
- Environment & Green Spaces and
- Funding.

Overall we arranged 53 networks/forums/learning events locally which 546 individuals attended. Whilst most of our meetings have been held remotely, we are aiming to progress to face to face meetings in due course. They are recognised and valued as a platform for engagement with our members.

We convened meetings around Food Prosperity and refreshed the network membership. VAMT connected the Feeding Britain coalition and agreed to develop the Food Prosperity Network into a wider "Feeding Merthyr Tydfil" network with the emphasis on ensuring that by working together nobody has to go hungry or without basic essentials during the recovery from the pandemic. The Feeding Merthyr Tydfil network is the first of "Feeding Britain" developments in Wales. Subsequent developments have included Feeding Britain providing funding for Citizens Advice to run a fuel bank; and for another organisation to develop a food pantry.

VAMT leads on the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Social Value Forum together with BAVO and Interlink. The 3 CVCs, in collaboration with the Regional Commissioning Unit, commissioned the Social Effectiveness Research Centre to undertake research into social value and measuring social value impact. The research findings will then be used to inform the Regional Partnership Board. The first network (since the pandemic) of the Social Value Forum was held in the spring and gave opportunity to gather information to inform the research.

Our project funded staff have a significant role in our engagement with individuals in the community, our members and our partners and their work this year has included:

- Community Coordinator: supporting people aged 50+ to access services and activities in the community to benefit their health and wellbeing.

Referrals received 266

Referrals made 230

Signposts to third sector support 293

- BAME Engagement Officer: community mapping and engagement, resulting in the development of 'drop-in' advice and support sessions at VAMT, in conjunction with our Community Coordinator.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

- Tackling Loneliness & Isolation Development Officer: reconvened befriending network; develop and strengthen links with PSB; exploring shared resources, eg training and peer support. Introducing and supporting 'Loneliness Champions' across public service organisations by creating pathways of support to Community / Wellbeing Coordinators within CVCs.
- Calon Las Community Hub: Regular community consultation which informs local planning and future funding bids. Supporting 2 local groups to secure £1,070 funding. Supporting Calon Las partners with seasonal community initiatives plus a holiday hunger (Fit & Fed) event.
- Local Implementation Lead: Developing local links to the work of LBF. Supporting VAMT Children, Young People and Families' Network, plus active engagement in the Mind our Future Partnership.
- Mental Health: (appointed in Q4) connecting with VAMT networks, developing connections and raising awareness of these new roles.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Priorities include;

- Providing information, advice and support to people wishing to volunteer
- Ongoing facilitation of third sector networks to provide engagement opportunities for members and our partners
- Continuing to represent the sector at all levels of public partnerships
- Continued collaboration with Interlink RCT and BAVO concerning regional partnerships and joint service delivery on the new Cwm Taf Morgannwg regional footprint
- Fully engaging in Integrated Care Fund projects including the Community Coordinators, third sector grants schemes and others, and in any reviews which relate to the funding of these projects
- Supporting the Calon Las Community Hub (Gurnos)
- Continue to collaborate with MTCBC colleagues on a range of projects including revising the local Compact Agreement

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal Funding Sources

The organisation derives its funding from a variety of sources. The principal sources are derived from the Welsh Government, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council and Cwm Taf University Morgannwg Health Board.

In this report period additional funding has been received from Lloyds Bank Foundation (England & Wales) and Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Health Team.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

Reserves Policy and Going Concern

The overall surplus for the year amounts to £155,616.

It is the Charity's policy that free reserves should be sufficient to allow the ongoing operation of the Charity in the event of an unexpected fall in funding. At 31 March 2022 free reserves amounted to £671,458 (2021 £514,543)

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

The trustees of the charity regularly review and update the charities Risk Register which has a specific section on financial risk.

Pay Policy for Senior Staff

VAMT has an organisational policy which relates job roles to job groupings and an associated pay scale. Senior staff are incorporated in that policy. The spinal column points on the pay scales relate to the nationally agreed local government NJC scales (based on the rates as of 1st April 2017).

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees:

S E Davies
E J Dawson (resigned 20/5/2021)
P Gray (resigned 31/01/2022)
Dr H Jones OBE (appointed 23/11/2021)
M J A Jones (resigned 23/11/2021)
B Lewis (resigned 23/11/2021)
N B Mahoney
K A Nor-Val
A Roberts MBE
M Ronan
M Ward (resigned 23/11/2021)

Secretary:

Mrs S Richards, Chief Officer,

Principal Office:

89 -90 High Street
Merthyr Tydfil
Mid Glamorgan
CF47 8UH

Company Registration Number:

06058360

Charity Registration Number:

1118403

Bankers:

HSBC Bank Plc
Merthyr Tydfil Branch
127/128 High Street
Merthyr Tydfil
Mid Glamorgan
CF47 8DN

Auditor:

Mitchell Meredith Limited
St Davids House
48 Free Street
Brecon
Powys
LD3 7BN

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil for the purposes of company law) 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.

Company law requires the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

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

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 25 July 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

S E Davies
Trustee

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (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 2022 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; and
- 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 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 the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note to the financial statements, 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 original financial statements were 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.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 8), the trustees 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.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

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.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we 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. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the entity through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures as 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 trustee and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 charitable company and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

M L Barnes FCCA ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Mitchell Meredith Limited, Statutory Auditor

St Davids House
48 Free Street
Brecon
Powys
LD3 7BN

Date: 25 July 2022

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Charitable activities	4	235,445	736,093	971,538	1,132,647
Other activities	5	39,594	-	39,594	49,096
Investment income	6	2,435	-	2,435	2,484
Other income	7	3,037	-	3,037	2,661
Total income		<u>280,511</u>	<u>736,093</u>	<u>1,016,604</u>	<u>1,186,888</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	8	(266,592)	(601,282)	(867,874)	(928,708)
Total expenditure		<u>(266,592)</u>	<u>(601,282)</u>	<u>(867,874)</u>	<u>(928,708)</u>
Gains/losses on investment assets		<u>6,886</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,886</u>	<u>13,780</u>
Net income		20,805	134,811	155,616	271,960
Transfers between funds		<u>129,876</u>	<u>(129,876)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		150,681	4,935	155,616	271,960
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>600,812</u>	<u>204,635</u>	<u>805,447</u>	<u>533,487</u>
Total funds carried forward	20	<u><u>751,493</u></u>	<u><u>209,570</u></u>	<u><u>961,063</u></u>	<u><u>805,447</u></u>

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

The notes on pages 15 to 29 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

(Registration number: 06058360)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	81,731	86,269
Investments	15	87,293	80,407
		<u>169,024</u>	<u>166,676</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	16	164,965	122,931
Cash at bank and in hand		668,755	565,835
		<u>833,720</u>	<u>688,766</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>(41,681)</u>	<u>(49,995)</u>
Net current assets		<u>792,039</u>	<u>638,771</u>
Net assets		<u>961,063</u>	<u>805,447</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted	20	209,570	204,635
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted		751,493	600,812
Total funds	20	<u>961,063</u>	<u>805,447</u>

The financial statements on pages 12 to 29 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 25 July 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

M Ronan
Trustee

The notes on pages 15 to 29 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income		155,616	271,960
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation		11,246	37,569
Investment income	6	(2,435)	(2,484)
Revaluation of investments		(6,886)	(13,780)
		<u>157,541</u>	<u>293,265</u>
Working capital adjustments			
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	16	(42,034)	69,754
Decrease in creditors	17	(8,314)	(138,812)
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>107,193</u>	<u>224,207</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	6	2,435	2,484
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	14	(6,708)	-
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>(4,273)</u>	<u>2,484</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		102,920	226,691
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>565,835</u>	<u>339,144</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u><u>668,755</u></u>	<u><u>565,835</u></u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 15 to 29 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

89 -90 High Street
Merthyr Tydfil
Mid Glamorgan
CF47 8UH

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Income and endowments

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been paid.

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.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

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

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 £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost.

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:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Freehold property	2% straight line
Land	Not depreciated
Leasehold property	Over the remaining term of the lease
Office equipment	25% straight line

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

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.

Trade creditors

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 charity 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.

Trade creditors 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.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

3 Grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
WAG CFAP Grant		-		126,093
Cwm Taf Local Health Board	21,554	489,846	511,400	570,069
Merthyr Tydfil CBC	25,000	138,981	163,981	79,759
WCVA	158,891	72,721	231,612	343,363
Interlink	-	7,000	7,000	13,363
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	27,545	27,545	-
Tydfil Training Consortium	30,000	-	30,000	-
	<u>235,445</u>	<u>736,093</u>	<u>971,538</u>	<u>1,132,647</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted General £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Grants and contracts	<u>235,445</u>	<u>736,093</u>	<u>971,538</u>	<u>1,132,647</u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

5 Income from other activities

	Unrestricted		
	General	Total	Total
	£	2022	2021
	£	£	£
Other activities	9,080	9,080	22,167
Property rental income	30,514	30,514	26,929
	<u>39,594</u>	<u>39,594</u>	<u>49,096</u>

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted		
	General	Total	Total
	£	2022	2021
	£	£	£
Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>2,435</u>	<u>2,435</u>	<u>2,484</u>

7 Other income

	Unrestricted		
	General	Total	Total
	£	2022	2021
	£	£	£
Miscellaneous Income	<u>3,037</u>	<u>3,037</u>	<u>2,661</u>

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

		Unrestricted			
	Note	General	Restricted	Total	Total
		£	£	2022	2021
		£	£	£	£
Grants payable		-	403,776	403,776	494,449
Staff costs		175,742	163,919	339,661	291,127
Allocated support costs	9	73,739	30,882	104,621	122,982
Governance costs	9	17,111	2,705	19,816	20,150
		<u>266,592</u>	<u>601,282</u>	<u>867,874</u>	<u>928,708</u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

9 Analysis of governance and support costs

Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Basis of allocation	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Premises expenses	Direct	545	11,907	12,452	14,403
Cleaning and repairs	Direct	18,713	-	18,713	21,821
Subscriptions	Direct	405	-	405	373
Advertising and publications	Direct	1,085	943	2,028	1,825
Insurance	Direct	5,273	-	5,273	4,625
Bank Charges	Direct	185	-	185	120
Development costs	Direct	5,862	1,878	7,740	3,216
Office costs	Direct	4,816	3,548	8,364	9,552
Computer expenses	Direct	13,693	9,051	22,744	19,459
Motor and travel	Direct	380	635	1,015	1,635
Recruitment & training	Direct	185	1,502	1,687	798
Legal and professional	Direct	6,346	853	7,199	4,772
Other costs	Direct	2,180	-	2,180	2,810
Depreciation	Direct	10,681	565	11,246	37,573
Bad debt provision		3,390	-	3,390	-
		<u>73,739</u>	<u>30,882</u>	<u>104,621</u>	<u>122,982</u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Governance costs

	Unrestricted		Total	Total
	General	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs				
Wages and salaries	13,500	-	13,500	13,500
Audit fees				
Audit of the financial statements	3,611	1,139	4,750	4,750
Other governance costs	-	1,566	1,566	1,900
	<u>17,111</u>	<u>2,705</u>	<u>19,816</u>	<u>20,150</u>

10 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Audit fees	4,750	4,750
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>11,246</u>	<u>37,573</u>

11 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

12 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	302,590	259,126
Social security costs	23,124	21,293
Pension costs	27,447	24,208
	<u>353,161</u>	<u>304,627</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2022 No	2021 No
Total employees	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>

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

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £85,893 (2021 - £87,384).

13 Auditors' remuneration

	2022 £	2021 £
Audit of the financial statements	<u>4,750</u>	<u>4,750</u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2021	515,412	109,158	624,570
Additions	-	6,708	6,708
At 31 March 2022	<u>515,412</u>	<u>115,866</u>	<u>631,278</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2021	441,366	96,935	538,301
Charge for the year	3,702	7,544	11,246
At 31 March 2022	<u>445,068</u>	<u>104,479</u>	<u>549,547</u>
Net book value			
At 31 March 2022	<u>70,344</u>	<u>11,387</u>	<u>81,731</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>74,046</u>	<u>12,223</u>	<u>86,269</u>

Included within the net book value of land and buildings above is £70,344 (2021 - £71,604) in respect of freehold land and buildings and £Nil (2021 - £2,442) in respect of leaseholds.

15 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2021	80,407	80,407
Revaluation	6,886	6,886
At 31 March 2022	<u>87,293</u>	<u>87,293</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2022	<u>87,293</u>	<u>87,293</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>80,407</u>	<u>80,407</u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

16 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	5,793	25,798
Prepayments	1,628	6,706
Other taxes and social security	-	1,974
Other debtors	157,544	88,453
	<u>164,965</u>	<u>122,931</u>

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	12,898	10,208
Other taxation and social security	11,170	-
Other creditors	1,795	24,840
Accruals	15,818	14,947
	<u>41,681</u>	<u>49,995</u>

18 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £27,447 (2021 - £24,208).

19 Commitments

Other financial commitments

During the year the Charity renewed an equipment lease for a five year term with an annual rental of £887

The total amount of other financial commitments not provided in the financial statements was £4,215 (2021 - £350).

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

20 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
<i>General</i>						
General	600,812	280,511	(266,592)	129,876	6,886	751,493
Restricted funds						
Building Strong Bridges	-	38,578	(43,599)	5,021	-	-
Gwirvol user-led grants	-	6,650	(5,450)	(1,200)	-	-
World Mental Health Day	182	-	-	-	-	182
ICF Befriending Services	50,084	150,000	(165,451)	-	-	34,633
Community Capacity	21,340	60,000	(65,700)	(15,640)	-	-
ICF - Dementia	41,472	45,000	(36,225)	(6,384)	-	43,863
Community Zone	3,636	26,254	(28,311)	(1,579)	-	-
ICF - VAMT Staff Fund	-	66,501	(39,207)	(27,294)	-	-
WCVA Comic Relief	-	2,826	-	(2,826)	-	-
Loneliness and Isolation	-	73,587	(50,908)	(22,679)	-	-
ICF - Capital Grants	8,781	-	(1,678)	(7,103)	-	-
Self Isolation	8,780	-	(1,527)	(7,253)	-	-
Interlink COVID	13,000	7,000	(6,325)	(1,514)	-	12,161
BAME	29,754	8,000	(30,602)	(6,481)	-	671
Emergency Fund	24,997	-	(24,999)	2	-	-
CRV Grant	2,609	-	(2,609)	-	-	-
Foundation	-	27,545	(9,676)	(2,025)	-	15,844
Recovery	-	90,000	(35,335)	(6,750)	-	47,915
Winter Pressure	-	63,245	(40,000)	(23,245)	-	-
Cwm Taf Mental Health	-	70,907	(13,680)	(2,926)	-	54,301
Total restricted funds	<u>204,635</u>	<u>736,093</u>	<u>(601,282)</u>	<u>(129,876)</u>	-	209,570
Total funds	<u>805,447</u>	<u>1,016,604</u>	<u>(867,874)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,886</u>	<u>961,063</u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
General	446,512	396,357	(325,424)	69,587	13,780	600,812
Restricted						
Building Strong Bridges	-	41,720	(38,681)	(3,039)	-	-
Gwirvol user-led grants	-	6,650	(5,450)	(1,200)	-	-
World Mental Health Day	182	-	-	-	-	182
ICF Befriending Services	33,544	150,000	(130,740)	(2,720)	-	50,084
Community Capacity	8,340	60,000	(38,443)	(8,557)	-	21,340
ICF - Dementia	24,134	45,000	(27,662)	-	-	41,472
Community Zone	3,431	31,959	(28,975)	(2,779)	-	3,636
ICF - VAMT Staff Fund	-	66,864	(54,940)	(11,924)	-	-
WCVA Comic Relief	-	26,591	(26,591)	-	-	-
Loneliness and Isolation	-	51,110	(30,335)	(20,775)	-	-
ICF - Capital Grants	17,344	-	(8,563)	-	-	8,781
Friend In Need	-	13,000	(10,071)	(2,929)	-	-
Self Isolation	-	10,000	(1,220)	-	-	8,780
Interlink COVID	-	13,000	-	-	-	13,000
Cwm Taf Self Isolation	-	36,000	(32,400)	(3,600)	-	-
BAME	-	30,000	(246)	-	-	29,754
Winter Slippage	-	57,755	(57,339)	(416)	-	-
COVID 19 Transformation	-	15,000	(13,520)	(1,480)	-	-
Emergency Fund	-	49,997	(25,000)	-	-	24,997
CRV Grant	-	111,843	(99,066)	(10,168)	-	2,609
Total restricted funds	<u>86,975</u>	<u>816,489</u>	<u>(629,242)</u>	<u>(69,587)</u>	-	204,635
Total funds	<u>533,487</u>	<u>1,212,846</u>	<u>(954,666)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,780</u>	<u>805,447</u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Building Strong Bridges - Part of a national project to improve the relationship between the voluntary sector and the NHS.

Gwirvol User-Led Grants - Grants given to all CVC's to encourage youth led projects.

World Mental Health Day - The fund is made up of income from sponsorship and fundraising events which will fund the World Mental Health Day events. VAMT is in receipt of the fund which is managed by the World Mental Health Steering Group.

ICF Befriending Services - Funding is provided to improve loneliness and isolation in the 50+ population by providing befriending services via one to one and group sessions.

Community Capacity Grant Scheme - Funded by the Integrated Care Fund, VAMT administered a £60,000 Community Capacity Grant Scheme which funded 15 projects who demonstrated significant impact in reducing isolation and loneliness, promoting healthy lifestyles and wellbeing, preventing unnecessary hospital admissions and supporting hospital discharges.

ICF Dementia - Grant funding for third sector organisations providing dementia care in the Cwm Taf Region. This includes an element to host a Dementia conference and produce a film demonstrating third sector delivery in supporting people living with dementia and their carers. This element has been delayed by Covid.

Community Zone - For provision of Community Development and Information, Advice and Assistance support to the Community Zone within the Gurnos.

ICF - VAMT Staff Fund represents funding towards staff and core costs

WCVA Comic Relief Emergency Fund - is to enable those providing vital support to groups affected by Covid-19, such as: people in isolation, the elderly, carers, people struggling to access food etc. so that they can be supported during this time. Applications could also address one of Comic Relief's four strategic themes: Children Survive and Thrive; Mental Health Matters; Gender Equality; A Safe Place to Be. Grant Funding could be used for smaller capital or revenue expenditure including consumables. However, the request must fit in with the grant aims of maintaining or increasing voluntary services for vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

Loneliness and Isolation represents funding to host a staff member to work collaboratively with third sector organisations and partners, to tackle loneliness and isolation in Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf, along with a grant scheme that will be used to build the capability and sustainability of front-line grass roots voluntary and community organisations that bring people of all ages together and help them build social connections.

ICF Capital Grants represents funding towards the ICF Grant scheme for third sector small capital items.

Friend In Need Grant - The aim of the funding was to support the third sector to continue to offer befriending services to those who would benefit from them, increase befriending capacity and recruit and train befriending volunteers.

Self isolation grants - a small grants scheme in order for third-sector organisations to provide support to those people identified as requiring to self-isolate, across Merthyr Tydfil.

Interlink Covid - Support, administration and evaluation relating to Mental Health Covid-19 grants.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Cwm Taf Self-Isolation - As part of the Protect element of TTP (Track, Trace, Protect) to encourage safe behaviours around self-isolating, this funding was made available to cover the cost of food parcels with up to 10 days' worth of food. This funding was specifically for people who had been advised to self-isolate by track and trace due to either a positive Covid-19 test result or as a contact of a positive case.

BAME - Public Health provided funding to employ a Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) Engagement Officer. The key aim of the project was to influence Covid-19 safe behaviours in local BAME communities by ensuring the messaging is appropriate and culturally sensitive, encouraging adherence to guidance and encouraging uptake of testing and vaccinations.

Winter slippage - Funding allocation via the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Winter Planning Programme to help alleviate pressure points within the voluntary sector during the winter period.

Covid 19 Transformation Funding - This funding is made available via the Transformation Programme Governance Framework. It is focussed on supporting vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and covers small capital or revenue expenditure. Carol see TP56 email attached and you'll have the email trail which increased this to £15k

Emergency Fund - 2 tranches of money from Welsh Government, received in April 2020 and March 2021. The purpose of the Voluntary Services Emergency Fund (VSEF) is to enable those providing vital support to groups affected by Covid-19, such as: people in isolation, the elderly, carers, people struggling to access food etc. so that they can be supported during this time. Grant Funding can be used for smaller capital or revenue expenditure including consumables (for example PPE, food items toiletries etc). However, the request must fit in with the grant aims of maintaining or increasing voluntary services for vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

CRV Grant, Coronavirus Recovery Grant for Volunteering - Funding via Welsh Government for a collaborative programme of support across Merthyr Tydfil which focusses on sustainability, standardisation and safeguarding.

Foundation - a grant to host a Local Implementation Lead officer, to support their people and places programme of work in Merthyr Tydfil.

Recovery - a grant scheme to assist with post covid recovery and promote well-being.

Winter Pressure - a grant scheme to enable VAMT members to continue to support their beneficiaries throughout the winter period in a variety of ways to meet need and help maintain individual and community wellbeing and resilience.

Cwm Taf Mental Health - an agreement with Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB to host two posts as part of their new model of service delivery for mental health, along with funding to take forward recommendations of a report to review of service user and carer representation, engagement and involvement: Cwm Taf Morgannwg Together for Mental Health Partnership Board.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	79,945	1,696	81,641
Fixed asset investments	87,293	-	87,293
Current assets	625,846	207,874	833,720
Current liabilities	(41,681)	-	(41,681)
Total net assets	<u>751,403</u>	<u>209,570</u>	<u>960,973</u>

Accounts

Company registration number: 06058360

Charity registration number: 1118403

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Mitchell Meredith Limited
St Davids House
48 Free Street
Brecon
Powys
LD3 7BN

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Contents

Trustees' Report	1 to 16
Independent Auditors' Report	17 to 19
Statement of Financial Activities	20
Balance Sheet	21
Statement of Cash Flows	22
Notes to the Financial Statements	23 to 37

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

ACCOUNTABILITY AND GOVERNANCE

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil is an incorporated association and a registered charity. The current company / charity became operational on 1 October 2007 with assets and liabilities transferred from the old charity with the same name (registered number 1060242).

Directors/Trustees are recruited and appointed in accordance with the articles and memorandum of association. Nominations are invited from the members of the company/charity and are elected at the AGM. The Officers are elected by the Board.

No outside party can nominate trustees but the elected trustees may co-opt members in accordance with the constitution.

OBJECTIVES

2020-2021 marked the 24th year of operation of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil.

The objectives are in accordance with the service specification for Third Sector Support Wales (TSSW) as agreed with Welsh Government. TSSW is a consortium comprised of Wales Council for Voluntary Action and the nineteen County Voluntary Councils in Wales. As such, VAMT continues to receive a contribution towards its core activities from Welsh Government via Wales Council for Voluntary Action.

There are Core Service Standards associated with VAMT's role as a County Voluntary Council. They are;

Volunteering

Good governance

Sustainable funding

Engagement and influencing

The objectives are furthered by additional core funding from Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council and Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

In furtherance of both the organisations key strategic and charitable aims some projects have been developed, such as;

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board continue to provide part funding for a Health and Well Being Facilitator role.

The Welsh Government Integrated Care Fund (via Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board) has provided continued funding for a range of projects and grants, namely:

Community Coordinators

Tackling Loneliness & Isolation Development Officer

Cwm Taf Community Capacity Fund

Cwm Taf Dementia Care Grant Scheme

Befriending Services

Other grant funding administered by VAMT for third sector benefit

Funding via Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council continues to provide a Community Information & Development Officer at Calon Las Community Hub in Gurnos.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The trustees consider the charitable activities of the organisation to ensure that they provide benefit to the public. In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities the trustees always ensure that the programmes we undertake are in line with our main objective which is to promote all or any purposes for the benefit of the community deemed by law to be charitable and in particular the advancement of education, the furtherance of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives as they have overall responsibility for implementation of the Strategic Plan and monitor and scrutinise the Operational Plan.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Key Performance Indicators

All Third Sector Support Wales member organisations (including VAMT) utilise an integrated Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system which includes functionality to record and monitoring activity. What follows is a comparison across the previous two reporting periods:

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

Key Performance Indicators	2019/20	2020/21
Total number of interactions (instances of advice / support) with organisations/stakeholders	1,792	1,415
Number of volunteers placed / supported	223	212
Number of Third Sector organisations provided with direct advice/support	177	202
Number of Third Sector organisations referred to specialist support	4	3
Amount of funding received by Third Sector organisations following support	£234,664	£620,551
Amount of funding provided through grants schemes administered by VAMT	£483,797	£534,958
Number of attendees at forums and events organised by VAMT	565	851
Number of participants at training courses provided	122	70
Total membership	280	281

Recorded for the first time in 2020-21, the third sector locally also received £515,763 of funding via Wales Council for Voluntary Action.

Summary of operational progress towards objectives in the VAMT Strategic Plan

Strategic Aim 1 - Enable third sector organisations to deliver services, improve in all aspects of their work and become resilient

With Covid-19 response priorities taking precedence, the VAMT magazine Inform was published once in the year in an electronic format. The special edition newsletter was issued in November and gave opportunity to reflect on the amazing response of local communities, voluntary groups and volunteers who had provided support throughout the pandemic. The edition received positive feedback - "Excellent edition, many thanks for this"; "Much prefer this new format" (small local organisations).

In addition to the Inform newsletter 23 electronic briefings were circulated to members and other contacts throughout the year. These included information on funding, Welsh Government guidance relating to Covid, as well as local information. Feedback on these was positive "many thanks for your invaluable updates on the support available from the sector and also funding opportunities etc. We are sharing these with our contacts. Carry on the good work" (Local Councillor).

Social Media

Users of the VAMT News blog increased from 1848 to 2138 during the year. There were 198 posts made (66% increase on the previous year) and 4387 page views (60% increase on the previous year).

VAMT Twitter account has 1,997 followers. In the year there were 55,275 tweet impressions (reach), 130 new followers and 522 mentions.

VAMT Facebook has 535 followers, 524 page likes and there were 438 posts during the year.

Reconfiguration of the VAMT website meant disruption to the site throughout April, but data captured for the remainder of the year shows 2,138 users visited the site; 2,896 sessions and 4,387 page views.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

Key Research was undertaken by the Bevan Foundation during the year:

An initial report funded by a Voluntary Services Emergency Fund small grant administered by VAMT which aimed to capture, build on and share community responses to Covid-19 that are working well across the borough. This will help community organisations to meet local needs and to identify and fill any gaps in provision. Enabling and supporting groups to learn and grow will help to maintain or increase voluntary services for vulnerable individuals and communities as the pandemic continues and into recovery.

A second report, commissioned by VAMT, aimed to capture what third sector organisations felt that they would need to build services again following the pandemic, and what additional support they felt VAMT would need to provide.

A subsequent report, funded via an ICF Small Grant administered by VAMT, sought to examine social isolation and loneliness and the impact of shielding within Merthyr Tydfil. Findings from this report led to:

A review of befriending services which was funded as part of the Merthyr Tydfil partnership application to the Welsh Government Covid Recovery Grant for Volunteering.

Intelligence gathered from the above has been used throughout the year to inform VAMT and also relevant partnerships such as the local Covid Steering Group, Public Services Board and Regional Partnership Board.

Contact was maintained and developed through the year with the Lloyds Bank Foundation. Support given included practical training, bringing partners from the 6 areas together to discuss common issues and identify other ways of working.

Two workshops were held virtually to bring key stakeholders and other organisations together and to start discussing priorities. A programme of Organisational Resilience was developed with VAMT input and piloted in Merthyr Tydfil with 9 organisations attending.

A short film was produced showcasing the voluntary sector response to the pandemic which was used by LBF to promote the sector's work. When the Foundation's open grants round was relaunched, two grants of £50,000 were awarded to two local organisations.

Governance support has been provided to a range of different organisations including: Stephens and George Charitable Trust, Twyn Community Hub, Merthyr Eyelights.

Extensive support provided to one organisation with regard to governance issues directly caused by Covid

Supporting a faith group wishing to establish a place of worship in the Borough

Two groups being supported to develop Constitutions

Two groups receiving significant support around CIO registration

General queries on employment (new recruitment post Covid); how best to carry out community consultation during lockdown and subsequently with social distancing measures; and accessing DBS checks

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

13 people attended an introductory training session with regards to Lloyds Bank Foundation Organisational Resilience Programme which provides access to specialist consultants. The roll out took place in Q4 with 9 organisations benefitting from 4 sessions, with an additional session held specifically for funders to introduce the concept.

Brokering to specialist support services:

One group referred to Cadw and to MTCBC's Heritage Officer for support and adaptations to a listed building

5 groups able to access "developing strategy" workshops with Lloyds Bank Foundation

One charity supported to develop a Covid recovery plan via Lloyds Banking Group's employee volunteering programme. This led to the Charity Co-ordinator taking part in one of two case studies which formed part of a promotional video for the Banking Group's Employee Volunteering programme during Small Charities Week disseminated to 65,000 Lloyds Banking Group employees.

Funding opportunities promoted on the VAMT blog and social media platforms included the Moondance Foundation, LBF, and a myriad of smaller emergency schemes which sprang up to assist in the response including Western Power, Co-op amongst others.

Funding support has been provided to 58 different organisations including:

Trinity Child and Family Centre, Gellideg Foundation Group, Good Friends, Help@Hope and others involved in the emergency response.

Grant administration - VAMT administered a total of 167 grant awards throughout the year across a variety of funding streams (some also featured in the "Summary of VAMT response to Covid" from Page 12):

Winter Planning - Funding allocated via the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Winter Planning Programme to help alleviate pressure points within the voluntary sector during the winter period. Two rounds of funding available:

Round 1 - £31,189 awarded to 6 organisations, including Citizens Advice who purchased laptops to ensure continued service delivery whilst home working; The Parent Network who purchased sewing machines to provide classes and engage new learners/combat isolation and Twyn Community Hub who were able to provide 30 meals on wheels at reduced rates for a period of 6 weeks.

Round 2 - £26,379 awarded to 6 organisations, including Gellideg Foundation Group who were able to purchase microwave ovens for community meal prep-ation and delivering community cooking courses; Safer Merthyr Tydfil Re-connect 50 project to purchase first aid equipment for their walking group and raised beds and tools for an allotment at Ynysfach - all needed to support cli-ents presenting with mental health issues; and Help@Hope who purchased a laptop to support their administration of their Food Pantry.

Friend In Need Grant The aim of the funding was to support the third sector to continue to offer befriending services to those who would benefit from them, in-crease befriending capacity and recruit and train befriending volunteers. This opportunity enabled the purchase of 22 mobile phones and 9 tablets which were used by volunteers within Befriending organisations locally to maintain regular contact with their beneficiaries.

VAMT continued to administer the ICF funded Community Capacity Grant Scheme for 2020-21. A multiagency panel was convened and a total of 15 grants were awarded across the Cwm Taf region. All attended a Welcome Meeting to share their project intentions, to receive advice and information on monitoring and evaluation, volunteering and financial responsibilities.

VAMT also continued with the administration of the ICF Dementia Community Capacity Grant Scheme which introduced 8 projects for the Cwm Taf region.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

In keeping with previous years VAMT administered ICF funding to retain Befriending Services within the Cwm Taf region. The providers are Royal Voluntary Service (Good Neighbour Scheme); Volunteering Matters (Welcome Friends Project); Valleys Kids (Keeping Connected with your Community) and Age Connects Morgannwg (Reaching Out Project). The services were heavily relied upon throughout the year and each project repurposed their traditional offer of support and incorporated a range of alternative methods of engagement, such as telephone befriending; digital engagement; door step visits, to meet the needs of individuals, and to comply with the changing legislative requirements of Covid. A befriending network for the Cwm Taf region will continue when restrictions are lifted and will be supported by the Tackling Loneliness & Isolation Development Officer.

Continued to provide day to day financial support to Merthyr Tydfil Institute for the Blind and Safer Merthyr Tydfil on a formal contractual basis and payroll for Cylch Meithrin Pentrebach.

Financial accounting support was also provided to organisations on an ad hoc basis, these included Pontsticill Community Group and Heartbeat '95.

Strategic Aim 2 - Strengthen representation and influence of third sector organisations

In light of the Covid restrictions on gatherings the Health and Wellbeing Forum meetings were held virtually. 5 meetings were held throughout the year with a total of 148 participants. The June meeting was specifically set to understand how services had changed or adapted as a result of the pandemic and to understand the impact upon organisations. Presentations throughout the other meetings included DWP Kickstart; Red Cross Hardship Fund; Integrated Locality Groups within the Health Board footprint; A supportive project by Cwm Taf Morgannwg MIND focussing on suicide as well as the role and importance of the third sector within Regional Partnership Board developments.

It was noted that meetings held virtually enabled some individuals with Wales-wide roles to participate, who would otherwise be unable to engage.

The Environment and Green Spaces Network field trip in October was postponed. A meeting was held in February had 4 speakers and 21 members in attendance. Feedback was very positive:

“That was great Thank You! Gave me some ideas, inspiration, connections and hope!” (Lark in the Park)

“It was an excellent morning and the atmosphere felt very positive (Friends of Parc Nant Llwynog)”

“The enthusiasm of groups for what they do showed so clearly. Hopefully they will be willing to come together and continue this joined up approach.”

VAMT are engaged in the following local partnerships; some of which were disrupted by the pandemic:

Tackling Poverty Strategic Group.

Town Centre Partnership

Youth Support Services Partnership

Early Help Hub

Merthyr Tydfil IAA / Dewis Group

Merthyr Tydfil GP Cluster

Gurnos Community Zone Implementation Group

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

Merthyr Funders Forum - Which is made up of principal funders in the Borough. It includes National Lottery Community Fund, Lloyds Bank Foundation, Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, Merthyr Valleys Homes, Invest Local Ynysowen and MTCBC.

VAMT represented and facilitated discussions in regional partnerships throughout the Cwm Taf, and Cwm Taf Morgannwg areas, some of which were disrupted by the pandemic:

Public Service Board (PSB) where VAMT has a lead role for the priority around “tackling loneliness and isolation”

Transformation Leadership Partnership Board

Regional Partnership Board and its structure of (a) Adults’ Services Board and (2) Children’s Services Board

Social Prescribing Group

Protect Workstream.

Community Zones Strategic Group

Community Safety Partnership

Safeguarding Board

Together for Mental Health (T4MH) Partnership Board

Dementia Action Steering Group

Carers Strategic Partnership Board

University Health Board Stakeholder Reference Group - VAMT maintained the role of Chair of the Group
Local Action Group (RDP)

The following meetings were stood down during the pandemic, although information continued to be shared with the membership

Merthyr Tydfil 50+ Forum

The Cwm Taf Dementia Care Providers Forum

The Cwm Taf Morgannwg Carers Providers Forum

Strategic Aim 3 - Enhance volunteering and wellbeing through participation and community action

212 potential volunteers were supported with at least 114 being placed into opportunities.

Weekly outreach at the local Job Centre and Merthyr Tydfil College was suspended, although the Volunteering Officer maintained contact throughout.

Good practice in volunteering - assistance given to 9 organisations and the offer of ongoing support to develop policies. A further 4 organisations were referred onwards for specialist support.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

Promoted the Volunteering Wales website which saw 35 people from the local area register an interest in volunteering

8 organisations attended the Cwm Taf Volunteer Managers' Forum

VAMT administered a Youth Led Grants programme in partnership with Safer Merthyr Tydfil and the Merthyr Tydfil Borough Wide Youth Forum (MTBWYF). A grant panel was convened and awarded a total of £5,450 to 5 organisations; namely: Pen y Dre High School; Twyn Community Hub; Treharris Boys & Girls Club; Cyfarthfa High School and MTBWYF.

Although outreach sessions at both Merthyr Tydfil College and the Job Centre were unable to take place because of restrictions, close links were maintained with staff in both settings throughout the year, with a view to reinstating sessions as soon as practicably possible.

Towards the end of Q3 there was an increase in organisations needing volunteers, some to help pack food parcels and support food delivery programmes, others looking for Peer Mentors and Telephone Befrienders.

Sara Grinnell, Independent Professional Advocate, Cwm Taf Morgannwg Advocacy Service said "The Volunteer Centre has been a huge support to me and my project. I am still relatively new to the role and the Volunteering Officer has made me feel welcome during networking meetings and has been a fantastic support when it comes to referring Volunteers. Nearly everyone she has referred has gone on to volunteer with the project. It has been especially difficult to recruit during COVID but again the Volunteer Centre has been brilliant and supported the project by talking to potential volunteers about us, featuring us in the newsletter and keeping me up to date with any information"

Volunteers Week was promoted via social media, and organisations took opportunity to thank their volunteers by posting videos/photographs on social media platforms. These were posted on a dedicated page on the VAMT website.

As part of VAMT's Employee Volunteering policy staff were involved in supporting:

Merthyr Tydfil's Children's Reading Festival - helping pack 7200 books into individualised packs which were distributed to children and young people

"Their time and assistance in this mammoth task was invaluable to the project and we thank them for all their help".

Stephen's & George Charitable Trust to pack 3000 red bags for children across Merthyr Tydfil who were in receipt of free school meals. The packs included a colouring book, crayons and a selection box and were delivered in the lead up to Christmas

"...your help with the Christmas bags, sorting of donations made, the Secret Santa parcels and so much more in the build up to Christmas was outstanding and we would not have progressed as we did without it..." Philippa Hunt, Entitlement Officer

Merthyr Cynon Foodbank with the distribution of food via their main Hub in the Gurnos.

Cleide Correia, Merthyr Cynon Foodbank Project Manager said "... I'd like to say a big thank you to VAMT staff for your kindness in volunteering with us ... Your help is greatly appreciated and you made a big difference to local people in crisis in our community this Christmas! ...your help in sorting out the donations for our Christmas hampers at the main hub in Gurnos Christian Centre was invaluable! ...Volunteers are the lifeblood of our charity and we are really grateful for your ongoing support".

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

VAMT staff engaged in the distribution of books as part of World Book Day and helped with the distribution of 1000s of books across the borough. The books were hung from trees, benches, and railings to celebrate the day and were free of charge.

The Volunteer Centre also supported the We Love Reading Merthyr Tydfil Christmas Festival, 22 schools were involved with this project allowing children to have fun creating Christmas artwork that was to be displayed in windows of various shops and business in the local area. The Volunteer Centre used their window to display just a small selection of the creative artwork designed by the children.

VAMT and Interlink continue to employ a team of four Community Coordinators to support older people to access community services in order to maintain their independence and enhance well-being. This involves continuing to identify and raise awareness of all the support available within the community, from clubs and societies to social care, to service users, carers, patients and public service partners. VAMT employs the Merthyr Tydfil locality coordinator.

Alongside the support provided to those shielding, the Coordinator continued to receive additional referrals from third sector, statutory organisations, and individuals. During Q1 a total of 153 referrals were received, which equates to around 60% increase on normal activity levels. A further 160 referrals were received throughout the remainder of the year.

The Coordinator maintained regular contact with local organisations with regards to their availability to support individuals, in order that any referrals made could be actioned without delay. During Q1 a total of 84 referrals were made to third sector organisations and community groups, with a further 109 referrals being made throughout the remainder of the year. These included support for food parcels; shopping; benefit checks; prescription collection and telephone befriending.

The Coordinator attended regular regional "Protect Workstream" meetings set up in support of the Test, Trace & Protect programme, and provided information on local intelligence. Meetings were weekly initially, tapering to fortnightly by the end of the year.

12 monthly bulletins were produced and sent via email to over 800 recipients. Due to Covid-19 and localised lockdowns, the bulletin was reviewed and re-developed focusing instead on online activities and support. Information was also shared via Social Media

Calon Las Community Hub - VAMT entered into a new Service Agreement via Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council for the provision of a Community Zone Information & Development Officer, who:

Provided direct support for community members with queries such as utility bills/direct debits; warm homes discount scheme; British Gas pre-payment card issues; Covid-19 tests; services such as Samaritans;

Developed social media presence and used Calon Las Facebook Page as a means of disseminating information throughout the community; 495 followers.

Supported Calon Las Cupcakes Baking Group, St Aloysius Senior Citizens Group and Calon Las Coffee Morning Group to apply for CTM MIND Side by Side Peer Support grants - all 3 were successful and received £250 each towards their activities.

Worked in Partnership with Merthyr Valleys Homes to apply for ICF grant funding to provide Wellbeing/ Activity Packs to elderly people within the community during Covid 19 - £500 awarded. A total of 106 Wellbeing/Activity packs sourced, prepared and delivered. A further £500 was awarded to provide 106 Wellbeing/ Activity Packs to young people within the community.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

Awarded £200 from Greggs which supported holiday hunger/play-related initiatives

Supported “We Love Merthyr Children’s Reading Festival” by delivering 70 packs comprising of 3 books per pack to families within the Gurnos area

Worked in partnership with MVH Youth Project and The Parent Network on Christmas-related initiatives including an artwork competition - Feedback from Competition winners: *“The kids are so happy, thank you”*; *“So lovely, Louise is over the moon”*; *“The art set is a God send, she's drawing night and day”*

Maintained contact with groups and organisations interested in utilising Calon Las as a venue for meetings/outreach services; fielding enquiries and providing information and advice as appropriate to needs.

The Tackling Loneliness and Isolation Project continued to be funded via ICF. Planned developments were curtailed by the ongoing restrictions due to the pandemic. However, the Development Officer:

Volunteered for local community groups in RCT, picking up and delivering prescriptions to individuals who were shielding or without support family/friends.

Worked with Wales & West Housing and trial a project for residents at Ty Dewi Sheltered Housing Complex. Provided 15 mindfulness and wellbeing packs to support residents unable to go out during lockdown.

Provided an introduction to indoor curling session for Dowlais Men’s Sheds. Refer 4 individuals to the group who had maintained an outside space with planting and raised beds areas during the lockdown.

Supported a pumpkin carving and pumpkin soup project which was set up with members of the Invest Local Ynysowen Steering Group. Over 150 pumpkins given out to community members from Aberfan, Merthyr Vale and Ynysowen.

Researched online healthy eating recipes and smoothies recipes which were shared with Invest Local Ynysowen in preparation for a “Come Dine with Us” event.

Collaborated with Health Board colleagues and acquired pin badges displaying the “distance aware symbol”, designed to be worn by anyone who had been shielding as they reintegrate into community life. Over 1000 badges sourced and redistributed to third sector organisations (eg, Red Cross, Age Connects Morgannwg and Friends of Treorchy Community), and community members directly

Referred 3 community members to the Community Coordinator for specific support services including mental health, budgeting and shopping support.

Consulted with partners on the potential to provide residents with wellbeing and mindfulness packs. Following agreement the Development Officer sourced the pack contents; prepared the packs and distributed 250 of them throughout the communities of Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

Summary of VAMT response to Covid

VAMT staff continued to work from home throughout the year and repurposed their work plans to facilitate a Covid-19 response to meet the needs of the local community, members and partners.

VAMT participated in and co-facilitated the following groups:

a Covid Voluntary/Community Operational Group. The meeting was chaired by MTCBC and involved larger community support groups who came together on 8 occasions (total 63 attendees) to discuss practical issues relating to service delivery during the pandemic.

a Covid Voluntary / Community Strategic Group was established which met 11 times (total 88 attendees) and involved the 3 Registered Social Landlords locally.

The above groups then merged to form the:

Third Sector/MTCBC Covid Response Steering Group which went on to meet 24 times throughout the year (total 226 attendees) and to ensure that the Borough had a cohesive support network for delivering a range of services and support to local residents.

A help and support services spreadsheet, set up in March 2020 continued to be maintained. It detailed offers of help and support from third sector and local organisations and was made available via the VAMT website. This continued to develop with 88 different offers of help and support, from shopping and prescription collections, food distribution, telephone support - even dog walking. This was used extensively by all agencies across the borough to find third sector support for their clients, tenants and general enquirers.

VAMT developed a model of assistance for Local Authority colleagues responsible for supporting individuals identified by Welsh Government as needing to shield during the pandemic. A process was implemented whereby the local authority undertook an initial conversation with individuals to establish their needs around the Welsh Government emergency food box. If the individual had any other support needs, then MTCBC passed the details on to the Community Coordinator at VAMT who was able to facilitate third sector responses without delay.

Contact was made with every individual who needed immediate support for either shopping / prescription collections / food parcels or telephone befriending.

“As Covid-19 hit the community of Merthyr Tydfil, the Stephen’s and George Charitable Trust were contacted by the Community Coordinator. Every day we would receive an email containing a concise list of clients contact details that required a food parcel as they were shielding. The list was always accurate and detailed. The community members knew we were going to call to support them...Together we impacted households across Merthyr Tydfil and this work started the catalyst of support and local councillors got involved to deliver parcels to the people who were shielding in their areas” - Helen Hughes (Stephens and George Charitable Trust)

In order to support community members to self-isolate safely, a helpline was established as part of the Protect Workteam. A referral route was agreed and any residents from Merthyr Tydfil who required support were referred to the Community Coordinator.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

During the second lockdown, additional funding was provided via the Protect Workstream to offer enhanced food parcels to residents who had tested positive for Covid-19 or who had been contacted by TTP and advised to self-isolate. This elevated offer of support was to enable individuals / families to safely self-isolate. 31 families consisting of 107 individuals were supported with enhanced food parcels that provided them with 10 days' worth of food.

A range of new funding opportunities relating to Covid became available during the year and as a result VAMT administered many more schemes than in previous years, as a result:

Covid 19 Small Grants of up to £500 were made available from ICF funding to support any new or existing formal/informal community group or organisation operating in Merthyr Tydfil/RCT. The grants were to support efforts and responses around Covid 19. VAMT administered on behalf of the region, ensuring monitoring and evaluation was undertaken.

51 grant awards were made across the Cwm Taf region. Feedback included:

"I would like to thank staff at both Cylch Meithrin Aberdar & Cylch Meithrin Seren Fach for all of their support during these difficult few weeks. Both of my children have thoroughly enjoyed attending & all of the amazing activities they have been involved in, I cant thank you enough".

"In partnership with the Foodbank it has been clear that our roles within the community have become vital to so many in need from all backgrounds. Whilst this crisis has created so much misery, delivering much needed Food parcels to the community has helped develop community spirit between all those involved. We thank you for helping us to provide this service".

"Thank you for the grant it enabled us to purchase resources at a difficult time both operationally and financially, it was very much appreciated".

"The funding supported us at a critical time as our charity income had stopped completely. It really made a difference, even though it was a small amount, it made a huge difference. Without it we are not sure we would have gone on to gain other grants and be able to support all the families we have done over the past 14 weeks. The process was simple and with a very quick turnaround of funds, which we are grateful for".

The **Comic Relief Emergency Fund** - for maintaining or increasing voluntary services for vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

VAMT administered £26,591 and 14 organisations received funding, including Vaynor Community Group; Gurnos Mens Project and Central Beacons Mountain Rescue

Covid 19 Transformation Funding - VAMT was asked to administer this funding made available via the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Transformation Programme Board. It focussed on supporting vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and covered small capital or revenue expenditure.

VAMT allocated £15,000 to 11 organisations including Llamau; People First and Treharris Phoenix RFC.

Voluntary Sector Emergency Fund (VSEF)

The purpose of the Voluntary Services Emergency Fund (VSEF) is to enable those providing vital support to groups affected by Covid-19, such as: people in isolation, the elderly, carers, people struggling to access food etc. so that they can be support-ed during this time.

Two tranches of money received with the full allocation of £49,997 issued.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

24 grant awards made, including Bevan Foundation; Llamau and Homestart.

Self Isolation Grants

With Public Health Prevention Funding, a small grants scheme was established in order for third-sector organisations to provide support to those people identified as requiring to self-isolate, across Merthyr Tydfil. It is expected that small grants will be utilised for food, household and/or hygiene products, activity packs which may help alleviate isolation, etc. and will be tailored to individual circumstances. The grants will also allow organisations to increase their own capacity to undertake the necessary preparation by allowing for additional expenses incurred due to increased volunteer requirements or staff time.

VAMT administered £36,000 to 14 organisations, including Quakers Yard Community Association; Treharris Boys & Girls Club and SNAP Cymru

Self Isolation Support Grants from Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

As part of the Protect element of TTP (Test, Trace, Protect) to encourage safe behaviours around self-isolating, this funding was made available to cover the cost of food parcels with up to 10 days' worth of food. This funding was specifically for people who had been advised to self-isolate due to either a positive Covid-19 test result or as a contact of a positive case.

32 families with 109 family members were supported with the delivery of food parcels and essential items by Gellideg Foundation Group, Twyn Action Group and Stephens & George Charitable Trust.

Coronavirus Recovery Grant for Volunteering : Funding via Welsh Government. VAMT submitted an application in partnership with Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council; Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Commissioning Unit; Cwm Taf Public Service Board and Tydfil Training Consortium. The proposal was to introduce a collaborative programme of support across Merthyr Tydfil which focusses on sustainability, standardisation and safeguarding. The application was successful and brought forward in excess of £111,000 to the Borough. VAMT administered the funding which supported 22 organisations, and their volunteers, throughout the Borough, including Merthyr Performance Company; Pontsticill Community Association and Merthyr Cynon Foodbank.

The Volunteering Officer worked closely with a number of organisations throughout the year, almost all of whom actively recruited volunteers during the pandemic. The support included providing advice and information on ensuring safe practices for volunteers supporting services during Covid.

Helen McShea, Reconnect Project Coordinator said “...we are grateful for all the help from the Volunteering Officer at VAMT, who we have built a strong working partnership with for the support to our project, the experience in sending the appropriate volunteers to us has helped us immensely to maintain a core of volunteers and keep the project functioning The pandemic has affected all of us including staff and volunteers so the Volunteer Centre's determined focus to continue to support us has been invaluable”.

The pandemic highlighted the significant level of food poverty and the requirements of food distribution locally. With more groups engaging in the Merthyr Tydfil Food Poverty Network it rebadged itself as the Merthyr Tydfil Food Prosperity Network to avoid negative connotations. The Network met on 3 occasions to progress developments around food pantry/community fridge collaborations. In Q4 VAMT were approached by Feeding Britain who expressed interest in the food initiatives in Merthyr Tydfil, and in working with them under the Feeding Britain umbrella - This would be the first Feeding Britain collaboration in Wales.

VAMT and Interlink organised an event in November 2020 to discuss and explore any learning from Covid 19 in relation to tackling loneliness and isolation, and to see how this might be used to influence new developments. 39 people attended the session which included presentation from Bevan Foundation regarding their research within the Borough. Information was subsequently presented to the Public Services Board where VAMT has the co-lead for the priority around Tackling Loneliness & Isolation.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

Towards the end of the year VAMT were approached by Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Health Team to host a new role to support the local Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) community. The key aim of the role is to influence Covid-19 safe behaviours in local BAME communities by ensuring the messaging is appropriate and culturally sensitive, encouraging adherence to guidance and encouraging uptake of testing and vaccinations. This 8 month opportunity is to be replicated across both Interlink and BAVO for consistency across the health board region.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Priorities include;

Supporting the emergency Covid response and supporting organisations in the transition and recovery period

Increasing organisational development support for local organisations

Providing information, advice and support to people wishing to volunteer
Continuing to represent the sector at all levels of public partnerships

Actively supporting the consultation/engagement process to establish ongoing needs which influence the ongoing implementation of the Social Services and Well Being Act. Particular emphasis will be placed on the reliance on community support and the need for its continued development and investment

Continued collaboration with Interlink RCT and BAVO (Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations) concerning regional partnerships and joint service delivery on the new Cwm Taf Morgannwg regional footprint

Actively supporting the consultation/engagement process to inform an updated Cwm Taf Well Being Plan. Particular emphasis will be placed on initiatives to tackle loneliness and isolation and developments of volunteering

Fully engaging in Integrated Care Fund projects including the Community Coordinators, third sector grants schemes and others, and in any reviews which relate to the funding of these projects

Supporting the Calon Las Community Hub (Gurnos)

Continue to collaborate with MTCBC colleagues on a range of projects including revising the local Compact Agreement

Secure the Voluntary Action Centre premises for the longer term

Introduce a BAME Engagement Officer to support community members

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal Funding Sources

The organisation derives its funding from a variety of sources. The principal sources are derived from the Welsh Government, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council and Cwm Taf University Morgannwg Health Board.

Reserves Policy and Going Concern

The overall surplus for the year amounts to £271,960.

It is the Charity's policy that free reserves should be sufficient to allow the ongoing operation of the Charity in the event of an unexpected fall in funding. At 31 March 2021 free reserves amounted to £514,543 (2020 £322,674)

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

The trustees of the charity regularly review and update the charities Risk Register which has a specific section on financial risk.

Pay Policy for Senior Staff

VAMT has an organisational policy which relates job roles to job groupings and an associated pay scale. Senior staff are incorporated in that policy. The spinal column points on the pay scales relate to the nationally agreed local government NJC scales (based on the rates as of 1st April 2017).

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	S E Davies E J Dawson, Chair from 30/11/2020 (resigned 20 May 2021) P Gray, Treasurer M J A Jones B Lewis N B Mahoney K A Nor-Val A Roberts, Chair until 30/11/2020 M Ronan H O Thomas (resigned 28 September 2020) M Ward
Secretary	Mrs S Richards, Chief Officer
Principal Office	89 -90 High Street Merthyr Tydfil Mid Glamorgan CF47 8UH
Company Registration Number	06058360
Charity Registration Number	1118403
Bankers	HSBC Bank Plc Merthyr Tydfil Branch 127/128 High Street Merthyr Tydfil Mid Glamorgan CF47 8DN
Auditor	Mitchell Meredith Limited St Davids House 48 Free Street Brecon Powys LD3 7BN

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Trustees' Report

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil for the purposes of company law) 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.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

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

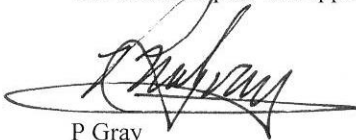
Disclosure of information to auditor

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 25 October 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



P Gray
Trustee

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (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 2021 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; and
- 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.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 16), the trustees 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.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

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.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we 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. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the entity through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures as 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 trustee and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 charitable company and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



M L Barnes FCCA ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Mitchell Meredith Limited, Statutory Auditor

St Davids House
48 Free Street
Brecon
Powys
LD3 7BN

16 November 2021

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Charitable activities	4	316,158	816,489	1,132,647	1,067,587
Other activities	5	75,054	-	75,054	73,709
Investment income	6	2,484	-	2,484	1,104
Other income	7	2,661	-	2,661	6,127
Total income		<u>396,357</u>	<u>816,489</u>	<u>1,212,846</u>	<u>1,148,527</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	8	<u>(325,424)</u>	<u>(629,242)</u>	<u>(954,666)</u>	<u>(1,075,442)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(325,424)</u>	<u>(629,242)</u>	<u>(954,666)</u>	<u>(1,075,442)</u>
Gains/losses on investment assets		<u>13,780</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,780</u>	<u>(8,373)</u>
Net income		84,713	187,247	271,960	64,712
Transfers between funds		<u>69,587</u>	<u>(69,587)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		154,300	117,660	271,960	64,712
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>446,512</u>	<u>86,975</u>	<u>533,487</u>	<u>468,775</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u>600,812</u>	<u>204,635</u>	<u>805,447</u>	<u>533,487</u>

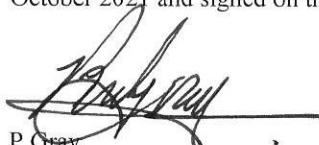
All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

(Registration number: 06058360)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	86,269	123,838
Investments	15	<u>80,407</u>	<u>66,627</u>
		<u>166,676</u>	<u>190,465</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	16	122,931	192,685
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>565,835</u>	<u>339,144</u>
		<u>688,766</u>	<u>531,829</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>(49,995)</u>	<u>(188,807)</u>
Net current assets		<u>638,771</u>	<u>343,022</u>
Net assets		<u>805,447</u>	<u>533,487</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	19	204,635	86,975
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>600,812</u>	<u>446,512</u>
Total funds	19	<u>805,447</u>	<u>533,487</u>

The financial statements on pages 20 to 37 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 25 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by:


P Gray
Trustee

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income		271,960	64,712
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation		37,569	36,472
Investment income	6	(2,484)	(1,104)
Revaluation of investments		(13,780)	8,373
		<u>293,265</u>	<u>108,453</u>
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	16	69,754	(87,476)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	17	(138,812)	34,205
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>224,207</u>	<u>55,182</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	6	2,484	1,104
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	14	-	(11,376)
Purchase of investments	15	-	(75,000)
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>2,484</u>	<u>(85,272)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		226,691	(30,090)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		339,144	369,234
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u><u>565,835</u></u>	<u><u>339,144</u></u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

89 -90 High Street
Merthyr Tydfil
Mid Glamorgan
CF47 8UH

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 25 October 2021.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Income and endowments

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been paid.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

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

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 £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost.

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:

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Freehold property	2% straight line
Land	Not depreciated
Leasehold property	Over the remaining term of the lease
Office equipment	25% straight line

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

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.

Trade creditors

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 charity 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.

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

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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's 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.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

3 Grants

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
WG Infrastructure Partnership Agreement	270,027	-	270,027	156,318
Cwm Taf University Health Board	21,131	-	21,131	20,718
Merthyr Tydfil CBC - Core Grant	25,000	-	25,000	25,000
WG Comic Relief	-	26,591	26,591	145,000
Cwm Taf Health Board - ICF Grants	-	553,449	553,449	681,647
Gwirvol User Led Grant	-	6,650	6,650	12,650
MTCBC Community Zone	-	31,959	31,959	26,254
Public Health Prevention Funding for Self Isolation Flexible Support	-	36,000	36,000	-
WG COVID Grants	-	161,840	161,840	-
	<u>316,158</u>	<u>816,489</u>	<u>1,132,647</u>	<u>1,068,587</u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds			
	General	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	funds	2021	2020
		£	£	£
Grants and contracts	316,158	816,489	1,132,647	1,067,587

5 Income from other activities

	Unrestricted funds			
	General	Total	Total	
	£	2021	2020	£
		£		£
Other activities	22,167	22,167		15,727
Property rental income	52,887	52,887		57,982
	75,054	75,054		73,709

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds			
	General	Total	Total	
	£	2021	2020	£
		£		£
Interest receivable on bank deposits	2,484	2,484		1,104

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds			
	General	Total	Total	
	£	2021	2020	£
		£		£
Miscellaneous Income	2,661	2,661		6,127

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

		Unrestricted funds			(As restated)
	Note	General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Grants payable		19,821	474,628	494,449	596,070
Staff costs		167,103	124,024	291,127	319,905
Allocated support costs	9	120,250	28,690	148,940	141,139
Governance costs	9	18,250	1,900	20,150	18,328
		<u>325,424</u>	<u>629,242</u>	<u>954,666</u>	<u>1,075,442</u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

9 Analysis of governance and support costs

Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Basis of allocation	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Premises expenses	Direct	29,992	10,369	40,361	26,216
Cleaning and repairs	Direct	21,821	-	21,821	21,753
Subscriptions	Direct	373	-	373	363
Advertising and publications	Direct	778	1,047	1,825	5,329
Insurance	Direct	2,719	1,906	4,625	4,264
Bank Charges	Direct	120	-	120	328
Development costs	Direct	1,255	1,961	3,216	3,759
Office costs	Direct	6,828	2,724	9,552	15,565
Computer expenses	Direct	11,030	8,429	19,459	15,189
Motor and travel	Direct	656	979	1,635	5,857
Recruitment & training	Direct	798	-	798	1,212
Volunteer Expenses	Direct	-	-	-	44
Legal and professional	Direct	3,497	1,275	4,772	2,339
Other costs	Direct	2,810	-	2,810	2,449
Depreciation	Direct	37,573	-	37,573	36,472
		<u>120,250</u>	<u>28,690</u>	<u>148,940</u>	<u>141,139</u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds			
	General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Staff costs				
Wages and salaries	13,500	-	13,500	13,205
Audit fees				
Audit of the financial statements	4,750	-	4,750	4,750
Other governance costs	-	1,900	1,900	373
	<u>18,250</u>	<u>1,900</u>	<u>20,150</u>	<u>18,328</u>

10 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2021 £	2020 £
Audit fees	4,750	4,750
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>37,573</u>	<u>36,472</u>

11 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

12 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	259,126	280,253
Social security costs	21,293	24,221
Pension costs	<u>24,208</u>	<u>28,636</u>
	<u>304,627</u>	<u>333,110</u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2021 No	2020 No
Total employees	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>

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

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £87,384 (2020 - £93,414).

13 Auditors' remuneration

	2021 £	2020 £
Audit of the financial statements	<u>4,750</u>	<u>4,750</u>

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2020	<u>515,412</u>	<u>109,158</u>	<u>624,570</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>515,412</u>	<u>109,158</u>	<u>624,570</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2020	410,796	89,936	500,732
Charge for the year	<u>30,570</u>	<u>6,999</u>	<u>37,569</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>441,366</u>	<u>96,935</u>	<u>538,301</u>
Net book value			
At 31 March 2021	<u>74,046</u>	<u>12,223</u>	<u>86,269</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>104,616</u>	<u>19,222</u>	<u>123,838</u>

Included within the net book value of land and buildings above is £71,604 (2020 - £72,864) in respect of freehold land and buildings and £2,442 (2020 - £31,752) in respect of leaseholds.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

15 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2020	66,627	66,627
Revaluation	13,780	13,780
At 31 March 2021	<u>80,407</u>	<u>80,407</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2021	<u>80,407</u>	<u>80,407</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>66,627</u>	<u>66,627</u>

16 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	25,798	16,814
Prepayments	6,706	1,278
Other taxes and social security	1,974	-
Other debtors	88,453	174,593
	<u>122,931</u>	<u>192,685</u>

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	10,208	3,495
Other taxation and social security	-	6,439
Other creditors	24,840	163,590
Accruals	14,947	15,283
	<u>49,995</u>	<u>188,807</u>

18 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £24,208 (2020 - £28,636).

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

19 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds						
<i>General</i>						
General	446,512	396,357	(325,424)	69,587	13,780	600,812
Restricted funds						
Building Strong Bridges	-	41,720	(38,681)	(3,039)	-	-
Gwirvol user-led grants	-	6,650	(5,450)	(1,200)	-	-
World Mental Health Day	182	-	-	-	-	182
ICF Befriending Services	33,544	150,000	(130,740)	(2,720)	-	50,084
Community Capacity Grant Scheme	8,340	60,000	(38,443)	(8,557)	-	21,340
ICF - Dementia	24,134	45,000	(27,662)	-	-	41,472
Community Zone	3,431	31,959	(28,975)	(2,779)	-	3,636
ICF - VAMT Staff Fund	-	66,864	(54,940)	(11,924)	-	-
WCVA Comic Relief	-	26,591	(26,591)	-	-	-
Loneliness and Isolation	-	51,110	(30,335)	(20,775)	-	-
ICF - Capital Grants	17,344	-	(8,563)	-	-	8,781
Friend In Need	-	13,000	(10,071)	(2,929)	-	-
Self Isolation	-	10,000	(1,220)	-	-	8,780
Interlink COVID	-	13,000	-	-	-	13,000
Cwm Taf Self Isolation	-	36,000	(32,400)	(3,600)	-	-
BAME	-	30,000	(246)	-	-	29,754
Winter Slippage	-	57,755	(57,339)	(416)	-	-
COVID 19 Transformation	-	15,000	(13,520)	(1,480)	-	-
Emergency Fund	-	49,997	(25,000)	-	-	24,997
CRV Grant	-	111,843	(99,066)	(10,168)	-	2,609
Total restricted funds	<u>86,975</u>	<u>816,489</u>	<u>(629,242)</u>	<u>(69,587)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>204,635</u>
Total funds	<u>533,487</u>	<u>1,212,846</u>	<u>(954,666)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,780</u>	<u>805,447</u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2020 £
Unrestricted funds						
<i>General</i>						
General	426,951	282,976	(291,256)	36,214	(8,373)	446,512
Restricted funds						
Building Strong Bridges	-	37,080	(41,605)	4,525	-	-
Gwirvol user-led grants	-	12,650	(9,760)	(2,890)	-	-
World Mental Health Day	182	-	-	-	-	182
Intermediate Care Fund - Staff	-	145,850	(145,850)	-	-	-
Care Home Education	2,490	-	(2,490)	-	-	-
ICF Befriending Services	16,849	160,000	(143,305)	-	-	33,544
Community Capacity Grant Scheme	385	60,000	(52,045)	-	-	8,340
ICF - Carers Grant	11,705	-	(3,000)	(8,705)	-	-
ICF - Dementia	3,634	62,000	(41,500)	-	-	24,134
Community Zone	6,579	26,254	(26,748)	(2,654)	-	3,431
ICF - VAMT Staff Fund	-	102,798	(96,733)	(6,065)	-	-
WCVA Comic Relief	-	145,000	(145,000)	-	-	-
Loneliness and Isolation	-	42,906	(22,481)	(20,425)	-	-
ICF - Capital Grants	-	71,013	(53,669)	-	-	17,344
Total restricted funds	<u>41,824</u>	<u>865,551</u>	<u>(784,186)</u>	<u>(36,214)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>86,975</u>
Total funds	<u><u>468,775</u></u>	<u><u>1,148,527</u></u>	<u><u>(1,075,442)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(8,373)</u></u>	<u><u>533,487</u></u>

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Building Strong Bridges - Part of a national project to improve the relationship between the voluntary sector and the NHS.

Gwirvol User-Led Grants - Grants given to all CVC's to encourage youth led projects.

World Mental Health Day - The fund is made up of income from sponsorship and fundraising events which will fund the World Mental Health Day events. VAMT is in receipt of the fund which is managed by the World Mental Health Steering Group.

Integrated Care Fund - The Intermediate Care Fund supported the employment of a team of community co-ordinators, 2 of whom are hosted by VAMT. The roles provide information, advice and signpost statutory partners and citizens to voluntary sector services and activities which benefit individuals aged 50+.

Care Home Education - This funding is to support delivery of education about end of life care within Care Homes. It will focus on developing awareness and leadership at care home management level, as well as general awareness across other staffing groups.

ICF Befriending Services - Funding is provided to improve loneliness and isolation in the 50+ population by providing befriending services via one to one and group sessions.

Community Capacity Grant Scheme - Funded by the Integrated Care Fund, VAMT administered a £60,000 Community Capacity Grant Scheme which funded 15 projects who demonstrated significant impact in reducing isolation and loneliness, promoting healthy lifestyles and wellbeing, preventing unnecessary hospital admissions and supporting hospital discharges.

ICF Carers Grant - The grant is to provide preventative services which support and enhance the wellbeing of carers.

ICF Dementia - Grant funding for third sector organisations providing dementia care in the Cwm Taf Region.

Community Zone - For provision of Community Development and Information, Advice and Assistance support to the Community Zone within the Gurnos.

ICF - VAMT Staff Fund represents funding towards staff and core costs

WCVA Comic Relief Emergency Fund - is to enable those providing vital support to groups affected by Covid-19, such as: people in isolation, the elderly, carers, people struggling to access food etc. so that they can be supported during this time. Applications could also address one of Comic Relief's four strategic themes: Children Survive and Thrive; Mental Health Matters; Gender Equality; A Safe Place to Be. Grant Funding could be used for smaller capital or revenue expenditure including consumables. However, the request must fit in with the grant aims of maintaining or increasing voluntary services for vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Loneliness and Isolation represents funding

ICF Capital Grants represents funding

Friend In Need Grant - The aim of the funding was to support the third sector to continue to offer befriending services to those who would benefit from them, increase befriending capacity and recruit and train befriending volunteers.

Self isolation grants - a small grants scheme in order for third-sector organisations to provide support to those people identified as requiring to self-isolate, across Merthyr Tydfil.

Interlink Covid - Support, administration and evaluation relating to Mental Health Covid-19 grants.

Cwm Taf Self-Isolation - As part of the Protect element of TTP (Track, Trace, Protect) to encourage safe behaviours around self-isolating, this funding was made available to cover the cost of food parcels with up to 10 days' worth of food. This funding was specifically for people who had been advised to self-isolate by track and trace due to either a positive Covid-19 test result or as a contact of a positive case.

BAME - Public Health provided funding to employ a Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) Engagement Officer. The key aim of the project was to influence Covid-19 safe behaviours in local BAME communities by ensuring the messaging is appropriate and culturally sensitive, encouraging adherence to guidance and encouraging uptake of testing and vaccinations.

Winter slippage - Funding allocation via the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Winter Planning Programme to help alleviate pressure points within the voluntary sector during the winter period.

Covid 19 Transformation Funding - This funding is made available via the Transformation Programme Governance Framework. It is focussed on supporting vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and covers small capital or revenue expenditure. Carol see TP56 email attached and you'll have the email trail which increased this to £15k

Emergency Fund - 2 tranches of money from Welsh Government, received in April 2020 and March 2021. The purpose of the Voluntary Services Emergency Fund (VSEF) is to enable those providing vital support to groups affected by Covid-19, such as: people in isolation, the elderly, carers, people struggling to access food etc. so that they can be supported during this time. Grant Funding can be used for smaller capital or revenue expenditure including consumables (for example PPE, food items toiletries etc). However, the request must fit in with the grant aims of maintaining or increasing voluntary services for vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

CRV Grant, Coronavirus Recovery Grant for Volunteering - Funding via Welsh Government for a collaborative programme of support across Merthyr Tydfil which focusses on sustainability, standardisation and safeguarding.

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	General £	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	86,269	-	86,269
Fixed asset investments	80,407	-	80,407
Current assets	484,131	204,635	688,766
Current liabilities	(49,995)	-	(49,995)
Total net assets	<u>600,812</u>	<u>204,635</u>	<u>805,447</u>

