

Company number: 6201363
Charity number: 1120244

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

**Unaudited Report & Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 March 2022**

**Wenn Townsend
Chartered Accountants
Oxford**

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2022

Status	Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity
Company Number	6201363
Charity Number	1120244
Registered Office	7 Canterbury Road Oxford OX2 6LU
Trustees	Romy Briant (Chair) Emma Boyd Sally Dorrity Ruth Hosford Sian Rodway Russell Simpson Naomi Neal Andrew Carver Khosar Khan (appointed March 2022)
Chief Executive Officer	Dawn Hodson (appointed February 2022)
Principal Bankers	TSB
Independent Examiner	A C Rodzynski FCA Wenn Townsend 30 St Giles Oxford OX1 3LE

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2022

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting our report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

Constitution and Organisation

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse was incorporated in England as a registered company limited by guarantee (company number 6201363) on 3 April 2007 and registered as a charity on 25 July 2007 (charity number 1120244).

The charity is governed by a Board of no fewer than three directors in accordance with its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Objectives of the charity

The objects for which the charity is established are:

To reduce poverty by promoting the safety, choices and independence of victims of domestic abuse.

To educate by fostering awareness and understanding of the nature, prevalence and impact of domestic violence and means of reducing these.

To reduce the risk of domestic abuse by provision of services and supporting an integrated multi agency approach.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that we have taken due regard of the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The work of the Charity

Reducing the Risk was established to:

- increase the safety and wellbeing of adults and children at risk through domestic abuse and protect people who are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.
- promote good practice, strengthen our community's capacity to keep vulnerable people safe, and foster multi-agency partnership to tackle domestic abuse effectively.

Our core aim

The safety and empowerment of victims of abuse and of those who support them.

Core Services

IDVA service for Oxfordshire

Reducing the Risk provides the Independent Domestic Violence (IDVA) service for Oxfordshire. The IDVA team works intensively with everyone assessed as at high risk through domestic abuse to ensure their safety and wellbeing and provides a specialist court service available to all victims of abuse. The IDVA team:

- works flexibly and responsively to meet the individual needs of victims and survivors including those with additional and complex vulnerabilities (60% of our service users)
- holds the safety and wellbeing of children as central to their work
- ensures accessible inclusive services. Other than a gender imbalance, Reducing the Risk service users are broadly representative of Oxfordshire's communities as a whole
- supports the work of all three Oxfordshire Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) including providing training and contributing to MARAC governance, monitoring and evaluation
- works closely in partnership with other services to ensure coordinated management of risk.

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Trustees' Report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

Training and Champions Service

Reducing the Risk acts as a centre of support for practitioners and volunteers through our consultancy and training services and our on-line resource hub. In particular we train, support and link front-line staff across a wide range of services to form a multi-agency 'Domestic Abuse Champions' Network. Champions provide a source of expertise for other staff within their service, and work together across agencies to share expertise and information, safety plan, support each other's practice, and enable victims to easily access the range of services they need.

In addition we work to identify unmet need, fill gaps in services, pilot and evaluate new approach and identify opportunities for partnership working.

Our website: www.reducingtherisk.org.uk is a resource for those affected by abuse - and for the friends, families, volunteers and practitioners who support them.

The principles which inform our work are key to the safety of people at risk:

- one-to-one support by a trusted individual who ensures immediate safety and stays alongside for as long as needed
- integrated multi-agency support to enable early help, coordinated safety plans, and easy access to a range of resources to build safe lives
- keeping the safety and wellbeing of children is central to all activity

The values we adhere to include:

- flexibility to respond to individual needs and to ensure our services are inclusive
- integrity and transparency to sustain the trust of service users, customers and partner agencies
- accountability and striving for excellence
- effective communication and shared learning.

Local and national centre of excellence

We believe in the vital contribution that people with local experience and expertise can make to wider strategy development and policy making. This is true of both survivors of abuse and of practitioners. Our services for victims of abuse are based in one geographical area, Oxfordshire. This has enabled us to foster local professional relationships and coordinated practice to keep victims of abuse safe. The effectiveness of this grass roots approach has been evidenced through research and our model is transferable. We aspire to draw from our experience of local practice to become a centre of excellence and, in particular through the work of our training team, to contribute to regional and national practice.

Specific activities of the charity in 2021/22

We have prioritised meeting the increase in demand on our IDVA services associated with the impact of the pandemic on adults and children at risk through abuse. 60% of our service users, some of whom were trapped in unsafe homes during periods of lock down, are emotionally fragile with complex needs and lack resilience to build independent safe lives. Many need long term support and additional resources for recovery. We have been able to provide this through our expanded staff team of six. We appreciate the additional grant from the Henry Smith Charity and 'uplift funding' from the PCC which helped to make this possible

Over the year we worked with 509 victims of abuse together with their children.

- Our high-risk team responded rapidly to all referrals, and were able to contact and support 85% of those referred to the service. Through the team's support 90% of our service users grew in confidence and implemented safety plans for themselves and their children. Our commitment to providing support as long as needed has meant our service users experience far fewer repeat incidents of abuse than the national average. 76% were able to remain safe in their own homes and a further 11% in refuge or with family and friends. Those with additional needs were supported to access the resources they and their children needed.

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Trustees' Report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

- We sustained our work to empower victims through the criminal justice process, to enable their voices to be heard and to support them to access civil court protection orders. Reducing the Risk's court IDVA service is recognised by the judiciary. An independent evaluation of the service evidenced significant outcomes - and in particular highlighted the increased safety and confidence of almost everyone using the service. We have also worked with Thames Valley Police to pilot an innovative service for victims initially protected through a (short term) Police Domestic Violence protection order with view to achieving longer term safety.
- We have continued to support and help facilitate the work of the Oxfordshire MARACs and deliver associated training.
- We have facilitated online and face to face therapeutic support groups. Feedback from participants in 'Own My Life' groups has been overwhelmingly positive.

A further priority has been to sustain and enhance the work of our training team:

We have continued to support and develop the Champion Networks. When government guidelines permitted we recommenced face to face training. In addition the training team delivered a range of training for the Oxfordshire Children Safeguarding Board, for Primary Care and for young people. They provided information on the implications for practitioners of the Domestic Abuse Act through a webinar for practitioners and refreshing all our training materials.

The team has built on our experience of working with local community groups and of strengthening local pathways to support victims and survivors through the pandemic. In particular they have:

- consulted with interested residents of rural locations in West Oxfordshire to enhance neighbourhood support for victims. We hope to work together to raise awareness, ensure safe response and to link local volunteers with the Champion Networks for support.
- designed training and provided webinars for local hairdressers and beauty salons in creating local safe spaces for disclosure.
- reached out more proactively to ethnic minority groups in Oxfordshire. We have also reviewed all our training to ensure it is inclusive and developed an enhanced Champion training to increase understanding about additional barriers to help for BAME communities.

We have built a new and dynamic resource hub for Champions and for local community groups. It enables us to link volunteers/practitioners who have specific interests by creating on-line communities for which we provide information and resources and facilitate 'conversations'.

In providing all our services we have been mindful of our duties of compliance, prudence and care in ensuring that our services continued to be safe, responsive and reliable, that we attracted new funding streams to ensure we had the capacity and skills to achieve this, and that our staff had the support they needed.

Governance and capacity

The trustees have continued work begun last year to strengthen our governance arrangements. Our long-standing model of relying on the trustees to run the charity while the staff team manages the services is not sustainable in the long term.

Over the course of the year we have strengthened and expanded our Board. Andrew Carver joined us to develop the new role of Trustee and Treasurer. He has considerable expertise in business development and management, and associated financial acumen. He also brings specific experience of the role of charity treasurer. Khosar Khan joined us in March through the Oxfordshire Hub young trustee scheme and her contribution will be informed by lived experience to the Board.

We are delighted to have appointed Dawn Hodson in February as our part time Chief Executive to establish this new role with us and drive forward the work of the charity. Dawn comes to the role with experience as Oxfordshire's Domestic Abuse Coordinator and as Business Manager of Oxfordshire's Safeguarding Board and with UK wide experience of developing, evaluating and marketing NSPCC training programmes. She is a long-time advisory member of the charity and knows our work well, not least as one of the original initiators of the Champion approach.

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Trustees' Report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

We appreciate the support of the Lloyds Bank Foundation and the National Lottery who through their grant funding have enabled us to make this appointment. Lloyds Bank Foundation have also provided significant mentoring support for our process of governance review and structural change.

Partnership

In accordance with the charity's constitutional powers and objectives the trustees have continued to work with other charities and statutory agencies and to ensure that Reducing the Risk services and initiatives are aligned with other services in the county and support multi-agency work. The trustees and staff are members of:

- Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse COVID 19 partnership group
- Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board (OSCB)
- Oxfordshire Safer Communities Partnership (Safer Oxfordshire)

The Chair also chairs Oxfordshire MARAC review group and has wider roles within Oxfordshire's Voluntary and Community Sector which include representing the sector on the Oxfordshire Strategic Partnership.

Report on financial activity 2021/22

The Charity has continued to operate in a funding environment heavily affected by the pandemic. Our 2019-22 business plan had been to continue to attract longer term grant funding for our core services, while diversifying our fundraising and in particular growing our training service as a sustainable enterprise. However we had to adapt rapidly in light of COVID19. We needed to expand our capacity to meet the increased need. This entailed incurring more costs. At the same time we had to suspend our training contracts, thereby losing income, and many grant streams changed their focus from long term support to meeting immediate need. The trustees placed their three year business plan on hold and moved rapidly to access the new short term COVID related income streams being developed by Charitable Trusts, and provided by the Government.

Over 2021/22 we have been able to:

- sustain our capacity to meet additional complex needs and fund new initiatives – principally because new statutory and trust funding streams have remained open to us.
- begin to rebuild our training income- although this still only represents half the training team costs.
- build our free reserves by £79k to help act as a buffer in a period of rising costs and a continuously changing funding environment.

More of our work (42%) has been funded through statutory income streams, either Oxfordshire County Council (and other associated work), or the PCC. Our strategy until now has to not become over dependent on any one source and we will continue to monitor the balance

Our income

Our unrestricted income to cover the cost of the IDVA and Training Services for the year amounted to £367k. This exceeded our unrestricted income for the previous year by £14k.

As one element our training income, while still only covering a little over half the cost of the service, almost doubled: it rose by £31k from £23k to 54k.

Our total income for the year including restricted projects was: £466,984.

Our expenditure

Our total expenditure for the year amounted to £379,781. This is an increase of £20k from 2020/21 which in turn was £76k above that of 2019/20. This reflects our extended activity to meet demand over the year and pilot new services in light of changing needs.

Fund balances and reserves

Our total income exceeded expenditure by £87,203.

By the end of the year the charity held unrestricted funds amounting to £251,439, including £57,263 essential reserves, to meet its legal and contractual obligations in case of closure. This compared to a balance of £173k in unrestricted funds at the end of 2020/21. Total reserves including restricted projects amounted to £277,290 or a little over half of our annual turnover.

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Trustees' Report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

Our strategy and business plan for 2022/23

In discussion with our new CEO the Trustees intend to continue to develop Reducing the Risk as a local independent and innovative charity which has a significant, and in some aspects unique, role to play in ensuring the safety of vulnerable people in our own community. However we face significant challenges for the future.

- We have developed and provided the High Risk IDVA service as an independent service for victims and survivors of abuse in Oxfordshire since 2008. However new Domestic Abuse Legislation places more responsibility for funding and commissioning services on Local Authorities. Oxfordshire County Council will be recommissioning local domestic abuse services next year with view to implementation from April 2023. They have made the decision that they will commission the full high risk service for Oxfordshire. This poses significant risks and challenges to the charity and our service model.
- Much of our funding now comprises one year grants from short term income streams established to address the impact of COVID or designed to grow services rather than sustain them. Three of the longer term grants which have hitherto funded our IDVA and training services have come to an end over the course of the pandemic. For 2022/23 we have been talking with our funding partners and there is significant potential for future funding but we will need to secure this.

We will start the year with a deficit budget. Our free reserves less essential reserves amount to 5-6 months running costs which would normally represent reasonable financial resilience as we work to put new funding in place. However they include a significant sum in debtor income, primarily in outstanding grants, and we will monitor payment and the impact on our cashflow closely.

- We will need to fund the IDVA service over 2022/23 without turning to the three-year grant funding bodies we had hoped to apply to. Instead we will need to ensure interim funding while we prepare our bid to OCC to deliver a commissioned IDVA service from 2023.

The focus of our work over next year will be to:

- support the CEO in the development and delivery of an interim strategy in preparation for commissioning – with our values and the needs of victims at its centre
- sustain our service model and mitigate the risks to our approach posed by commissioning. Initial steps will include evidencing further the effectiveness of the combined IDVA Champion approach, and seeking to build wider understanding of our model and the added value of our work
- revitalise the Champion Networks and step up the development of our training as an enterprise
- build on our work with local communities, in particular through a new Friends of Reducing the Risk initiative
- develop and implement a transitional funding plan for our IDVA services for 2022/23.

Risk Assessment

In revising our strategy the Trustees have conducted a risk assessment and associated mitigation plan and agreed a monitoring process for 2022/23. The highest risks we have identified are:

- those to our service model posed by the future commissioning
- ensuring our cash flow as we balance preparing for commissioning, interim funding initiatives and building our training for longer term sustainability.

Appreciation

The Trustees would like to express gratitude and appreciation to all the staff of Reducing the Risk whose dedication and expertise made this work possible and enabled us to sustain vital services through a period of high demand on our services and changing needs:

- a. Dawn Hodson who joined us in February as our new Chief Executive and has 'hit the ground running'. She has the confidence of both trustees and staff as she develops our strategy for 2022/23 and takes our work forward.

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Trustees' Report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

- b. Trish Walsh, Manager of the IDVA Service, whose commitment, experience and expertise are key to the quality and safety of our work and who has guided and supported the IDVA team steadfastly throughout the pandemic and its aftermath.
- c. Michelle Plaisted-Kerr, as Training Development Manager, who inspires our partners and empowers practitioners through her insights, knowledge and training expertise.
- d. Jacky Silvester, Cristina Franklin, Carla Dwyer and Wendy Conlan our extraordinary IDVA team and Nikkie Gilbert who has piloted our court service in such an outstanding way.
- e. Stewart McInroy who has been lynchpin for our support of the Champion Networks and initiated the development of our work with rural communities.
- f. Amelia Harvey who has played an outstanding role in developing our online training, our work with young people, our communications and the development of our new resource hub.
- g. Amina Ali, who joined us as our lead for diversity, forging community links and enhancing our training. We are delighted she is now a full time member of our training team.

We would like to express our gratitude to our associate trainers: Jo Lovell, Mark Johns, Becci Seabourne, Becky Alexander and Jo McIntyre.

We would like to express deep appreciation for the contribution made to the work of the charity by service users, volunteers and advisors and especially to: Hester Briant (pro bono legal advice), James Gallagher (administrative support), Caroline Russell (communications and copywriting), Sophie Briant (court service evaluation), Gemma McGough (business development advice), Patrick Neil (safeguarding and practice development), and to our Patrons Dr Jane Monkton-Smith and Frank Mullane.

We would like to express our appreciation to all our partners with whom we have developed and delivered services. These include: Oxfordshire County Council's Domestic Abuse strategic staff with whom we have worked closely to support Oxfordshire's strategic priorities, ODAS (Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Service), Thames Valley Police, Oxfordshire County Council Children's Services, Oxfordshire University Hospital Trust, Oxfordshire Mental Health Trust, the Oxfordshire Voluntary and Community Sector- including Turning Point, OSAARC, CAB, Home-Start, Aspire, SAFE, MIND, Thames Valley Court Services, Abingdon and Witney College, Oxford University, Oxford Brookes University, local solicitors, District Council housing services, Residential Social Landlords (RSAs), DWP, The Complex Needs Service, Adult Mental Health Team, Talking Space Counselling Service, ELMORE, CAHMs and PCAHMs, and many others.

We would also like to say how much we value our partnership with the local authorities who are our associates in Champion Network development: Oxfordshire County Council, Cherwell District Council, West Oxfordshire District Council, Oxford City Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council, Buckinghamshire Council, West Berkshire Council, Milton Keynes Council and Torbay Council.

We owe particular appreciation to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for the Thames Valley and in addition to all the specialist domestic abuse services across the Thames Valley for our work together and mutual support. The PCC has facilitated local applications to the Ministry of Justice for additional funding to meet COVID related needs for which we are extremely grateful.

The Trustees would like to thank all the organisations, trusts and individuals who have helped the work of the charity for their generosity and support. It would not have been possible to provide the IDVA service, or our other services to victims of abuse and their children, without the many grants from Charitable Trusts which we have received.

We would like to thank The Charles Hayward Foundation, St Michaels and All Saints Charities, the PF Foundation, The Mr and Mrs J A Pye charities, and the Doris Field Trust.

We owe especial thanks to:

- The Henry Smith Charity for making it possible for us to sustain the additional resources we need to meet COVID related needs
- the Lloyds Bank Charitable Foundation for their belief in the value of small charities, their investment in our work and their consultancy support to enable us to strengthen our governance and executive capacity
- and the National Lottery Community Fund for their investment in the development of our training and Champion Network service including associated research, and their contribution to the cost of our new CEO.

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Trustees' Report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

We would like to express our deep appreciation to our many individual donors and everyone who has participated in fundraising initiatives on our behalf. You play an essential role in preventing harm and changing lives and embody the difference the community can make through working together to tackle abuse. Thank you.

Tribute

Amelia Hartley.

Amelia made a significant contribution to the work of Reducing the Risk in her two years as a member of staff. She brought with her a deep commitment to our work, infectious enthusiasm and humour, intelligence which enabled her to tackle a range of new work with insight and imagination, and a wide range of skills. She has been a core member of our training team - in particular taking the lead role in extending our work with young people and with colleges. She has been our IT support, our communications expert, and (together with her partner) our website development guru; and she has played the key role in developing our resource hub. She remains a member of, and advisor to, the charity and we would like to thank her for her extraordinary contribution to the development of the charity.

Competence of the Board of Trustees

The Trustees have accessed appropriate expertise to meet the responsibilities of the charity. The Board members collectively have expertise in domestic abuse and associated risk management, safeguarding and child protection, training, criminal justice, support for multi-agency partnership, marketing and communications, charity financial management, strategic planning and governance of charities. Two of the Board have lived experience of abuse.

The trustees are able to obtain pro bono legal advice in relation to employment responsibilities, utilise the expertise of Safelives which sets the professional standards for IDVA work, and have appropriate expertise to have effective oversight of the safety and quality of the service. The Chair has been awarded an MBE for services to prevent domestic abuse.

The trustees are mindful of the need to develop and sustain the competences of the Board. They regularly review their membership and skills, ensure they have access to the expertise they need, and proactively seek new trustees through local networks and initiatives. They take care to update themselves in the evolving responsibilities of charity trustees, and in particular are advised through the Lloyds Bank Charitable Foundation with its commitment to strengthening the governance of small charities.

Trustees

The following served as Trustees during the year April 1 2021 to 31 March 2022 and have no beneficial interest in the charitable company. They are also Directors under Company Law.

Emma Boyd
Romy Briant
Andrew Carver (co-opted 21.9.2021, elected 9.12.2021)
Sally Dorrity
Ruth Hosford
Khosar Khan (co-opted 18.03.2022)
Naomi Neal
Sian Rodway
Russell Simpson

Reducing the Risk seeks to recruit and retain a Board of Trustees which is inclusive and reflects the range of values and skills which the charity needs. This includes having at least one trustee who is an expert by experience.

Trustees are recruited as openly as possible through our e-bulletin, through promoting the opportunity with local organisations and communities, through local bodies who provide support to charities such as OCVA, and the Oxfordshire Lord Lieutenant's trustee list, and through resources such as REACH.

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Trustees' Report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

All potential trustees are provided with information about the charity and the trustee role (we have a trustee resource file) and have the opportunity to talk informally with the Chair and meet other members of the charity. In turn they provide information about why they are interested both in the role and in the charity and about their experience.

The formal process comprises:

- a. an interview by a small panel of trustees who report to the full Board
- b. a request for two references and a DBS check.
- c. an opportunity to attend and observe a full Board meeting without commitment on either side. After this, subject to mutual agreement, the Trustee joins the Board. The trustee is a co-opted member until the next AGM where they stand for election.

The trustees also draw on the skills and experience of a trustee advisory group of professionals and service users who give their time pro bono to the charity, and contribute their advice and skills.

Every Trustee guarantees to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company, in the event of it being wound up, of which he or she is a member or within twelve months of he or she being a member. The total amount of such guarantees at 31 March 2022 was £9.

Risk assessment

The Trustees recognise and accept responsibility for ensuring that the risks to which the charitable company is exposed are reviewed and steps taken to mitigate potential damage by use of appropriate preventative controls and corrective actions. Trustees are aware of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) issued in 2019 and accept the requirement, in relation to all aspects of our work, for regular assessments of operating strengths and weaknesses. To this end the Trustees' risk management strategy comprises an annual review of the risks which the charity may face, the establishment of systems and procedures to monitor and mitigate the risks identified; and the implementation of measures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should any of those risks materialise.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have reviewed the level of the charity's reserves which are freely available for financing continuing operations. The Trustees will always ensure a minimum level of reserves so as to meet the charity's contracted commitments, currently £57,263.

In addition the Trustees aim to achieve a minimum reserves level of approximately five months operating costs for the core IDVA service in order to ensure that obligations to current IDVA service users can be safely fulfilled. The trustees will review whether it is appropriate to accept new cases if reserves fall below this level.

As at 31 March 2022 the freely available reserves, being net current assets less long term liabilities, excluding restricted funds amount to £250,641 (2021: £171,716).

This report is prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Trustees on 28 November 2022 and signed on their behalf by


.....
Romy Briant (Chair)

Registered office
7 Canterbury Road
Oxford OX2 6LU

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are set out on pages 11 to 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



A Rodzynski, FCA
Partner
Wenn Townsend
Chartered Accountants
Oxford

.....28/11/..... 2022

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2022

Note	Unrestricted Designated IDVA Fund £	Unrestricted Designated Training Fund £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted Designated IDVA Fund £	Unrestricted Designated Training Fund £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £
INCOME								
Income from generated funds:								
<i>Voluntary income</i>								
<i>Grants</i>								
Police and Crime Commissioner Home Office A2	21,500	-	23,500	45,000	28,874	19,255	7,275	55,404
Oxfordshire County Council Elmore Family Plus	108,510	14,000	30,824	153,334	40,020	-	11,900	11,900
<i>Charitable Trusts and Donations</i>	6,000	2,000	-	8,000	15,000	431	12,708	40,020
Charitable Trusts	68,575	66,522	45,968	181,065	3,000	7,660	-	28,139
Donations incl Gift Aid	20,492	-	-	20,492	83,175	103,942	15,767	10,660
<i>Training and consultancy income</i>	-	53,709	-	53,709	13,472	13,986	-	202,884
<i>Other income</i>	5,000	-	-	5,000	-	23,324	-	27,458
					53	53	-	23,324
							-	106
	230,077	136,231	100,292	466,600	183,594	168,651	47,650	399,895
<i>Investment income</i>								
Royal Bank of Scotland	384	-	-	384	13	12	-	25
TOTAL INCOME	230,461	136,231	100,292	466,984	183,607	168,663	47,650	399,920
EXPENDITURE								
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	193,036	94,146	92,599	379,781	163,544	133,808	62,833	360,185
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	193,036	94,146	92,599	379,781	163,544	133,808	62,833	360,185
Net income/(expenditure)	37,425	42,085	7,693	87,203	20,063	34,855	(15,183)	39,735
Transfers between funds	(1,273)	-	1,273	-	(324)	(462)	786	-
Net movement in funds	36,152	42,085	8,966	87,203	19,739	34,393	(14,397)	39,735
Funds at 1 April 2021	79,676	93,526	16,885	190,087	59,937	59,133	31,282	150,352
Funds at 31 March 2022	115,828	135,611	25,851	277,290	79,676	93,526	16,885	190,087

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

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

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	1,188	1,486
Current assets			
Debtors	7	129,327	23,872
Bank current account		48,782	244,858
Bank deposit account		152,384	-
Total current assets		<u>330,493</u>	<u>268,730</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>(54,391)</u>	<u>(80,129)</u>
Net current assets		276,102	188,601
Net assets		<u><u>277,290</u></u>	<u><u>190,087</u></u>
Funds			
Unrestricted designated IDVA fund	10	115,828	79,676
Unrestricted designated Training fund	10	135,611	93,526
Restricted funds	10	25,851	16,885
		<u><u>277,290</u></u>	<u><u>190,087</u></u>


The Trustees are satisfied that the charitable company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that members have not required an audit in accordance with section 476.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- i ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with the requirements of the Act; and
- ii preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of the financial period and of its surplus or deficit for the financial period in accordance with the requirements of the Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies, and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 25 November 2022 and signed on its behalf by



Trustee – Mrs R Briant (Chair)

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

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Accounting Policies

a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, 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 1st January 2019) (Charity SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse 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 policies note.

b) Income

Income is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable, receipt is probable, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

All of the income generated in the period has been derived from activities wholly undertaken in the UK.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102). Volunteers provide practical support and a range of professional advice and support.

c) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of those resources.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with the administration of the charity regarding compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Staff costs and overhead expenses are allocated to activities on the basis of staff time spent on those activities.

Expenditure is recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are built up from income received or generated for the charitable purpose. They are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are funds used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure meeting the criteria is charged against the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write-off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected life, as follows:-

Office equipment	-	10%, straight line
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Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

f) Debtors/creditors receivable/payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and recoverable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

g) Going concern

The accounts have been prepared with the view the charity is a going concern. The Trustees consider that adequate funding will be received to allow the charity to continue operating for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the accounts and that there are no material uncertainties in this regard.

2. Charitable expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022 Total
	£	£	£
Office rent	8,200	2,610	10,810
Wages & salaries incl NI and pension scheme	244,072	50,785	294,857
Associate trainers	9,966	-	9,966
Printing, IT, phone and office costs	2,253	933	3,186
Recruitment	23	546	569
Travel and service expenses	8,384	4,204	12,588
Training team	9,267	-	9,267
Service user support	-	1,377	1,377
Group Support	-	23,437	23,437
Clinical Support	2,137	-	2,137
Website/communication service, champion support	74	7,924	7,998
Insurance	451	130	581
Governance costs	2,057	653	2,710
Depreciation	298	-	298
	287,182	92,599	379,781

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total
	£	£	£
Office rent	12,278	-	12,278
Wages & salaries incl NI and pension scheme	270,763	22,524	293,287
Associate trainers	-	13,862	13,862
Printing, IT, phone and office costs	1,222	-	1,222
Additional COVID expenses	-	2,886	2,886
Travel and service expenses	3,792	1,163	4,955
Training team	2,912	-	2,912
Service user support	1,036	-	1,036
Group Support	-	1,815	1,815
Clinical Support	1,704	-	1,704
Website/communication service, champion support	-	11,490	11,490
MODUS restricted project	-	9,000	9,000
Insurance	826	93	919
Governance costs	2,521	-	2,521
Depreciation	298	-	298
	297,352	62,833	360,185

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the year ended 31 March 2022**3. Net movement in funds**

	2022	2021
	£	£
This is stated after charging: Independent examiner's fees	2,058	1,965
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

4. Staff costs and numbers

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries and wages - gross	265,434	267,816
Social security costs	25,145	21,074
Pension costs	4,278	4,397
	<u>294,857</u>	<u>293,287</u>

The average weekly number of employees (full-time equivalent) during the year was as follows:

Direct charitable activities	9	10
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 p.a. for the current or preceding year.
The Trustees received no remuneration in the current or preceding year.
The Trustees were reimbursed expenses totalling £23 in the current year (2021: totalling £1,500).

The key management personnel of the charity are considered by the Trustees to be the Trustees and the Chief Executive Officer (appointed during the year). The key management personnel received remuneration in the current year totalling £7,947.

5. Taxation

The charity is not in receipt of income chargeable to taxation. All of its income is applied for charitable purposes.

6. Tangible fixed assets

	Office Equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2021 and at 31 March 2022	3,847
	<u> </u>
Depreciation	
At 1st April 2021	2,361
Charge for year	298
	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2022	2,659
	<u> </u>
Net book values:	
At 31 March 2021	1,486
	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2022	1,188
	<u> </u>

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the year ended 31 March 2022

7. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Grant debtors	84,617	13,850
Other debtors	38,119	4,286
Prepayments	6,591	5,736
	<u>129,327</u>	<u>23,872</u>

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	6,470	2,743
Tax and social security	7,439	6,126
Accruals & deferred income	40,482	71,260
	<u>54,391</u>	<u>80,129</u>

Deferred income comprises grants received for projects taking place in the next financial year.

9. Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases were:

	2022 £
Land and buildings:	
Operating leases which expire	
- within one year	10,800
- in second to fifth years inclusive	<u>16,200</u>

10. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
Tangible fixed assets	1,188	-	1,188
Current assets	304,642	25,851	330,493
Current liabilities	(54,391)	-	(54,391)
Net assets at 31 March 2022	<u>251,439</u>	<u>25,851</u>	<u>277,290</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £
Tangible fixed assets	1,486	-	1,486
Current assets	251,845	16,885	268,730
Current liabilities	(80,129)	-	(80,129)
Net assets at 31 March 2021	<u>173,202</u>	<u>16,885</u>	<u>190,087</u>

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

11. Movement in funds

2022	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer £	Closing balance £
Restricted funds:					
Group Support	8,875	14,612	(23,437)	-	50
IDVA Court Service	(253)	41,212	(32,554)	-	8,405
Website costs and development	7,463	-	(7,784)	321	-
Translation	800	-	(75)	-	725
Diversity and Inclusion Lead	-	18,500	(17,962)	-	538
Chief Executive	-	25,618	(9,485)	-	16,133
Service user	-	350	(1,302)	952	-
	<u>16,885</u>	<u>100,292</u>	<u>(92,599)</u>	<u>1,273</u>	<u>25,851</u>
Unrestricted Funds:					
Designated IDVA Fund	79,676	230,461	(193,036)	(1,273)	115,828
Designated Training Fund	93,526	136,231	(94,146)	-	135,611
	<u>173,202</u>	<u>366,692</u>	<u>(287,182)</u>	<u>(1,273)</u>	<u>251,439</u>
Total Funds	<u>190,087</u>	<u>466,984</u>	<u>(379,781)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>277,290</u>
2021	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer £	Closing balance £
Restricted funds:					
Group Support	682	10,008	(1,815)	-	8,875
IDVA Court Service	19,600	1,213	(21,066)	-	(253)
Associate Trainers	-	13,400	(13,862)	462	-
MODUS Software Enhancement	9,000	-	(9,000)	-	-
Website costs and development	2,000	19,667	(14,204)	-	7,463
COVID expenditure	-	2,562	(2,886)	324	-
Translation	-	800	-	-	800
	<u>31,282</u>	<u>47,650</u>	<u>(62,833)</u>	<u>786</u>	<u>16,885</u>
Unrestricted Funds:					
Designated IDVA Fund	59,937	183,607	(163,544)	(324)	79,676
Designated Training Fund	59,133	168,663	(133,808)	(462)	93,526
	<u>119,070</u>	<u>352,270</u>	<u>(297,352)</u>	<u>(786)</u>	<u>173,202</u>
Total Funds	<u>150,352</u>	<u>399,920</u>	<u>(360,185)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>190,087</u>

Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

11. Movement in funds (continued)

The group support fund is held to facilitate the development and delivery of support groups and to enable victims of abuse to access them. Its focus will now be support to alleviate the combined impact of domestic abuse and COVID19.

The IDVA Court Service is a pilot project to provide support through the courts, to ensure safety and subsequent recovery. While based in the criminal courts the post holder also provides support and advice in relation to the civil courts.

The MODUS software enhancement fund is held to extend the use of the software to share information about perpetrators.

The website fund is to enable the development of the Reducing the Risk website as a vehicle for the support of victims of abuse and their families and for volunteers and professionals - and of associated materials and communications.

The associate trainer fund was established to fund additional training capacity meet the increased demand for online and other training during the pandemic

The COVID expenditure fund enables purchase of additional equipment required by Reducing the Risk's teams during the pandemic to enable both home working and safe practice in meeting with service users.

The translation fund is newly established to meet the cost of translators required by the IDVA service. It is primarily but not exclusively intended to fund the cost of language line.

The Diversity and Inclusion Lead fund is for a nine month post to ensure all our training is inclusive; develop new training for Champions, raise awareness and forge links with local communities to help strengthen pathways to support.

The Chief Executive Fund is to enable the charity to establish the new post of Chief Executive to bring fresh capacity, leadership and momentum for the next stage of our development and to strengthen our governance.

The service user fund is to provide direct support for service-users and their children to meet immediate or urgent needs to ensure safety and wellbeing.

12. Related party transactions

Donations received from Trustees in the year totalled £1,980 (2021: £3,202). There were no other related party transactions in the current year.