

Charity Number: 1122969  
Company Number: 06431269

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
(a company limited by guarantee)

Unaudited Trustees' Report and Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2024

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
**(a company limited by guarantee)**

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**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
**(a company limited by guarantee)**

**Chair's Executive Statement**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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**Hello and Welcome**

Set up in 2003, NDAS celebrated its many achievements in June 2023 with supporters and professionals from all areas of the county. It was a chance to acknowledge the many dedicated staff, Trustees and volunteers who have contributed to making NDAS the well-respected and successful service it is today, helping people who are experiencing domestic violence or abuse in Northumberland.

This year, we have welcomed a number of new Trustees to the Board and will be undertaking some training to build on the Board's strengths and understanding, and identify areas where we need more expertise. We have introduced a Finance Committee and have transferred funds and reserves to Flagstone, where we can easily move money, protected by the FSCS and earning a reasonable interest.

As a responsible charity we are aware that income is primarily to enable us to support our beneficiaries, but we also have a responsibility to our staff and our creditors in the unfortunate scenario where the charity has to close. NDAS aims to have unrestricted funds to cover a maximum of 6 months running costs.

Personally, I would like to express my thanks to Jill Mindham-Walker for Chairing the charity so ably for a number of years, and to the staff and Trustees who have made me feel welcomed since the last AGM.

We would like to thank our funders who enable NDAS to do such vital work.

Thank you, too, on behalf of those people who are often afraid to acknowledge our support.

Helen Milner MBE  
Chair

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
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**Trustee Report**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services (NDAS) originally established by local women as 608030 has existed for over 20 years. We are a local, grass-roots charity, set up in 2003 to meet a local need that unfortunately is growing and still under-reported.

The Lloyds Bank Foundation published a report called The Value of Small in February 2021 which found that:

- Small and medium-sized charities were a vital and distinctive component of the social and economic fabric of communities across England and Wales
- Small and local charities' distinctiveness in who they support, how they carry out their work, and the role they play in their communities makes them best placed to respond
- They reach and support disadvantaged people and communities that tend to be less well served by mainstream provision

At NDAS victims/survivors are supported by local workers who know the area, know the communities and understand the local issues specific to that area. The service has been developed over the years by these local specialists based on feedback from clients and our in-depth understanding of victims/survivors of domestic abuse, their changing needs and the rural environment.

We are well known across the county and word-of-mouth referrals are a mainstay of our support. People recognise our number and see our stickers on local noticeboards, the backs of toilet doors, and have heard of our support.

**Vision and activities**

Our vision is that all victims of domestic abuse in Northumberland, and their children, will be protected; survivors empowered; and communities educated on the diversity and impact of domestic abuse.

**Our values:**

Welcoming	We welcome you, whoever you are.
Believing and Accepting	We believe you, accept you and will not judge you. We are inclusive and do not discriminate.
Understanding	We understand what you are experiencing. Our staff are here to listen and help.
Protecting	We will make sure you stay safe and will help you to make plans to ensure your safety.
Empowering	We will help you to find your voice and gain confidence and independence.
United	Working with you, and with other local partner organisations, we will find the right support.

NDAS is able to deliver services because of the funding received through charitable grant giving and from statutory bodies. Whilst receiving £124k (2022/23) and £105k (2023/24) of funding through statutory sources, NDAS secured £200k (2022/23) and £279k (2023/24) of funding for domestic abuse services from grant funders bringing significant additional funds into the county of Northumberland. It is also worth noting that during the period of the statutory funding inflation has at times reached 10% however there is no inflationary increase attached to statutory grant funding which over time pays for less and less, with NDAS picking up the shortfall. As an example, based on a 4% annual increase on a £50k award for services, after 3 years the cost is now £56k.



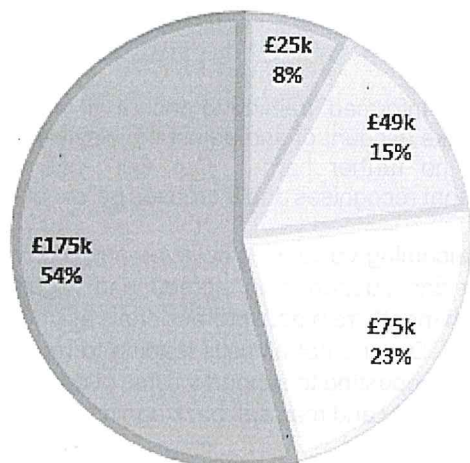
Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd  
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Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

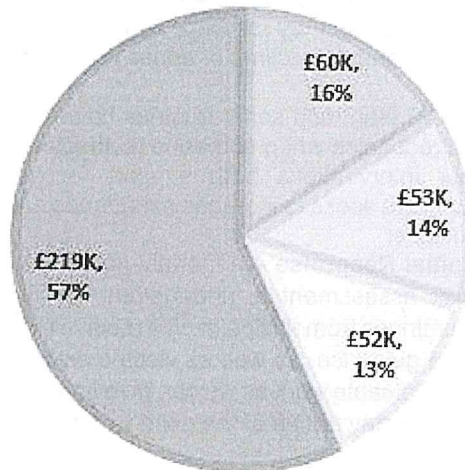
FUNDING 2022/2023

Local Grant Funders Statutory Funding NCC  
Statutory Funding PCC National Grant Funders



FUNDING 2023 /2024

Local Grant Funders Statutory Funding NCC  
Statutory Funding PCC National Grant Funders



Of the population of Northumberland 50% live in the rural areas which account for 97% of the county, with the other 50% living in urban areas which only account for 3% of the county. This means we have a huge rural population living in remote and hard to access areas, as well as a densely inhabited urban population. NDAS prides itself in reaching into rural areas in order to raise awareness, identifying and removing barriers to ensure support is available to isolated and marginalised victims.

During 2023-24, of all **NDAS referrals**, 44% were in the southeast, with 56% of referrals from the rural areas in the west and north of the county, an increase when compared with 53% during 2022-23 in the west and north.

During the same period, 37% of self-referrals were from the southeast and 63% were received from rural areas. Again, an increase in referrals from rural areas which accounted for 58% during 2022-23.

Working into rural and isolated areas can be particularly challenging. Communities can be tight knit whilst being widely dispersed, making it difficult for those affected by domestic abuse to access support. We have learnt that to reach rural communities our outreach work has to be continuous. It is no good going to an area, distributing information and speaking to local services and people once, we have to keep going back and promoting our services, how people access them and increasing awareness of domestic abuse on an ongoing basis.

We have operated a hub and spoke system across rural areas establishing the Domestic Abuse Practitioners (DAP) within community settings, such as Family Hubs and other community venues, and making use of their resources, such as Wi-fi and access to other services, so that clients in rural areas can meet with their Domestic Abuse Practitioner (DAP) close to, as well as in, their homes.

Face to face work is essential in enabling DAPs to assess the safety of a client's home environment particularly considering the proximity of the perpetrator, the welfare of any children, the quality of, and access to, support networks for clients, and their physical and mental wellbeing. It is essential that we visit the client and the family so we can visually assess physical and emotional needs, and the wellbeing of everyone in the household. Perpetrators may be influencing the client, for example, by being present during phone call contact. All of these cannot be satisfactorily assessed on a remote basis and so we are committed to ensuring all are offered face-to-face support throughout the relationship with a DAP.

Over this year we have supported 548 adult victims of domestic abuse, an increase of 26% on the previous year. Our self-referral numbers are 63% of our referrals, a slight increase on 61% in the previous year, which demonstrates how well NDAS and our services are known throughout the county.

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
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**Trustee Report**

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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Demand for our services is increasing and continues to be greater than supply of services however we respond immediately with our Initial Response Team conducting risk assessments and safety planning, including actioning priorities such as housing applications, on that first phone call and staying in regular contact with the victim until a DAP is allocated. The period a client waits for face-to-face support is about one to two weeks, and during this time they receive telephone support from the specialist Initial Response Team which ensures victims receive support from their first cry for help. As a small charitable organisation, we have the flexibility to react and adapt quickly to the needs of victims of abuse and respond to emerging trends.

The full NDAS team and some trustees have completed 'Trauma Informed' training to ensure all of our services are able to recognise when someone is affected by trauma, to take account of and adjust the way we respond to ensure our interventions both support recovery and does no further harm. Our work over time with victims/survivors seeks to increase confidence and self-esteem that recognises and increases personal resilience. NDAS provides:

- **Initial Response** – a friendly active listener, with a welcoming voice, that believes and understands. A risk assessment is undertaken, an individual safety and support plan agreed and regular contact continues from this point. We receive over 200 calls each month from both professionals asking for advice and guidance, as well as victims asking for our support. Despite not all calls leading to referrals this is still valuable work as we can give immediate advice and signposting to support victims of domestic abuse. Some may not be at the point where they want to engage fully and may call back again weeks or months later.
- **Practical and Emotional Support** - DAPs provide one-to-one support over a 12-week period addressing all the issues identified by the client in the areas of Safety, Accommodation, Support Networks, Legal Issues, Health and Well-being, Money, Children, Work and Learning, Empowerment and Self-esteem.
- **Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse/Home Office** - funded a 12-month pilot (July 2023-July 2024) tasked with joining up health and domestic abuse services to improve referral pathways and ensure older adult victims/survivors receive the support they need, with a focus on reaching rural and isolated communities. The number of older adults (55+) supported during 2023-24 for the North and West is 42; with 90 older adults supported across the county. This compares with 66 older adults for the previous year a 50% increase.
- **Adult Education/Training** – Victims/survivors are also able to attend our specialist domestic abuse programmes e.g. The Freedom Programme, Freedom Forever, The Recovery Toolkit. These programmes enable victims/survivors who often see themselves as frauds, to understand domestic abuse in all of its guises, to recognise their own experiences and to develop skills and confidence to develop the resilience they need to plan for a future free of abuse.
- **Specialist Support for Children and Young People affected by DA** - We have a clear offer for children and young people, recognised as victims in their own right under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. Our current offer includes counselling for the children and young people of our clients. In addition, interventions are provided by our Team Manager who is a trained Social Worker for individual and sibling groups, covering areas such as feelings, relationships etc.
- **Prevention Work** - Our Prevention Practitioner delivers healthy/unhealthy relationship sessions in schools and youth groups across the county; most recently working with schools to respond to increasing incidence of misogyny.
- **Training and awareness** – we run a series of training/awareness sessions for professionals and community groups across the county to help them identify victims and refer them on to specialist services. Most recently we have developed a specific offer for health services promoting the issue of older adults affected by domestic abuse, the signs and flags to look out for and publicising the NDAS service for older adults.



**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
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**Trustee Report**

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

Building on numbers from 2022/23 we have seen an increase this year of 26% giving a total of 548 new adult clients supported.

In total we received referrals of 590 adult victims, which includes some duplicates who were referred from more than one source.

Age	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Cumulative Total
12 years and under	0	0	0	0	0
12 years and under	0	0	0	0	0
13 to 17 years	1	1	0	0	2
18 to 24 years	17	12	10	5	44
25 to 34 years	43	34	37	35	149
35 to 44 years	50	41	41	36	168
45 to 54 years	31	36	19	25	111
55 to 64 years	14	19	16	14	63
65 to 74 years	7	6	5	4	22
75 years and over	2	1	0	2	5
Not stated	1	1	3	21	26
<b>Total:</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>590</b>

Of the 590, 46 were male, 515 female and 29 not-stated. A total of 324 clients told us they had a disability, and the ethnicity of our clients continues to reflect that of Northumberland as a whole, predominantly white/British.

Domestic Abuse includes all kinds of damaging behaviour, not always physical violence: emotional, psychological, sexual, economical, stalking and harassment, and coercive and controlling behaviour. The main issue for victims is their lack of control and not being allowed to make decisions over many aspects of their lives.

Victims face multiple issues, often have no money they can access, risk losing their homes and even their children.

The main changes we aim to achieve with our work with adult victims of domestic abuse are:

1. Victims of domestic abuse will feel safe, in control of their lives and able to make choices
2. Victims of domestic abuse will have better relationships with family and friends
3. Victims of domestic abuse will have improved self-esteem and confidence

During the support period we use the Empowerment Star with clients to demonstrate the impact of our work and what has been achieved by that client, with scores generally increasing on average in all of the areas.

Below is the breakdown of the changes experienced by our clients in each of these nine key areas over the course of their support from us. For victims of domestic abuse, no deterioration in these nine areas also counts as a positive as they are often in a worsening situation when they finally ask for our help. Based on this the no change/improvement scores are:

Accommodation	83%
Children	87%
Empowerment and Self-esteem	94%
Health and well-being	85%
Legal Issues	87%
Money	87%
Safety	82%
Support Networks	87%
Work and Learning	75%

**Case study: December 2023 Rural West**

*The client was referred to NDAS by a Social Prescriber from her GP surgery in 2023. The client disclosed she was in a physical and emotionally abusive relationship and the police had recently been called for a physical assault. The client disclosed she has been in a relationship with her girlfriend (the Alleged Perpetrator) for 6 months on and off, the client was unaware at the start of the relationship that the AP heavily used drugs and alcohol, alongside how violent they were. After this altercation the AP started threatening the client daily, and turning up to the client's home which she shared with her son, this led to the AP being arrested for harassment, bail conditions were placed on AP.*

*A Risk Identification Checklist was completed in which the client was assessed as a medium risk scoring 10. The client requested telephone support from the DAP as she was living between family addresses, she did not wish to remain in her house as she was fearful of AP. The DAP provided a supporting letter in order to improve her banding so she could move house. Once the client was offered a property, the DAP contacted tenancy support in order to help the client access white goods. NDAS were also able to support the client to get carpets for the property. The client advised that this support made it easier for her to settle into her new home in a new area. It also made a difference to her son who was not walking on bare floors. The DAP also arranged for a ring doorbell to be installed outside the property as an extra precautionary measure.*

*The DAP made a referral to obtain a Non-Molestation Order, in order to protect the client from further contact with AP. Whilst this application was being processed the police made a further arrest of AP for ongoing harassment. Police informed client that she would proceed with this charge and take it to court. The DAP provided education about the court system to prepare client. The case was heard in court, and AP pleaded guilty to harassment receiving a sentence of 15 weeks behaviour rehabilitations, a fine, the court cost covers and was served with a Restraining Order.*

*The client has now been able to go back to work and is starting to move forward with her life, as she finally feels safe to do so. The client was closed down from support after 17 weeks due to extended support around moving properties and the court case.*

**Coercive Controlling Behaviour (CCB)** is the most prevalent issue among our clients, who struggle to share the nature of their experiences and often do not recognise it as a form of abuse. Professor Jane Monkton Smith, University of Gloucestershire, has produced a significant body of research that highlights that coercive/controlling patterns of behaviour are more important indicators of risk than violence. At NDAS we are looking at how this research can inform our services and interactions with victims.

Despite seemingly low risk assessments, there is a clear potential for escalation if education and support around CCB are not provided by NDAS. It is crucial to implement interventions aimed at helping individuals identify boundaries and understand the dynamics of coercive control to prevent further harm. We have fed this back to The Office of The Police and Crime Commissioner Northumbria (OPCCN) as part of their feedback to the Police and we continue to recommend to victims that they log all abuse with the police.

In the Family Court system, we are finding that victims of domestic abuse are being let down as courts overlook post-separation abuse as a serious issue. Instead of recognising the dangers, courts often insist contact with children through Facetime, which victims perceive as a violation of their privacy and a means of allowing the perpetrator back into their lives. Clients express feeling continued control as they are required to adhere to specific schedules around this, enhancing their sense of vulnerability. Additionally, courts push for co-parenting arrangements, disregarding the power dynamics and fear that the dominant parent instils in the other, leaving them voiceless and fearful of repercussions if they assert themselves. Again, this is fed back to the OPCCN and we are therefore delighted to hear that PCC's across the country have been working jointly to produce training for Family Courts and we welcome its introduction.



**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
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**Trustees' Report (Continued)**

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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**Financial abuse** remains a significant issue across Northumberland, with rising living costs making it difficult for victims to escape abusive situations. Many victims lack the financial resources to start anew, particularly as they often have no access to funds or assets. The limited availability of social housing and affordable private rental options add to reduced choice and opportunity to move to safety. Despite government funding 'Emergency Flexible Fund' intended to provide flexibility for such situations, the resources are quickly depleted, leaving many victims unable to access assistance as the funding gates close before their applications can be considered. The Cost of Living Crisis continues to cause financial hardship for the people we support. This has resulted in DAP's having to spend more time applying for financial assistance through grants, food banks, and hygiene banks, as well as requesting utility support. We have raised funds to enable us to provide carpets and other necessary items for our clients when they are setting up new homes which has been gratefully received.

**Office Refurbishment**

We were lucky to enlist the support of Elliott Architects, based in Hexham who created re-design plans pro bono for our office building. The designs create more fit-for-purpose space for clients, the team and support delivery of our services. We are delighted to report, having secured the support of a range of funders including Northumberland Councillors, that the refurbishment is now underway.

With limited direct lighting, our original rooms were dark and unwelcoming. The changes will create a modern working environment with new desks, task lighting and storage for the service delivery team, enabling independent work whilst retaining access to advice, guidance and support from colleagues when needed. The merging of two smaller rooms will provide a larger and more useful space for one to one counselling work, client sessions and the delivery of our group recovery programmes and enabling Board meetings and staff training to be held in our own building.

**Summary**

It has been another successful year for NDAS where we increased both the depth, and also the breadth of our service delivery. We have developed significant in-roads into the rural west and north of Northumberland, as demonstrated by our high self-referral numbers in these areas, whilst also developing the breadth of services we offer. Specifically, the development of specialisms in supporting older adult victims of domestic abuse, and our prevention work in schools, youth groups and small groups identified by professionals as at risk of becoming victims/perpetrators.

As the earlier pie charts demonstrate, NDAS leverage significant income into Northumberland to deliver services above and beyond those funded by Statutory Services, providing significant added value for the population of Northumberland.

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
(a company limited by guarantee)

**Trustees' Report (*Continued*)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Registered Charity Number	1122969
Company Number	06431269
Registered Office	Unit 3 Waterhouse, Burn Lane, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 3HN

**Trustees**

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows;

H Milner	(Chair) Appointed 27 September 2023
J Mindham-Walker	(Chair) Resigned 27 September 2023
A Richardson	
R Swinburne	
P Oliver	
D J Taylor	Resigned 27 September 2023
L A Mindham-Walker	Resigned 27 September 2023
C Marchant	Resigned 17 April 2024
D Barks	Appointed 27 September 2023
J Brown	Appointed 27 September 2023
C Seeley	Appointed 27 September 2023

**Key Management Personnel**

Sharon Brown	Chief Executive
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**Our advisors**

Independent Examiners	Evelyn Partners (Newcastle) Limited 17 Queens Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1RN
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**Legal Status**

The charitable company is limited by guarantee and therefore has no share capital. In the event of a winding up, every member (who is a trustee) undertakes to contribute to the payment of liabilities such amount as may be required not exceeding the total of £1.

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
**(a company limited by guarantee)**

**Trustees' Report (*Continued*)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Trustees (who are also directors of Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd for the purpose of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- 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 operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 16th October 2024

Signed on behalf of the Board

Helen W. Milner

Helen Milner  
Chair

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
(a company limited by guarantee)

**Independent Examiner's report to the members of Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 11 to 23.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the charitable 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 charitable 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 charitable 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 Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 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 charitable 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.

  
.....  
**Craig Henderson FCCA**  
Evelyn Partners (Newcastle) Limited

  
.....  
Date  
  
17 Queens Lane  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE1 1RN



**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
**(a company limited by guarantee)**

**Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations	4	7,957	-	7,957	6,995
Charitable activities	5	34,801	436,105	470,906	433,603
Investment income	6	4,490	-	4,490	245
<b>Total income</b>		<b>47,248</b>	<b>436,105</b>	<b>483,353</b>	<b>440,843</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	7	15,261	367,890	383,151	323,812
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>15,261</b>	<b>367,890</b>	<b>383,151</b>	<b>323,812</b>
<b>Net Income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>31,987</b>	<b>68,215</b>	<b>100,202</b>	<b>117,031</b>
Transfers	13	4,220	( 4,220 )	-	-
<b>Net movements in funds</b>		<b>36,207</b>	<b>63,995</b>	<b>100,202</b>	<b>117,031</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		154,068	277,609	431,677	314,646
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>190,275</b>	<b>341,604</b>	<b>531,879</b>	<b>431,677</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
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**Balance Sheet**  
**As at 31 March 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets		4,220	-
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	10	153,051	76,900
Cash at bank and in hand		386,599	365,345
		<u>539,650</u>	<u>442,245</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	( 11,991 )	( 10,568 )
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>527,659</u>	<u>431,677</u>
<b>Total assets less total liabilities</b>		<u>531,879</u>	<u>431,677</u>
<b>Funds</b>			
Restricted funds		341,604	277,609
Unrestricted funds		190,275	154,068
	13	<u>531,879</u>	<u>431,677</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 16/10/24 and signed on their behalf by:

*Helen Milner*

Helen Milner  
Chair

**Company Number 06431269**

Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd  
(a company limited by guarantee)

Cash Flow Statement

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Net cash flow from operating activities:</b>			
<i>Net cash provided by operating activities</i>	16	29,964	115,637
<b>Cash flows from investment activities</b>			
Interest receivable and investment income		( 4,490 )	245
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		( 4,220 )	-
<b><i>Net cash flow from investing activities</i></b>		<u>( 8,710 )</u>	<u>245</u>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<u>21,254</u>	<u>115,882</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		365,345	249,463
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>		<u><u>386,599</u></u>	<u><u>365,345</u></u>

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
(a company limited by guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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**1. Accounting Policies**

**1.1 Basis of preparation**

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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). The financial statements are prepared in Sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

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

**1.2 Going concern**

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees have reviewed the annual budgets and considered relevant information in response to the external environment. Actual results are monitored against budget. Based on these assessments, given the measures that could be undertaken to mitigate any adverse conditions, and the current resources available, the Trustees have concluded that they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

**1.3 Funds**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charitable company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

**1.4 Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions and is recognised as earned. Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income received to deliver services over a specific period covering more than one financial year is accounted for over the specific period; related expenditure is accounted when incurred.

Investment income relates to interest earned through holding assets on deposit.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time is not recognised and refer to the trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

**1.5 Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the cost for which the expenditure arose.

**1.6 Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life.

All assets individually costing more than £1,000 are capitalised, unless paid directly by a grant where capitalisation is not approved.

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
**(a company limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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**1.7 Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**1.8 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**1.9 Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**1.10 Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**1.11 Pensions**

The charitable company contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company. The annual contributions payable are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

**1.12 Tax**

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and 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.

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**2. Legal status**

Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, (No 06431269) and not having a share capital. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

**3. Comparative statement of financial activities as restated**

					As restated
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations	4	6,995	-	6,995	6,271
Charitable activities	5	21,904	411,699	433,603	356,411
Investment income	6	245	-	245	13
<b>Total income</b>		<b>29,144</b>	<b>411,699</b>	<b>440,843</b>	<b>362,695</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	7	5,601	318,211	323,812	300,418
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>5,601</b>	<b>318,211</b>	<b>323,812</b>	<b>300,418</b>
<b>Net Income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>23,543</b>	<b>93,488</b>	<b>117,031</b>	<b>62,277</b>
Transfers	13	( 23 )	23	-	-
<b>Net movements in funds</b>		<b>23,520</b>	<b>93,511</b>	<b>117,031</b>	<b>62,277</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		130,548	184,098	314,646	252,369
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>154,068</b>	<b>277,609</b>	<b>431,677</b>	<b>314,646</b>

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**4. Donations**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations	7,957	6,995
	<u>7,957</u>	<u>6,995</u>

**5. Income from charitable activities**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Grant income	470,906	433,603
	<u>470,906</u>	<u>433,603</u>

**Grant income was received from the following funders:**

The Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland	40,000	-
Northumberland County Council Community Chest	10,000	-
The Henry Smith Charity	19,950	39,550
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Northumbria	31,010	50,000
Karbon Homes	11,000	-
Northumberland County Council	49,434	49,434
The Sir James Knott Trust	9,000	-
Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse (STADA)	50,000	-
Ministry of Justice	31,400	24,700
The Pilgrim Trust	18,991	18,991
The National Lottery Community Fund- RC North East and Cumbria Region		
NDAS Core Funding	77,200	76,900
The National Lottery Community Fund- RC North East and Cumbria Region		
Helping children & young people to develop healthy & safe relationships	50,120	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	30,000	-
The National Lottery Community Fund - Awards for All	20,000	9,984
Children in Need	-	59,243
County Durham Community Foundation	-	9,137
Sara Charlton Foundation	-	42,000
Other grants <£9,000	22,801	53,664
	<u>470,906</u>	<u>433,603</u>

During the year ended 31 March 2024, £153,051 (2023 - £76,900) of grants have been recognised as income in the financial statements as the recognition criteria for income had been met. Cash for these amounts was subsequently received post year end.



**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**6. Investment income**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Interest receivable on cash deposits	4,490	245

**7. Analysis of expenditure charitable activities**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	300,272	252,479
Rent and rates	11,000	10,250
Insurance	1,724	793
Light and heat	3,990	1,731
Repairs and maintenance	1,460	1,450
Postage and stationary	2,657	938
Telephone and computer charges	9,530	9,057
Advertising	1,391	1,404
Travelling expenses	18,279	11,500
Legal and professional fees	1,811	7,922
Training	1,016	4,168
Accountancy	12,809	3,720
Sundry expenses and other office supplies	15,828	15,535
Subscriptions	-	2,690
Bank charges	1,384	175
	383,151	323,812

**8. Net income/(expenditure) for the year**

This is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent examiners fee	2,500	2,400

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**9. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel**

Staff costs were as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	269,908	226,154
Social security costs	18,535	18,929
Other pension costs	11,829	7,396
	<u>300,272</u>	<u>252,479</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Charitable activities	13	11

During the year no (2023 – none) employees received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000.

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment in the year (2023 - £nil). No trustees were reimbursed expenses during the year (2023 - £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023- £nil).

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £110,393 (2023 - £107,028).

**10. Debtors**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Accrued income	153,051	76,900
	<u>153,051</u>	<u>76,900</u>

**11. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	-	2,656
Accruals and deferred income	3,950	2,400
Social security & pension creditor	8,041	5,512
	<u>11,991</u>	<u>10,568</u>

**12. Pension costs**

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme, during the period contributions of £11,829 (2023 - £7,396) were paid into the scheme. At the year end, £nil was payable to the pension provider.

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**13. Fund reconciliation**

*For the year ended 31 March 2024*

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	154,068	47,248	( 15,261 )	4,220	190,275
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Initial Response	18,878	11,000	( 23,924 )	-	5,954
Personalised Support	105,716	184,044	( 225,890 )	-	63,870
Supporting Children and Young People	53,988	-	( 41,298 )	-	12,690
Prevention and awareness	1,922	69,111	( 20,913 )	-	50,120
Back Office	84,356	117,200	( 48,822 )	-	152,734
Client welfare funds	3,819	500	( 3,113 )	-	1,206
Office Refurbishment	5,000	54,250	-	( 4,220 )	55,030
CRM system	3,930	-	( 3,930 )	-	-
	<u>277,609</u>	<u>436,105</u>	<u>( 367,890 )</u>	<u>( 4,220 )</u>	<u>341,604</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>431,677</u>	<u>483,353</u>	<u>( 383,151 )</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>531,879</u>

*For the year ended 31 March 2023*

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	130,548	29,144	( 5,601 )	( 23 )	154,068
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Initial Response	9,695	17,984	( 8,801 )	-	18,878
Personalised Support	58,095	207,934	( 160,336 )	23	105,716
Supporting Children and Young People	14,201	59,243	( 19,456 )	-	53,988
Prevention and awareness	-	18,991	( 17,069 )	-	1,922
Back Office	99,633	84,150	( 99,427 )	-	84,356
Client welfare funds	2,474	14,467	( 13,122 )	-	3,819
Office Refurbishment	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
CRM system	-	3,930	-	-	3,930
	<u>184,098</u>	<u>411,699</u>	<u>( 318,211 )</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>277,609</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>314,646</u>	<u>440,843</u>	<u>( 323,812 )</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>431,677</u>

**Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd**  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**13. Fund reconciliation (Continued)**

Initial Response – This is our team who take/receive all of the referrals from the website and via phone. They can come as self-referrals or via a professional and they follow up with a risk assessment and initial safety plan before the client is assigned to a practitioner for the one-to-one support. They will also check in weekly or bi-weekly with the client to offer advice and/or signposting if there is some time before a practitioner is free.

Personalised Support – This is our team of Domestic Abuse Practitioners (DAPs) who provide the one-to-one support for clients. This one-to-one support can be emotional or practical support and is done as a combination of face to face visits and telephone support. The DAPs cover all areas of Northumberland and are trained in domestic abuse, safeguarding and other specific areas.

Supporting Children and Young People – this is our children's psychotherapist who provides psychotherapy support to the children of the victims the DAPs support. Again, this service covers all areas of Northumberland and she visits children in schools or at the Hexham office.

Prevention and awareness – Our prevention worker runs workshops and learning sessions with school classes, youth groups and various other groups around the county, promoting awareness of domestic abuse and teaching children about healthy relationships, consent etc. Between the prevention worker and the DAPs we also offer empowering programmes for victims of domestic abuse to help them move forward and live free from abuse in the future.

Back office – This team consists of the funding & planning officer, office manager and CEO to help support (and fund) the delivery of our services and oversee its governance.

Client welfare funds – Funds for client welfare.

Office Refurbishment – For future office refurbishment.

CRM system – For the new CRM system

**14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

Year ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Current assets	202,266	341,604	543,870
Current liabilities	( 11,991 )	-	( 11,991 )
	<u>190,275</u>	<u>341,604</u>	<u>531,879</u>

**14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

Year ended 31 March 2023

**Total**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023
	£	£	£
Current assets	154,068	277,609	442,245
Current liabilities	( 10,568 )	-	( 10,568 )
	<u>154,068</u>	<u>277,609</u>	<u>431,677</u>

Northumberland Domestic Abuse Services Ltd  
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Notes to the Financial Statements (*Continued*)  
For the year ended 31 March 2024

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15. Related party transactions

There have been no related party transactions in the year.

16. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024	2023
Net income for the period	100,202	117,031
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Interest receivable	4,490	( 245 )
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	( 76,151 )	( 9,130 )
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	1,423	7,981
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>29,964</u>	<u>115,637</u>

