

**VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Company Registration No. 05756723 (England and Wales)**

**Charity Registration No. 1125184**

# **VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED**

## **LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

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<b>Trustees</b>	Mrs E Smith MBE Mrs A Jacques Mr P Orme Mrs J Humble Mrs B Lucas
<b>Secretary</b>	L Saggerson
<b>Charity number</b>	1125184
<b>Company number</b>	05756723
<b>Registered office</b>	95 Abingdon Street Blackpool Lancashire FY1 1PP
<b>Independent examiner</b>	Champion Accountants LLP Unit 2 Olympic Court Whitehills Business Park Blackpool Lancashire FY4 5GU
<b>Bankers</b>	Royal Bank of Scotland Plc Drummond House 1 Redheughs Avenue Edinburgh EH12 9JN

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# **VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED**

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# **VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)**

### ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024***

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The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum & Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

#### **Objectives and activities**

The charity's objects are to promote all or any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community with the area of benefit in particular, the advancement of education, the furtherance of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

The policies adopted in furtherance of these objects are to promote volunteering in general, offer advice on volunteering issues and provide support and training to volunteers, to support volunteer placement organisations and to promote and organise co-operation in advancement of these purposes and bring together the council, representatives of the voluntary organisations, statutory authorities and agencies, community associations and individuals within the area of benefit. There has been no change in these activities during the year.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

The charity's key projects and services over this financial year have been:

- Borrow It Blackpool
- Social Prescribing Link Worker service (Let's Connect)
- Fleetwood & Wyre Youth Hub
- Blackpool Cost of Living Support
- Blackpool Community Action Network
- Strengthening Communities Pathways to Health and Employment (Positive Futures)
- Upskilling Health and Social Care Workforce across Lancashire
- Homes for Ukraine
- Cycling project
- Know Your Neighbourhood
- Community Navigators
- Ukraine Infrastructure Fund

Project activity and service delivery has been supported by:

- The National Lottery Community Fund via the Blackpool Better Start Partnership
- European Social Fund
- Blackpool North Primary Care Network
- Wyre and Fylde Rural Extended Network Primary Care Network National Health Service
- Department for Work and Pensions
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund via Blackpool Council
- Household Support Fund via Blackpool Council
- Blackpool Council
- Cycling UK
- Department for Culture, Media and Sport
- Blackpool Coastal Housing Tenants Support Fund
- British Red Cross via NAVCA

# **VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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#### **Achievements and performance**

In 2023-24, the Volunteer Centre Strategic Objectives have remained to:

- Sustain and grow current workstreams.
- Support voluntary and community organisation in Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde.
- Develop partnerships and partnership opportunities.
- Secure the long-term sustainability of the Volunteer Centre.
- Maintain a good governance structure.

Blackpool CAN (Community Action Network) - <https://www.blackpoolcan.co.uk/> is a partnership between Volunteer Centre Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde (VCBWF), Citizens Advice Blackpool (CAB) and Social Enterprise Solutions CIC (SESCIC) which had been formed to provide infrastructure support to build the capacity of the Voluntary, Community, Faith, Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector in Blackpool through Shared Prosperity Funding until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. Volunteer Centre Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde is the lead organisation for the project.

Following the Blackpool CAN launch on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023, the partnership delivered the following activities during the 2023-24 financial year.

- Volunteer brokerage support to help residents find suitable volunteering opportunities.
- Promoting of volunteering through outreach, events and social media.
- Volunteer Programme development support to volunteer involving organisations.
- Community Engagement activities to support the development of local community action networks.
- Bi-Monthly Fylde Coast Resilience Network meetings to bring the public, private and Voluntary, Community, Faith, Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sectors together to collaborate, raise awareness of each other, share knowledge, information and support.
- Bi-Monthly Volunteer Coordinators Network to support volunteer involving organisation to share good practice, knowledge, information and support.
- Deliver a capacity building small grants programme to the VCFSE sector in Blackpool.
- Support to aid the development of the Blackpool North Regeneration Group.
- Meet the Funders event at Blackpool Tower with presentations made by National Lottery Community Fund, Arts Council, National Lottery Heritage Fund, Postcode Lottery, Community Foundation for Lancashire & Merseyside, Blackpool Council and VINCI Building to over 300 attendees.
- Hosting of National Lottery Community Fund advice sessions for potential grant applicants.
- Support to new and emerging groups to become formally constituted, incorporated.
- Business support to social enterprises.
- Awareness raising of Blackpool CAN to the NHS and other statutory bodies.
- Support to Blackpool's Heritage Forum to access grant funding, training and volunteer support.
- Planning and delivery of the installation of water butts by volunteers for Blackpool householders in support of Blackpool Councils Shared Prosperity Fund Community Flood Risk Reduction project.
- LOCAL project
- Volunteer Fairs
- Governance workshop
- Strategic partnership working meetings with Blackpool Coastal Housing and Blackpool & The Fylde College
- Administration of a small grants programme for VINCI building
- Meeting with Blackpool Councils Cabinet Member for Young People and Aspiration to discuss the development of a volunteering pathway for young people

In April 2023, Borrow It Blackpool was officially launched, and 34 members joined the scheme during the financial year. With funding from the Blackpool Coastal Housing Tenants Project Fund and the Household Support Fund, a series of cooking, sewing, DIY and painting and decorating workshops were delivered across Blackpool to upskill residents and enable them to become more self-sufficient. Towards the end of 2023-24 we were presented with a potential opportunity to secure premises for Borrow It in the Central Drive area of Blackpool. As the premises will require significant refurbishment, we will be seeking further capital funds and in kind support in 2024-25 to carry this work out.

In June 2024, we celebrated National Volunteers Week by holding a presentation event for our volunteers. To mark this year's National Volunteers Week, we commissioned a local poet to write a poem about volunteers and volunteering

# **VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)**

### ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024***

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If Blackpool were to look itself in the mirror,  
One of the bright lights, shining in our reflection,  
Would be the thousands upon thousands of volunteers,  
Passing through the Volunteer Centre, since its inception.  
For 17 years we have been supporting,  
Our selfless volunteers out in the community,  
Enriching the lives of so many,  
Showing dedication, resilience and unity.  
Volunteers are kind,  
Volunteers are thoughtful.  
Volunteers are proud,  
Volunteers are resourceful.  
We want to say thank you to you,  
And celebrate all that you are,  
To recognise that there is a place for anybody,  
To join up with our team and raise the bar.  
By stepping out and helping others,  
A Volunteer will also help themselves,  
Improving social connections,  
As well as mental and physical health.  
Under the guidance and vision, we've grown,  
Of David, Eileen and Lynn - to name but a few  
The volunteer academy was created,  
Ensuring volunteers are valued and their support is true.  
Not to mention our staff team,  
Residing at the Volunteer hub almost every day,  
Welcoming you with warmth – and a brew,  
A listening ear whenever you've something to say.  
But without every single person's commitment,  
To improve local places and lives akin,  
Blackpool would be a far worse place,  
We wouldn't even know where to begin.  
We need you now more than ever,  
Together, the small things add up and keep our town intact.  
So, sign up and volunteer today,  
And begin your journey towards making a positive impact.

Written by Nathan Parker

Also in June, we held an event at the Salvation Army in Blackpool to celebrate Refugee Week. The event brought refugees and their families together with local agencies to connect with each other, share food and enjoy music provided by local talent.

In October 2023, we began delivery of the Shared Prosperity Fund Community Navigators project in partnership with Citizens Advice Blackpool. The project is aimed at supporting people across the town who need additional support with base "life skills", accessing services to enable them to claim welfare benefits, access health services, budget and manage their finances, access education and training, secure suitable accommodation and other vital help needed to move forward in life.

In January 2024 we began a conversation with colleagues across Lancashire & South Cumbria regarding a partnership funding application to the NHS Volunteering for Health programme. An application was submitted in March 2024, with an expected outcome of May 2024

In March 2024 a further 12-month funding from the Department of Work and Pensions for continued delivery of the Fleetwood and Wyre Youth Hub was awarded. Also in March 2024, a 12-month contract to address economic inactivity in Wyre, in partnership with Fleetwood Town Community Trust, was awarded by Wyre Council with the Volunteer Centre as the lead organisation.

# **VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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As always, the Board of Directors would like to thank all the staff and volunteers at the Volunteer Centre, our stakeholders, partners and funders, without whom none of this work would be possible. The team at the Volunteer Centre continue to endeavour to overcome the ongoing funding challenges that many small charities face whilst seeking new and innovative ways in which to support the communities they serve.

The Board would also like to take this opportunity to remember David Blower MBE, Chair of the Volunteer from 2006 to 2023, and Eileen Wood, the Volunteer Centre's Volunteer Coordinator from 2006 to 2023, both who sadly passed away in 2023 and are sorely missed by their colleagues and friends.

### **Financial review**

The charity has incurred a surplus for the year of £31,668 (2023: £21,418). This has been added to the retained funds brought forward with the resulting accumulated surplus of £174,106 (2023: £142,438) being carried forward to next year. The trustees are satisfied with the results for the year.

It is noted that the accounts will be filed late at Companies House and the Charities Commission this year. This has occurred due to changes in the finance team after the accounting period end and staff illness in the latter part of the year. The Trustees are fully aware of their filing obligations and will ensure that the current year accounts are completed within the relevant time limits.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has not been achieved at the year end.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

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

The charity is a company limited by guarantee established in April 2006.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs E Smith MBE  
Mrs A Jacques  
Mr D Blower (resigned 2 April 2023)  
Mrs J Humble  
Mrs B Lucas  
Mr P Orme

Trustees are elected by vote at Annual General Meetings. They receive appropriate training for the role of trustee.

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The trustees have had due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit and has applied this in its day to day running of the services provided.

# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

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

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The organisation is managed by the Board of Trustees who delegate the day to day running of the organisation to the Volunteer Centre Chief Executive who is Lynn Saggerson.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

 MBE

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Mrs E Smith MBE

Trustee

Dated: ..... 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025



# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Volunteer Centre Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde Limited (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, 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 charity as required by section 386 of the Companies Act 2006;
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Champion Accountants LLP

*Champion Accountants LLP*

Unit 2 Olympic Court  
Whitehills Business Park  
Blackpool  
Lancashire  
FY4 5GU  
FY4 5GU

Dated: 4/3/25....

# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>							
Donations and legacies	3	907	-	907	-	-	-
Charitable activities	5	12,830	632,173	645,003	7,300	454,222	461,522
Investments	4	-	903	903	-	404	404
<b>Total income</b>		<b>13,737</b>	<b>633,076</b>	<b>646,813</b>	<b>7,300</b>	<b>454,626</b>	<b>461,926</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Raising funds	6	-	11,916	11,916	-	6,215	6,215
Charitable activities	7	5,545	597,684	603,229	2,700	426,993	429,693
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>5,545</b>	<b>609,600</b>	<b>615,145</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>433,208</b>	<b>435,908</b>
<b>Net income</b>		<b>8,192</b>	<b>23,476</b>	<b>31,668</b>	<b>4,600</b>	<b>21,418</b>	<b>26,018</b>
Transfers between funds		25,002	(25,002)	-	-	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains and losses:</b>							
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes		-	-	-	(4,600)	-	(4,600)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	8	<b>33,194</b>	<b>(1,526)</b>	<b>31,668</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21,418</b>	<b>21,418</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		-	142,438	142,438	-	121,020	121,020
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2024</b>		<b>33,194</b>	<b>140,912</b>	<b>174,106</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>142,438</b>	<b>142,438</b>

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

# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13		6,990		10,127
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	14	136,385		70,751	
Cash at bank and in hand		90,603		78,837	
		226,988		149,588	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	(58,872)		(16,277)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			168,116		133,311
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			175,106		143,438
Defined benefit pension liability	18		(1,000)		(1,000)
<b>Net assets</b>			174,106		142,438
<b>The funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	16	140,912		142,438	
Unrestricted funds	17	33,194		-	
		174,106		142,438	

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024.

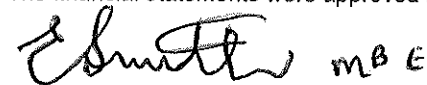
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on .....

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

 mbe

Mrs E Smith MBE  
Trustee

Company registration number 05756723 (England and Wales)

# **VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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### **1 Accounting policies**

#### **Charity information**

Volunteer Centre Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 95 Abingdon Street, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY1 1PP.

#### **1.1 Accounting convention**

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

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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

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

#### **1.2 Going concern**

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

#### **1.3 Charitable funds**

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

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

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

#### **1.4 Income**

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

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Deferred income relates to grants received for specific expenditure over a specified period of time. A portion of the grant is carried forward as deferred income and matched against expenditure in the relevant period.

# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.5 Expenditure

Restricted funds are to be used for the specific purpose determined by the grant provider. Expenditure which meets this criteria is identified to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

Unrestricted funds are other income received or generated for charitable purposes.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and recognised when the liability is incurred.

#### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Plant and machinery	25 % on cost
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25 % on cost

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

#### 1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

#### 1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

#### 1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

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

#### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

#### **1.10 Employee benefits**

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

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

#### **1.11 Retirement benefits**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

The company operated a defined benefit pension scheme for certain former employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity. The regular cost of providing retirement pensions and related benefits is charged to the statement of financial activities over the employees' service lives on the basis of a constant percentage of earnings. Any difference between the charge to the statement of financial activities and the contributions paid to the scheme is shown as an asset or liability in the balance sheet.

The net interest element is determined by multiplying the net defined benefit liability by the discount rate, taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments. The net interest is recognised in income/(expenditure) for the year.

Remeasurement changes comprise actuarial gains and losses, the effect of the asset ceiling and the return on the net defined benefit liability excluding amounts included in net interest. These are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses in the period in which they occur and are not reclassified to income/(expenditure) in subsequent periods.

The net defined benefit pension asset or liability in the balance sheet comprises the total for each plan of the present value of the defined benefit obligation (using a discount rate based on high quality corporate bonds), less the fair value of plan assets out of which the obligations are to be settled directly. Fair value is based on market price information, and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. The value of a net pension benefit asset is limited to the amount that may be recovered either through reduced contributions or agreed refunds from the scheme.

# **VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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### **2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements**

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

### **3 Income from donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</b>
Donations and gifts	907	-

### **4 Income from investments**

	<b>Restricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2023 £</b>
Interest receivable	903	404

# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 5 Income from charitable activities

	Grants receivable for charitable activities 2024 £	Grants receivable for charitable activities 2023 £
Performance related grants	632,173	454,222
Other income	12,830	7,300
	<u>645,003</u>	<u>461,522</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	12,830	7,300
Restricted funds	632,173	454,222
	<u>645,003</u>	<u>461,522</u>

### 6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2023 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Advertising	11,916	6,215
	<u>11,916</u>	<u>6,215</u>



# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable expenditure 2024 £	Charitable expenditure 2023 £
<b>Direct costs</b>		
Staff costs	451,667	356,946
Rent	488	271
Rates	2,301	417
Room hire	1,574	255
Insurance	6,479	4,448
Light and heat	5,418	2,923
Repairs & maintenance	3,627	4,027
Printing & Stationery	2,762	2,937
Telephone	6,203	4,675
Travel expenses	1,330	3,542
Direct project costs	16,863	30,224
Training	612	-
Sundry expenses	11,187	6,978
Partner payments re: Infrastructure support project	76,101	-
Other charitable expenditure	1,153	907
	<u>587,765</u>	<u>418,550</u>
<b>Share of support and governance costs (see note 9)</b>		
Support	5,573	4,976
Governance	9,890	6,167
	<u>603,228</u>	<u>429,693</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	5,545	2,700
Restricted funds	597,684	426,993
	<u>603,229</u>	<u>429,693</u>

### 8 Net movement in funds

The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	1,920	1,864
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	<u>5,573</u>	<u>4,976</u>

# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 9 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation	5,573	4,976
Governance costs	9,890	6,167
	<u>15,463</u>	<u>11,143</u>
<b>Analysed between:</b>		
Charitable activities	<u>15,463</u>	<u>11,143</u>

### 10 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year. None of the trustees received any expenses during the year (2023: £Nil).

### 11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
	<u>28</u>	<u>20</u>
<b>Employment costs</b>	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Wages and salaries	414,204	329,546
Social security costs	24,335	18,405
Other pension costs	13,128	8,995
	<u>451,667</u>	<u>356,946</u>

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

### 12 Taxation

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

# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 13 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2023	41,802	19,356	61,158
Additions	2,435	-	2,435
At 31 March 2024	44,237	19,356	63,593
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>			
At 1 April 2023	33,115	17,915	51,030
Depreciation charged in the year	4,749	824	5,573
At 31 March 2024	37,864	18,739	56,603
<b>Carrying amount</b>			
At 31 March 2024	6,373	617	6,990
At 31 March 2023	8,687	1,440	10,127

### 14 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Trade debtors	129,926	70,502
Prepayments and accrued income	6,459	249
	136,385	70,751

### 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other taxation and social security	6,364	6,323
Trade creditors	2,442	4,121
Accruals and deferred income	50,066	5,833
	58,872	16,277

# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### 16 Restricted funds

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

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Movement in funds			Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Movement in funds			Investments gains/losses £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
		Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £		Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £		
Fixtures and fittings	5,187	-	(4,976)	9,530	9,741	-	(1,287)	-	-	8,454
Pension Fund	17,394	-	-	-	17,394	-	-	-	-	17,394
Sister Anne	5,505	-	-	-	5,505	-	-	(5,505)	-	-
Better Start	43,489	120,000	(143,256)	-	20,233	84,139	(90,805)	(13,567)	-	-
Be Friend	-	-	(359)	-	(359)	-	-	359	-	-
Ukraine Support	-	5,000	(4,414)	-	586	-	(586)	-	-	-
Borrow IT Blackpool	-	25,746	(17,645)	(1,038)	7,063	34,267	(25,670)	-	-	15,660
Cycle to recycle	-	1,433	(861)	-	572	-	(572)	-	-	-
Blackpool Council Cost of Living Project	-	28,880	(27,702)	(399)	779	61,817	(42,216)	-	-	20,380
Infrastructure Support VCFSE	-	29,444	(13,958)	(6,661)	8,825	130,159	(139,561)	-	-	(577)
Ukraine Infrastructure	-	2,402	(2,402)	-	-	7,208	(7,208)	-	-	-
Community Hub Fleetwood	-	58,440	(50,719)	(1,432)	6,289	-	-	(6,289)	-	-
Strengthening Communities	10,219	35,674	(29,292)	-	16,601	17,837	(34,438)	-	-	-
Fleetwood Hub Service	-	-	-	-	-	44,552	(43,332)	-	-	1,220
SPLW	31,618	119,898	(115,845)	-	35,671	153,251	(147,867)	-	-	41,055
Upskilling	7,608	27,305	(21,375)	-	13,538	6,049	(19,587)	-	-	-
Sundry small	-	404	(404)	-	-	3,403	(2,500)	-	-	903
KYN Community Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	72,858	(37,633)	(30,480)	-	4,745
Project Support Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,944)	30,480	-	28,536
Project Tenant Fund	-	-	-	-	-	5,000	(1,020)	-	-	3,980
Community Navigators	-	-	-	-	-	12,536	(13,374)	-	-	(838)
	121,020	454,626	(433,208)	-	142,438	633,076	(609,600)	(25,002)	-	140,912

# **VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

### **16 Restricted funds**

(Continued)

The purpose of the main restricted funds was:-

Better Start Blackpool - for delivery of the Better Start Early Years Volunteer Academy and Borrow It Blackpool

- Fleetwood Youth Hub - provision of employability support for young people in Fleetwood & Wyre
- SPLW - provision of Social Prescribing Link Worker support for NHS patients.
- Blackpool Cost of Living - providing support to residents who are experiencing food and/or fuel poverty as a result of the cost of living crisis.
- Infrastructure support VCFSE - providing capacity building support to the VCFSE sector in Blackpool
- KYN Community Foundation - reducing loneliness and increasing volunteering

Transfers have been made between restricted and unrestricted funds to reflect expenditure allocated in prior years against unrestricted income which has been met by restricted monies where projects have ended.

# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 17 Unrestricted funds

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

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	-	13,737	(5,545)	25,002	-	33,194
Previous year:	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	-	7,300	(2,700)	-	(4,600)	-

### 18 Retirement benefit schemes

#### Defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The contributions payable by the company for the year were £13,128 (2023 : £8,995).

#### Defined benefit schemes

The company operated a pension scheme providing benefits based on final pensionable pay which commenced on 1 April 2013. None of the current employees are members of the scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company, being invested with insurance companies. There were no contributions to the scheme during the year. There are no active members in the scheme and as such the company is not required to make any contributions in respect of future service. The assumptions which have the most significant effect on the results of the valuation are those relating to the rate of return on investments and the rates of increase in salaries and pensions. It was assumed that the investment returns would be 3.7% per annum, that salary increases would average 2.5% per annum and that present and future pensions would increase at the rate of a maximum of 2.7% per annum.

The pension charge for the year was £Nil (2023: £Nil). The company is taking advice on the closure of the scheme now that all employees have left. The last actuarial valuation was carried out at 31 December 2022.

#### Mortality assumptions

The assumed life expectations on retirement at age 65 are:

	2024 Years	2023 Years
Retiring today	22	22
- Males	24	24
- Females		
Retiring in 20 years	24	24
- Males	26	26
- Females		

# VOLUNTEER CENTRE BLACKPOOL, WYRE AND FYLDE LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### 18 Retirement benefit schemes

(Continued)

The amounts included in the balance sheet arising from the charity's obligations in respect of defined benefit plans are as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Present value of defined benefit obligations	17,300	17,300
Fair value of plan assets	(16,300)	(16,300)
Deficit in scheme	1,000	1,000

### 19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	-	8,454	8,454	-	10,127	10,127
Current assets/(liabilities)	33,194	133,458	166,652	-	133,311	133,311
Provisions and pensions	-	(1,000)	(1,000)	-	(1,000)	(1,000)
	33,194	140,912	174,106	-	142,438	142,438

### 20 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).