

YOUTH FOCUS NORTH WEST LTD

England & Wales · Charity number 1125563

Details

Other names	NORTH WEST REGIONAL YOUTH WORK UNIT
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Status	Registered
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Legal form	Charitable company
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Company number	06486517
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Registered	2008-08-19
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Register	View on the Charity Commission register
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Contact

Address	Micklehead Business Village Unit 6b St Michaels Road St. Helens
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Phone	01744810838
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Email	info@youthfocusnw.org.uk
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Website	www.youthfocusnw.org.uk
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Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS (THE OBJECTS) ARE THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND THOSE WHO WORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE NORTH WEST OF ENGLAND SO THAT SAID YOUNG PEOPLE MAY DEVELOP THEIR PERSONAL, SOCIAL, PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL CAPACITIES, ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL AND FIND THEIR PLACE AS ACTIVE MEMBERS OF THEIR COMMUNITIES AND SOCIETY AS A WHOLE.

Activities: TO PROMOTE AND REPRESENT YOUTH WORK ACROSS THE REGION.TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICES WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE TO RESPOND TO AND IMPACT ON NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENDAS.TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND CONSISTENCY OF YOUTH WORK ACROSS THE REGION BY PROMOTING AND SUPPORTING GOOD PRACTICE AND EFFECTIVE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NORTH WEST OF ENGLAND
- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£626,878	£676,367	£468,451	8
2024-03-31	£627,546	£525,382	£517,940	7
2023-03-31	£431,997	£469,414	-	-
2022-03-31	£444,966	£376,979	-	-
2021-03-31	£426,085	£274,720	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Diane Higgins		2025-04-05
Dr Carol Ewing		2025-01-14
James Cooke		2021-01-16
Jess Leigh		2025-04-05
Maisha Lorgat		2025-04-05
Sami Gichki		2025-04-05
Tim Rumley		2025-04-05

YOUTH FOCUS NORTH WEST LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1125563

Accounts

Company Number:6486517

Charity Number: 1125563

Youth Focus North West Limited

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31st March 2025

Youth Focus North West Limited
Reference and administrative information
for the year ended 31st March 2025

Company number 6486517

Charity number 1125563

Registered office and operational address Unit 6b Micklehead Business Village, St Michaels Road, Sutton, St Helens, WA9 4YU

Trustees Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Susan Lomas	Chair (Resigned 12/10/2024)
Sally Carr	Chair from October 2024
Colin Scicluna	(Resigned 12/10/2024)
Will Adams	(Resigned 12/10/2024)
Leah Priestly-Black	(Resigned 12/10/2024)
James Cooke	Treasurer
Rajesh Patel	Trustee
Carol Ewing	(Appointed 18/01/2025)
Sami Gichki	(Appointed 05/04/2025)
Diane Higgins	(Appointed 05/04/2025)
Jessica Leigh	(Appointed 05/04/2025)
Maisha Lorgat	(Appointed 05/04/2025)
Tim Rumley	(Appointed 05/04/2025)
David Thompson	(Appointed 05/04/2025 - resigned 01/11/2025)

Key management Stuart Dunne Chief Executive

personnel Sarah Lanchin Deputy Chief Executive

Sharon Watts Business Manager (Secretary)

Bankers Cooperative Bank
Skelmersdale

Independent Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA, Slade & Cooper Limited

examiner Beehive Mill, Jersey Street, Ancoats, Manchester, M4 6JG

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2025

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 2025 Included within the trustees' report is the directors' report as required by company law.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

The trustees, who are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law, submit their annual report and the financial statements of Youth Focus North West (YFNW) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the 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).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES:

The Mission of YFNW (<https://youthfocusnw.org.uk/>) is to improve the lives of young people throughout the North West of England by providing them with opportunities to become active citizens.

YFNW exists for the benefit of young people and the organisations which support them.

Our organisation is rooted in the values of good youth work;

- We believe in voluntary engagement and developing strong relations.
- We believe in equity, diversity and inclusion.
- We believe in education and empowerment, to make positive and lasting change.
- We believe in placing young people central to everything we do.
- We believe in integrity and accountability.

YFNW is uniquely placed to work alongside young people and organisations to have a voice where it counts. Working across North West England and beyond we provide space and opportunity to connect and work together. Young people and the people who work with young people can benefit from our youth voice programmes, training initiatives and networks through our commitment to increase relationships, skills and a sense of belonging and agency. YFNW empowers young people so that they feel confident and motivated to make changes to the world around them.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remain focused on its stated purposes.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2025

The trustees have referred to the information contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Public Benefit

All activities undertaken by YFNW subscribe to our charitable aims and are carried out for the public benefit, particularly youth organisations, youth services and young people in the North West of England. The charitable aims have been developed and decisions relating to activities undertaken by YFNW have been informed with due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

We achieved our mission by delivering a range of activities in 24/25 under the following headings:

Youth Voice – 342 young people attended 215 sessions (18 projects)

Youth Work Training – 63 trained at Level 2, 36 at Level 3

Networks – 532 participants attended 42 network meetings

Examples of activities during 24/25 include:

:

Provide platforms for young people to amplify their voice. We will do this by creating space for young people to come together to tackle the issues that they feel are important.		
How	Outputs	Outcomes
Youthforia – North West Regional Youth Forum	6 x Regional Meetings 1 x Residential	- Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. - Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency. - Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. - Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2025

Increase opportunities for young people to influence. We will do this by connecting decision making bodies, decision makers and young people together.		
How	Outputs	Outcomes
Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority - was formed in 2018. It is an integral part of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and the Mayor of Greater Manchester's Office. It is one of six equality panels.	10 x meetings per year 2 x development days per year 52 young people representing 26 organisations Over 600 hours of young people voluntary time	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency. • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • In the end of term feedback, young people self-reported increased levels of confidence, leadership skills, communication and teamwork as a result of their engagement within the YCA. gmyca

Youth Work Training:

We are committed to developing Youth Work practice in the North West. We want to see a vibrant Youth Work sector that is equipped, qualified and able to meet the needs of young people.

Increase the number of qualified youth workers by providing routes to formal qualifications (Level 2 and Level 3) and working with partners to strengthen links with the academic institutions.	
How	Outcomes
National Youth Agency Bursary Scheme	• Youth work practitioners are better prepared for work with young people • Youth work practitioners are more confident to respond to issues relating to young people • Youth work practitioners enjoy their engagement with our programmes and increase their relationship skills and intellectual capabilities • Number of candidates completed in 24/25 - Level 2 Award: 63 Level 3 Certificate: 36

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Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2025

Lundy Training		
How	Output	Outcomes
Lundy training module – versions 1&2	362 Professionals from Youth, Education, Health, Public & Voluntary Sector attended Lundy training courses	99% said they would recommend the course 90% said the training was useful

Networks:

Through our infrastructure support we enable organisations across our sector to come together to collaborate, share, learn from best practice and have their views heard. We support them to be well informed on the policy, practice and strategy developments that affect young people and coordinate communities of practice.

Networks	Outputs	Outcomes
Voice & Influence network Strategic Leads for Youth Work Regional Impact Network Cared 4	Quarterly	- Youth work practitioners feel a heightened sense of belonging and agency towards each other and the youth sector - Youth work practitioners develop positive relationships with colleagues outside of their locality - Partnership projects are developed and delivered

Youth Focus NW regularly reviews our communities of practice and introduced the detached youth work network into 24/25.

Social Value

We have a history of working collaboratively with our partners to maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits in accordance with The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012. In practice we demonstrate our commitment to this by:

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2025

A Greener region:

- Encouraging the use of active and low emission travel to all of our projects for staff and young people, encouraging shared transport, public transport or active travel
- Reducing unnecessary travel and making use of digital technologies where appropriate
- Where possible making commitments to carbon offsetting schemes, such as peat bog restoration and tree planting schemes
- Reduction of single use plastic at our events
- Encouraging participants to bring reusable drink containers
- Using recyclable paper, plates and cutlery at events
- Promoting the use of Green Spaces in our projects to encourage the connection and protection of green space

A Fairer region:

- Encouraging our staff and young people to be active within their local community, taking part in volunteering and social action activities to benefit the community
- Our projects and activities with young people encourage them to develop a wider range of life ready skills, we are committed to providing young people with opportunities to help their progression, we enable young people to develop team work, communication, public speaking, confidence, co-operative working, critical thinking and problem solving.
- We offer young people the opportunity to access spaces and places that they wouldn't ordinarily be able to, giving them real work world opportunities like attending board meetings, giving presentations, representing others with decision makers.
- We provide young people with access to a range of professionals in order to inspire them and offer new thoughts about what is possible as a career option.
- We enable young people to have exposure to new experiences that enhance their work ready potential, by attending large scale events, sharing platforms with adult leaders, speaking to professionals from a wide range of public, third and private sectors.
- We support individual young people with mentoring, references, help with CV building and work experience placements.
- Developing strong partnerships across the VCFSE sector
- Commitment to host apprenticeship opportunities, we currently have a Content Creator apprentice and a commitment to further apprenticeship opportunities
- Support and signpost young people and staff to skills and training opportunities

A More Prosperous region:

- YFNW is committed to the 7 principles in the GM Good Employment Charter
- YFNW provides secure work with no zero hours contracts, all roles are on NJC and JNC terms and conditions
- YFNW is a real living wage employer
- YFNW is an aspiring employer with Liverpool City Region and is applying for accredited status.
- YFNW operates flexible working practices
- All staff are encouraged to actively voice their views and opinions and YFNW recognises the importance of Unions

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Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2025

- YFNW recognises the importance of fair and transparent recruitment practices and use a variety of methods to ensure an inclusive recruitment process
- YFNW values the difference and diversity of our staff team and ensures that any reasonable adjustments are put in place to enable the staff team to reach their full potential
- YFNW strongly recognises the importance of health and wellbeing, with a range of support available including Employment Assistance Schemes, flexible working, bonus and additional holiday benefits.
- All YFNW staff are provided with regular support and supervision sessions to monitor and address any health and wellbeing issues
- Where possible we use local suppliers, contractors and sustainable services and goods for our projects and activities
- We look for opportunities to invest in young people and those at the start of their careers
- Our banking operates through an ethical bank (Co-operative)

Strategy

During 2024/25 Youth Focus North West has provided a range of support to both young people and the youth sector in the North West and beyond. Through our infrastructure support we enable organisations across our sector to come together to collaborate, share and learn from best practice and have their views heard.

We support professionals to be well informed on the policy, practice and strategy developments that affect young people. We hold and deliver the function of the Regional Youth Work Unit.

We are over 4 years into a 5-year Strategic Plan (2021-2026) [5 year plan.pdf](#) and plans are in place to develop our next strategic plan – Pathway to 2030

Areas to develop include:

- Impact
- Communications Strategy
- Lundy training on a nationwide level

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing documents

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association in January 2008, which sets out the objects and powers of the charitable company; it is governed under its Articles of Association. The company registered as a charity in August 2008. Members of the charitable company (who are our Trustees) guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of winding up.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2025

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

During 24/25 we recruited 6 new trustees and a new Chair to start terms from April 2025. A new trustee handbook will be available to support a thorough induction process.

Risk Management

Trustees have a risk management system and a live risk management document which is a standing agenda item at Board meetings. Risks are categorised in the following areas: **Governance, External, Operational, Digital and Finance.**

- Risks are rag rated and Amber and Red will be discussed at Board level.
- Policies and procedures are reviewed annually

Safeguarding

During 24/25 we reviewed and developed our safeguarding procedures to include:

- Increased training for staff and Trustees together with DBS checks
- Regular meetings between DSOs and Board Lead for Safeguarding
- Due Diligence processes for external facilitators and speakers
- A cause for concern process
- Policy reviewed and amended in light of updated legislation

Organisational structure

Youth Focus North West is governed by the Board of Trustees. The interface between strategic and operational management is through regular board meetings, attended by the Chief Executive and Business Manager, and separate meetings between the Chair, Chief Executive, Treasurer and Business Manager.

The staff team consists of:

- CEO
- Deputy CEO
- Business Manager
- Learning, development and equality manager
- 2 x Regional Youth Work leads
- 1 x Project Worker
- Lundy trainer
- 1 Marketing Apprentice

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2025

The operational management is overseen by the senior management team and YFNW employs associates and consultants when the need arises.

We also have a number of volunteers on the Youthforia Steering group (max 12) who co-produce Yofo events and activities. Steering group members meet regularly to support the organisation of Yofo events which include an annual residential. The members of the Steering group change each year and are voted into the role by their peers. This transparent process allows as many young people as possible to have the opportunity.

The role of a Steering Group member is highly valued by Youth Focus NW and intrinsic to the running of Youthforia, a forum for young people, led by young people. Events include skills-based activities such as campaigning and also issues such as young people in the media.

Remuneration process for key management personnel

YFNW is a living wage employer, we provide secure work with no zero hours contracts. All roles are on Soulbury, NJC and JNC terms and conditions and we advise all staff to join a Union.

Senior management staff are employed on Soulbury, JNC and NJC terms and conditions and we conduct regular salary benchmarking exercises with an external organisation that compares like for like roles at a local, regional and national level.

Treasurer's report

Financial review

Youth Focus North West continues to be in a strong financial position. Following significant income growth in 2023/24, total income decreased slightly in 2024/25 to £626,878 (2023/24: £635,640). Income continued to be generated from a wide range of contracts and partnerships. Income generation has focused on securing multi-year funding commitments wherever possible and exploring further diversification.

Expenditure increased to £676,367 (2023/24: £535,792). This was largely driven by increased staffing and project costs to deliver additional funded work. It also included some one-off costs funded from reserves, for impact evaluation, trustee recruitment and a final bonus payment to staff under the now withdrawn bonus scheme.

This resulted in an overall deficit for the year of £49,489 (2023/24: £99,848 surplus), ending the year with net assets of £468,451 (2023/24: £517,940).

The trustees have considered the principal risks and uncertainties facing the charity in terms of governance, finance, operations, digital and external factors, and controls to mitigate these risks as follows.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2025

Risk	Controls in place
Commitment challenges can reduce Board effectiveness	Robust recruitment and induction process, attendance register and hybrid meetings
A lack of funding diversification and competition for decreasing funding pots risks our future financial sustainability (over reliance on commissions)	Explore alternative opportunities, including corporate funding/sponsorship
Lack of control over terms & conditions of pay scales, inhibits financial planning	An estimated increase is included in expenditure for any back dated pay
Increase in event costs puts pressure on budget	Use free or low-cost venues & suppliers when possible. Do not over cater for events and use minimal resources. Hybrid meetings.
Limited capacity of staff team presents a risk to services should there be long term sickness or similar.	Flexible working and investment in wellbeing, regular staff support and supervision, review of workplans, exploring additional capacity via Student Placements and associates.
A new government may result in change in funding and policy that may impact negatively on YFNW	SCEO has strategic overview and sits at the relevant tables to receive timely information. YFNW is agile to be both proactive and reactive.
Competitors are a threat to funding and potential work in this challenging environment	CEO to keep abreast of competitors and their services. We can respond quickly.

During the year, we reviewed our banking arrangements with a view to:

- minimising the risk that our reserves would be exposed to in the event of bank failure
- achieving more competitive interest rates on our cash balances.

In order to achieve these goals, we opened a Flagstone account with Charities Aid Foundation, enabling us to distribute funds across multiple banks via a centrally managed portal.

We continue to use our existing Co-operative Bank current account for managing day-to-day transactions. Our current approach is to maintain approximately 3 months' expenditure in our main current account and at the end of each quarter, distribute any surplus balances into our other accounts via Flagstone.

The charity does not currently have any financial investments other than cash.

Reserves policy

Our reserves policy, approved in October 2023, sets a target level of reserves sufficient to provide:

- 6 months of salary and general running costs – this allows 3 months to explore options in response to a major income loss and another 3 months for redundancy processes if needed
- a minimal level of continuity for Youthforia in this scenario (i.e. no residential, but maintaining basic activity)
- redundancy payments based on current staff entitlements

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2025

- a contingency reflecting risk associated with future increases in staffing costs or other unforeseen cost increases.

In 2024/25, our target level of reserves based on these assumptions was £230,000. Our actual level of reserves held at year-end was £463,45, which is significantly higher than the level required by the policy. In 2025/26 we will review the assumptions used to calculate our reserves target. We will also consider options for committing surplus reserves to further the charity's strategic priorities.

James Cooke
Treasurer

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2025

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Frs102 Small Company Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual 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
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper 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.

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 04/12/2025 and signed on their behalf by

James Cooke

Treasurer

Independent examiner's report
to the members of
Youth Focus North West Limited

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 14 to 27.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the 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 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.

Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA
Beehive Mill, Jersey Street
Manchester, M4 6JG
Date: 05/12/2025

Youth Focus North West Limited
Statement of Financial Activities
(including Income and Expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from:					
Charitable activities:	3	624,186	-	624,186	634,589
Investments	4	2,692	-	2,692	1,051
Total income		626,878	-	626,878	635,640
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:	5	676,367	-	676,367	535,792
Total expenditure		676,367	-	676,367	535,792
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	7	(49,489)	-	(49,489)	99,848
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the year		(49,489)	-	(49,489)	99,848
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		517,940	-	517,940	418,092
Total funds carried forward		468,451	-	468,451	517,940

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

Youth Focus North West Limited
Company number 06486517
Balance sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025	2024
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	-	-
Total fixed assets		-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	12	76,540	245,988
Cash at bank and in hand		543,261	504,029
Total current assets		619,801	750,017
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	14	(151,350)	(232,077)
Net assets		468,451	517,940
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	16	-	-
Unrestricted income funds	17	468,451	517,940
Total charity funds		468,451	517,940

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an 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

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes on pages 18 to 28 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on 04/15/2025 and signed on their behalf by:

James Cooke
Treasurer

Tim Rumley
Trustee

Youth Focus North West Limited
Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ending 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	19	36,540	9,543
<i>Cash flows from investing activities:</i>			
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments		2,692	1,051
Cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		2,692	1,051
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		39,232	10,594
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		504,029	493,435
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		543,261	504,029

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a 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), second edition - October 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Youth Focus North West Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees have made no key judgments which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

c Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

d Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

e Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

f Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

g Operating leases

Operating leases are leases in which the title to the assets, and the risks and rewards of ownership, remain with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

h Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Computer equipment	5 years
Office fixtures and equipment	4 years

i 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.

j 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.

k 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 amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

I Pensions

Employees of the charity are entitled to join a defined contribution 'money purchase' scheme. The charity's contribution is restricted to the contributions disclosed in note 8. There were no outstanding contributions at the year end. The costs of the defined contribution scheme are included within expenditure on charitable activities.

The money purchase plan is managed by Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited Plc and the plan invests the contributions made by the employee and employer in an investment fund to build up over the term of the plan a pension fund which is then converted into a pension upon the employee's normal retirement year age when eligible for a state pension. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

Contributions outstanding at the year-end was £4,151 (2024 : £3,205).

2 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The registered office address is disclosed on page 1.

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £
Conferences and training	155,742	-	155,742
Membership subscriptions	47,000	-	47,000
Contract income	331,045	-	331,045
Fees & other income	90,399	-	90,399
Total 2025	624,186	-	624,186
Previous reporting period			
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £
Conferences and training	75,950	-	75,950
Membership subscriptions	59,841	-	59,841
Contract income	328,812	8,094	336,906
Fees	161,892	-	161,892
Total 2024	626,495	8,094	634,589

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

4 Investment income

	2025 £	2024 £
Income from bank deposits	2,692	1,051
	<u>2,692</u>	<u>1,051</u>

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts. All investment income is unrestricted.

5 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £
Staff costs	419,679	-	419,679
Premises costs	16,626	-	16,626
Administrative costs	41,742	-	41,742
Project costs	196,276	-	196,276
Governance costs (see note 6)	2,044	-	2,044
	<u>676,367</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>676,367</u>
Previous reporting period			
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £
Staff costs	314,474	-	314,474
Premises costs	18,783	-	18,783
Administrative costs	35,402	-	35,402
Project costs	156,723	8,094	164,817
Governance costs	2,316	-	2,316
	<u>527,698</u>	<u>8,094</u>	<u>535,792</u>

6 Analysis of governance costs

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Accountancy services	1,644	1,714
Independent examination	400	602
	<u>2,044</u>	<u>2,316</u>

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

7 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2025	2024
	£	£
Operating lease rentals:		
Equipment	-	-
Independent examiner's fee - accountancy	1,640	1,428
Independent examiner's fee - payroll	654	483
Independent examination	460	504
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

8 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	331,387	250,367
Social security costs	28,339	19,461
Pension costs	31,886	25,242
Other costs	28,067	19,404
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	419,679	314,474
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

One employees has employee benefits in excess of £70,000 (2024: nil).

One employees has employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2024: One).

The average number of staff employed during the period was 7.7 (2024: 7).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the board trustees, Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive and Business Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £189,844 (2024: £170,217).

9 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration or reimbursed expenses during the year (2024: Nil).

No trustees received travel and subsistence expenses during the year (2024:£nil).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2024: nil).

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

10 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

11 Fixed assets: tangible assets

Cost	Computer equipment £
At 1 April 2024	13,454
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2025	13,454
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2024	13,454
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2025	13,454
Net book value	
At 31 March 2025	-
<i>At 31 March 2024</i>	-

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

12 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	57,466	183,058
Prepayments and accrued income	19,074	62,930
	76,540	245,988

13 Cash at bank and in hand

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash at bank and on hand	543,261	504,029

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	-	3,205
Other creditors and accruals	8,917	5,916
Deferred income	133,790	216,728
Taxation and social security costs	8,643	6,228
	151,350	232,077

15 Deferred income

	2025 £	2024 £
Annual membership and contract income		
Deferred grant brought forward	216,728	146,864
Income received	332,045	474,065
Released to income from charitable activities	(414,983)	(404,201)
Deferred income carried forward	133,790	216,728

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

16 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Arts Council England	-	-	-	-	-
Total 2025	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Previous reporting period</i>	<i>Balance at 1 April 2023 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>As at 31 March 2024 £</i>
Arts Council England	-	8,094	(8,094)	-	-
Total 2024	-	8,094	(8,094)	-	-

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

17 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2025 £
General fund	517,940	626,878	(676,367)	-	468,451
	517,940	626,878	(676,367)	-	468,451

Previous reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2024 £
General fund	418,092	627,546	(527,698)	-	517,940
	418,092	627,546	(527,698)	-	517,940

Name of	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
General fund	The free reserves after allowing for all designated funds

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General fund £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	468,451	-	468,451
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-
Total 2025	468,451	-	468,451
Previous reporting period			
	General fund £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	517,940	-	517,940
Total 2024	517,940	-	517,940

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	(49,489)	99,848
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	-	-
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(2,692)	(1,051)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	169,448	(163,979)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(80,727)	74,725
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating	36,540	9,543

YOUTH FOCUS NORTH WEST LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1125563

Accounts

Company Number:6486517

Charity Number: 1125563

Youth Focus North West Limited
Report and financial statements
For the year ended 31st March 2024

Youth Focus North West Limited
Reference and administrative information
for the year ended 31st March 2024

Company number **6486517**

Charity number **1125563**

Registered office and operational address

Unit 6b Micklehead Business Village

St Michaels Road

Sutton

St Helens

WA9 4YU

Trustees Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Sue Lomas	Chair
Sally Carr	Vice Chair
James Cooke	Treasurer
Leah Priestly-Black	Trustee
Rajesh Patel	Trustee
Colin Scicluna	Trustee
Will Adams	Trustee

Secretary Sharon Watts

Key management	Stuart Dunne	Chief Executive
personnel	Sarah Lanchin	Deputy Chief Executive

Bankers Cooperative Bank
Skelmersdale

Independent Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA Slade & Cooper Limited
examiner Beehive Mill, Jersey Street, Manchester, M4 6JG

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2024

The trustees, who are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law, submit their annual report and the financial statements of Youth Focus NW (YFNW) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the 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).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES:

The Mission of Youth Focus NW is to improve the lives of young people throughout the North West of England by providing them with opportunities to become active citizens. Youth Focus North West exists for the benefit of young people and the organisations which support them.

Our organisation is rooted in the values of good youth work;

- We believe in voluntary engagement and developing strong relations.
- We believe in equity, diversity and inclusion and embedding this across the organisation.
- We believe in education and empowerment, to make positive and lasting change.
- We believe in placing young people central to everything we do.
- We believe in integrity and accountability across all aspects of the organisation.

Youth Focus North West (YFNW) is uniquely placed to work alongside young people and organisations to have a voice where it counts. Working across North West England and beyond we provide space and opportunity to connect and work together. Young people and the people who work with young people can benefit from our youth voice programmes, training initiatives and networks through our commitment to increase relationships, skills and a sense of belonging and agency. YFNW empowers young people so that they feel confident and motivated to make changes to the world around them.

Our five-year strategy is a blueprint for young people to be recognised as active citizens and to become the people they want to be. Documents can be found on www.youthfocusnw.org.uk The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remain focused on its stated purposes.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2024

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Chair's Report

The past year has seen consolidation of much of our work, particularly with our partners within the health sector. We have also been able to create new opportunities for young people across the North West to express their opinions and aspirations about the world they live in.

We continue to have the buy-in of all 23 local authorities across the region and we work with them to create our vision of 'a world where young people feel valued and embraced for who they are and who they want to be'. We are grateful for the support of youth workers in all the North West authorities for our Youthforia Forum and for our residential which this year, we held at the Brathay Trust Outdoor Centre in the Lake District. Great fun was had by all, alongside opportunities to share ideas and develop new skills.

The Lundy model of participation provides a framework to help ensure young people are given the opportunity to express their voice in a safe and accessible space – to ensure that they are heard, so that their views influence the services and support they receive. We continue to provide widespread training on implementing the model and interest continues to grow.

Our support for the Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority continues and our work with a range of agencies has ensured that young people can contribute to discussions about how they can best be served across a range of health provision. We have also taken ownership of the "For Planet" App which we are developing to enable young people to engage in small actions which will help to alleviate climate anxiety and which will combine to make a bigger impact.

As trustees we have undergone a major review of our roles and responsibilities this year. We have been able to have targeted discussions about what's going well and where to focus on improving as we work with the staff team to embed the Five-Year Strategy.

My thanks go to my colleague Trustees who give their time and support freely and with enthusiasm. We are also grateful for the dedication of our growing team of staff so competently led by Stuart Dunne who continues to spearhead the work of YFNW with expertise and commitment. Our work continues to grow as we discover new areas in which to work and innovative partnerships that we can broker. I am grateful to my Vice Chair, Sally Carr, for all the support she has provided this year as we have worked together to provide strong governance for Youth Focus North West.

Sue Lomas OBE DL FRGS
Chair

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2024

Financial review

Youth Focus North West continues to be in a strong financial position. In 2023/24, total income increased significantly to £635,640 (2022/23: £460,517). Expenditure increased slightly, to £535,792 (2022/23: £497,934). This resulted in an overall surplus for the year of £99,848 (2022/23: £37,417 deficit), ending the year with net assets of 517,940 (2022/23: 418,092).

The charity has continued to diversify its sources of income. Several new funding streams were secured during the year, including core funding from DCMS and contributions from Greater Merseyside and Greater Sport. This is in addition to the renewal of existing major funding streams, including Greater Manchester Combined Authority, several NHS contracts and our youth work training partnership with National Youth Agency.

The trustees have considered the principal risks and uncertainties facing the charity in terms of governance, finance, operations and external factors, and controls to mitigate these risks as follows.

Risk	Controls in place
Board recruitment and chair stepping down	Recruitment and succession plan in place
Skills gap and commitment of trustees	Skills audit and board attendance register
Demands of larger charity reporting	Requirements reviewed in anticipation of crossing income threshold, regular meetings between Business Manager and Treasurer
Sustainability and carbon footprint of organisation	Environmental policy
Over reliance on a limited number of commissions	Exploring other opportunities and audiences to diversify income sources
Lack of reserve investment	Seeking advice on developing a suitable investment policy
Over reliance on staff members	Regular staff support and supervision, review of workplans, exploring additional capacity via Student Placements
Working with partners	Due diligence on prospective partners
Lack of focused and targeted impact and evaluation	2 externally commissioned impact reports
Change in government/policy	Review landscape after the election
Competition for work with similar organisation	CEO keeps abreast of competitors
Website in need of development	Website improvements in progress

The charity does not currently hold any financial investments, with all funds being held in a bank account. As our level of reserves has grown, plans are being developed to diversify our banking arrangements in order to reduce the risk of losses, as well as to develop a policy for investing any funds not needed for short-term use.

Youth Focus North West Limited

Trustees' annual report

for the year ended 31st March 2024

In recent years, Youth Focus North West has achieved significant growth and has had a strong record of securing in-year income. Over the last year, we have focused on seeking more multi-year funding opportunities, in order to be able to plan our work more strategically over a longer time-horizon.

Reserves policy

In October 2023, the board reviewed and updated the charity's reserves policy. In setting the new reserves policy, the board considered the following factors:

- The charity has a good track record of securing income from diverse sources and has generated surpluses for the last several years
- However, most funding is currently secured on a year-to-year basis, with limited medium to longer-term confirmed income
- In the event of a sudden, significant reduction in income, the main impacts that the charity would need to manage are staffing costs (including potential redundancies) and general running costs (e.g. office overheads)
- Most project activities are linked to specific funded work and costs could be scaled back in line with any reduction in income. However, if possible we would seek to ensure continuity for Youthforia as our flagship regional-wide youth participation project.

Based on this review, the Board agreed to increase our target level of reserves to £230K (previously £150K). This figure is calculated as follows:

- £170K for 6 months of salary and general running costs – this allows 3 months to explore options in response to a major income loss and another 3 months for redundancy processes if needed
- £5K to provide a minimal level of continuity for Youthforia in this scenario (i.e. no residential, but maintaining basic activity)
- £41K for redundancy payments based on current staff entitlements
- £14K as a contingency – equivalent to 5% of salary costs, reflecting risks associated with future increases in staffing costs or other unforeseen cost increases.

This policy and the assumptions behind it will be reviewed annually as part of the budgeting and business planning process. High-level risks are also reviewed by the Board at each quarterly meeting.

At the end of the 2023/24 financial year, the actual level of reserves held was £517,940, which is significantly higher than the level required by the policy. Over the coming year the board will consider how we can make best use of our surplus reserves to further the charity's strategic priorities.

Jim Cooke

Treasurer

Public Benefit

All activities undertaken by Youth Focus North West subscribe to our charitable aims and are carried out for the public benefit, particularly youth organisations, youth services and young people in the North West of England. The charitable aims have been developed and decisions relating to activities undertaken by Youth Focus North West have been informed with due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission.

Social Value

We have a history of working collaboratively with our partners to maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits in accordance with The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012. In practice we demonstrate our commitment to this by:

A Greener region:

- Encouraging the use of active and low emission travel to all of our projects for staff and young people, encouraging shared transport, public transport or active travel
- Reducing unnecessary travel and making use of digital technologies where appropriate
- Where possible making commitments to carbon offsetting schemes, such as peat bog restoration and tree planting schemes
- Reduction of single use plastic at our events
- Encouraging participants to bring reusable drink containers
- Using recyclable paper, plates and cutlery at events
- Promoting the use of Green Spaces in our projects to encourage the connection and protection of green space

A Fairer region:

- Encouraging our staff and young people to be active within their local community, taking part in volunteering and social action activities to benefit the community
- Our projects and activities with young people encourage them to develop a wider range of life ready skills, we are committed to providing young people with opportunities to help their progression, we enable young people to develop team work, communication, public speaking, confidence, co-operative working, critical thinking and problem solving.
- We offer young people the opportunity to access spaces and places that they wouldn't ordinarily be able to, giving them real work world opportunities like attending board meetings, giving presentations, representing others with decision makers.
- We provide young people with access to a range of professionals in order to inspire them and offer new thoughts about what is possible as a career option.
- We enable young people to have exposure to new experiences that enhance their work ready potential, by attending large scale events, sharing platforms with adult leaders, speaking to professionals from a wide range of public, third and private sectors.
- We support individual young people with mentoring, references, help with CV building and work experience placements.
- Developing strong partnerships across the VCFSE sector
- Commitment to host apprenticeship opportunities, we currently have a Content Creator apprentice and a commitment to further apprenticeship opportunities
- Support and signpost young people and staff to skills and training opportunities

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2024

A More Prosperous region:

- YFNW is committed to the 7 principles in the GM Good Employment Charter
- YFNW provides secure work with no zero hours contracts, all roles are on NJC and JNC terms and conditions
- YFNW is a real living wage employer
- YFNW operates flexible working practices
- All staff are encouraged to actively voice their views and opinions and YFNW recognises the importance of Unions
- YFNW recognises the importance of fair and transparent recruitment practices and use a variety of methods to ensure an inclusive recruitment process
- YFNW values the difference and diversity of our staff team and ensures that any reasonable adjustments are put in place to enable the staff team to reach their full potential
- YFNW strongly recognises the importance of health and wellbeing, with a range of support available including Employment Assistance Schemes, flexible working, bonus and additional holiday benefits.
- All YFNW staff are provided with regular support and supervision sessions to monitor and address any health and wellbeing issues
- Where possible we use local suppliers, contractors and sustainable services and goods for our projects and activities
- We look for opportunities to invest in young people and those at the start of their careers
- Our banking operates through an ethical bank (Co-operative)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

We achieved our mission by delivering a range of activities in 23/24 under the following headings:

We deliver

400 young people engaged in 246 sessions/activities

We develop

209 professionals from a variety of settings participated in 17 Lundy training sessions

We bring together

Over 200 workers engaged with our networks and events.

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Trustees' annual report
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Examples of activities during 23/24 include:

Provide platforms for young people to amplify their voice. We will do this by creating space for young people to come together to tackle the issues that they feel are important.		
How	Outputs	Outcomes
Youthforia – North West Regional Youth Forum	6 x Regional Meetings 1 x Residential	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency. • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities
Members of Youth Parliament (UKYP)	Quarterly	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities

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Trustees' annual report
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Cared 4 network	2-4 x a year	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities
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Increase opportunities for young people to influence. We will do this by connecting decision making bodies, decision makers and young people together.

How	Outputs	Outcomes
Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority	10 x meetings per year 2 x development days per year	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency. • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities
Bee Heard - Mental Health Youth Forum	12 x meetings per year	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities

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Bee Counted - Young Health Inspectors	5-10 YP Recruited and trained to be Inspectors 10 Youth Led Health Inspections completed and recommendation reports produced	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities ·
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We are committed to developing Youth Work practice in the North West. We want to see a vibrant Youth Work sector that is equipped, qualified and able to meet the needs of young people.

Increase the number of qualified youth workers by providing routes to formal qualifications (Level 2 and Level 3) and working with partners to strengthen links with the academic institutions.	
How	Outcomes
National Youth Agency Bursary Scheme	• Youth work practitioners are better prepared for work with young people • Youth work practitioners are more confident to respond to issues relating to young people • Youth work practitioners enjoy their engagement with our programmes and increase their relationship skills and intellectual capabilities · • Number of candidates completed in 23/24 -

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Trustees' annual report
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External Continuous Professional Development and the roll out of Lundy Training		
How	Output	Outcomes
Lundy training module	209 professionals from Youth, Education, Health, Public & Voluntary Sector attended 17 training courses	• 99% said they would recommend the course • 95% said the training was useful • 99% said the training would positively impact their work.

Through our infrastructure support we enable organisations across our sector to come together to collaborate, share, learn from best practice and have their views heard. We support them to be well informed on the policy, practice and strategy developments that affect young people and coordinate communities of practice.

Network	Outputs	Outcomes
Voice & Influence network	Quarterly	• Youth work practitioners feel a heightened sense of belonging and agency towards each other and the youth sector • Youth work practitioners develop positive relationships with colleagues outside of their locality • Partnership projects are developed and delivered

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Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2024

Strategic Leads for Youth Work	Quarterly	- Youth work leads feel a heightened sense of belonging and agency towards each other and the youth sector - Youth work leads develop positive relationships with colleagues outside of their locality - Partnership projects are developed and delivered such as the Peer to Peer review process.
Cared 4 Network	Quarterly	- Youth work practitioners feel a heightened sense of belonging and agency towards each other and the youth sector - Youth work practitioners develop positive relationships with colleagues outside of their locality - Partnership projects are developed and delivered
GMYCA Workers	3 x year	- Youth work practitioners in Gr Manchester feel a heightened sense of belonging and agency towards each other and the youth sector - Youth work practitioners develop positive relationships with colleagues outside of their locality - Partnership projects are developed and delivered

Youth Focus NW regularly reviews our communities of practice and will be exploring the addition of new ones for 24/25 – Detached Work and Contextual Safeguarding.

Strategy

During 2023/24 Youth Focus North West has provided a range of support to both young people and the youth sector in the North West and beyond. Through our infrastructure support we enable organisations across our sector to come together to collaborate, share and learn from best practice and have their views heard.

We support professionals to be well informed on the policy, practice and strategy developments that affect young people. We hold and deliver the function of the Regional Youth Work Unit.

We are over 3 years into a 5-year Strategic Plan (2021-2026) and will start to discuss areas of focus for the strategy that will follow. Areas to develop include:

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Trustees' annual report
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- Training – build on the success of Lundy
- For Planet app – an environmental app for young people that combats anxiety around climate change and the environment
- Develop Peer to Peer review process, a constructive peer led voluntary review of Youth Service areas
- Needs assessment and a state of the sector report

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing documents

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association in January 2008, which sets out the objects and powers of the charitable company; it is governed under its Articles of Association. The company registered as a charity in August 2008. Members of the charitable company (who are our Trustees) guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of winding up.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees of the charity are drawn from youth and community, voluntary, public and private sectors. Each trustee is officially appointed at the Annual General Meeting and serves for a maximum of 5 years. This can be extended if they are appointed to the role of Chair, Vice Chair or Treasurer.

New trustees are mentored and a re-developed handbook will be available in 24/25

Organisational structure

Youth Focus North West is governed by the Board of Trustees. The interface between strategic and operational management is through regular board meetings, attended by the Chief Executive and Business Manager, and separate meetings between the Chair, Chief Executive, Treasurer and Business Manager.

The staff team consists of:

- CEO
- Deputy CEO
- Business Manager
- Learning, development and equality manager
- 2 x Regional Youth Work leads
- 2 x Project Workers
- Communications lead
- Lundy trainer

Youth Focus North West Limited

Trustees' annual report

for the year ended 31st March 2024

The operational management is overseen by the senior management team and YFNW employs associates and consultants when the need arises.

We also have a number of volunteers on the Youthforia Steering group (max 12) who co-produce Yofo events and activities. Steering group members meet regularly to support the organisation of Yofo events which include an annual residential. The members of the Steering group change each year and are voted into the role by their peers. This transparent process allows as many young people as possible to have the opportunity.

The role of a Steering Group member is highly valued by Youth Focus NW and intrinsic to the running of Youthforia, a forum for young people, led by young people. Events include skills-based activities such as campaigning and also issues such as young people in the media.

Remuneration process for key management personnel

Youth Focus NW is a living wage employer, we do not condone 0-hour contracts.

Senior management staff are employed on Soulbury, JNC and NJC terms and conditions and we conduct regular salary benchmarking exercises with an external organisation the compares like for like roles at a local, regional and national level.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2024

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Frs102 Small Company Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual 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
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper 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.

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 12/ 10/ 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Sue Lomas

Chair

Independent examiner's report
to the members of
Youth Focus North West Limited

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 17 to 30.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the 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 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.

Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA
Beehive Mill, Jersey Street
Manchester, M4 6JG
Date: 31/10/2024

Youth Focus North West Limited
Statement of Financial Activities
(including Income and Expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Charitable activities:	3	626,495	8,094	634,589	460,517
Investments	4	1,051	-	1,051	-
Total income		627,546	8,094	635,640	460,517
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:	5	527,698	8,094	535,792	497,934
Total expenditure		527,698	8,094	535,792	497,934
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	7	99,848	-	99,848	(37,417)
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the year		99,848	-	99,848	(37,417)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		418,092	-	418,092	455,509
Total funds carried forward		517,940	-	517,940	418,092

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

Youth Focus North West Limited
Company number 06486517
Balance sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	-	-
Total fixed assets		-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	12	245,988	82,009
Cash at bank and in hand		504,029	493,435
Total current assets		750,017	575,444
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	14	(232,077)	(157,352)
Net assets		517,940	418,092
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	16	-	-
Unrestricted income funds	17	517,940	418,092
Total charity funds		517,940	418,092

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an 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

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes on pages 20 to 30 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on 12/ 10/ 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Chair

Treasurer

Youth Focus North West Limited
Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ending 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	19	9,543	(76,596)
<i>Cash flows from investing activities:</i>			
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments		1,051	-
Cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		1,051	-
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		10,594	(76,596)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		493,435	570,031
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		504,029	493,435

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a 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), second edition - October 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Youth Focus North West Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees have made no key judgments which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

c Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria or income recognition are met.

d Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

e Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

f Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

g Operating leases

Operating leases are leases in which the title to the assets, and the risks and rewards of ownership, remain with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straightline basis over the term of the lease.

h Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straightline basis as follows:

Computer equipment	5 years
Office fixtures and equipment	4 years

i 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.

j 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.

k 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 amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

I Pensions

Employees of the charity are entitled to join a defined contribution 'money purchase' scheme. The charity's contribution is restricted to the contributions disclosed in note 8. There were no outstanding contributions at the year end. The costs of the defined contribution scheme are included within expenditure on charitable activities.

The money purchase plan is managed by Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited Plc and the plan invests the contributions made by the employee and employer in an investment fund to build up over the term of the plan a pension fund which is then converted into a pension upon the employee's normal retirement year age when eligible for a state pension. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

Contributions outstanding at the year-end was £3,205 (2023 : £2,318).

2 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The registered office address is disclosed on page 1.

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £
Conferences and training	75,950	-	75,950
Membership subscriptions	59,841	-	59,841
Contract income	328,812	8,094	336,906
Fees & other income	161,892	-	161,892
Total 2024	626,495	8,094	634,589
<i>Previous reporting period</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total 2023</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
<i>Conferences and training</i>	<i>17,313</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17,313</i>
<i>Membership subscriptions</i>	<i>37,950</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>37,950</i>
<i>Contract income</i>	<i>312,120</i>	<i>28,520</i>	<i>340,640</i>
<i>Fees</i>	<i>64,614</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>64,614</i>
Total 2023	431,997	28,520	460,517

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

4 Investment income

	2024 £	2023 £
Income from bank deposits	1,051	-
	<u>1,051</u>	<u>-</u>

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts. All investment income is unrestricted.

5 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £
Staff costs	314,474	-	314,474
Premises costs	18,783	-	18,783
Administrative costs	35,402	-	35,402
Project costs	156,723	8,094	164,817
Governance costs (see note 6)	2,316	-	2,316
Total 2024	<u>527,698</u>	<u>8,094</u>	<u>535,792</u>

Previous reporting period

	<i>Unrestricted £</i>	<i>Restricted £</i>	<i>Total 2023 £</i>
<i>Staff costs</i>	<i>294,195</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>294,195</i>
<i>Premises costs</i>	<i>18,915</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>18,915</i>
<i>Administrative costs</i>	<i>23,771</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>23,771</i>
<i>Project costs</i>	<i>130,325</i>	<i>28,520</i>	<i>158,845</i>
<i>Depreciation</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Governance costs</i>	<i>2,208</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2,208</i>
Total 2023	<u><i>469,414</i></u>	<u><i>28,520</i></u>	<u><i>497,934</i></u>

6 Analysis of governance costs

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Accountancy services	1,714	1,632
Independent examination	602	576
	<u>2,316</u>	<u>2,208</u>

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

7 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2024	2023
	£	£
Operating lease rentals:		
Equipment	-	-
Independent examiner's fee - accountancy	1,428	1,360
Independent examiner's fee - payroll	483	504
Independent examination	504	480

8 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	250,367	237,722
Social security costs	19,461	18,545
Pension costs	25,242	15,197
Other costs	19,404	22,730
	314,474	294,194

No employees has employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2023: nil).

The average number of staff employed during the period was 7 (2023: 8).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the board trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £nil (2023: £nil).

9 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration or reimbursed expenses during the year (2023: Nil).

No trustees received travel and subsistence expenses during the year (2023:£nil).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2023: nil).

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

10 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

11 Fixed assets: tangible assets

	Computer equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2023	13,454
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2024	13,454
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2023	13,454
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2024	13,454
Net book value	
At 31 March 2024	-
<i>At 31 March 2023</i>	-

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

12 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	183,058	59,514
Prepayments and accrued income	62,930	22,495
	245,988	82,009

13 Cash at bank and in hand

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank and on hand	504,029	493,435

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	3,205	2,770
Other creditors and accruals	5,916	2,208
Deferred income	216,728	146,864
Taxation and social security costs	6,228	5,510
	232,077	157,352

15 Deferred income

	2024 £	2023 £
Annual membership and contract income		
Deferred grant brought forward	146,864	197,715
Income received	474,065	536,009
Released to income from charitable activities	(404,201)	(586,860)
Deferred income carried forward	216,728	146,864

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

16 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Arts Council England	-	8,094	(8,094)	-	-
Total 2024	-	8,094	(8,094)	-	-
Previous reporting period	<i>Balance at 1 April 2022 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>As at 31 March 2023 £</i>
Arts Council England	-	28,520	(28,520)	-	-
Total 2023	-	28,520	(28,520)	-	-

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

17 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2024 £
General fund	418,092	627,546	(527,698)	-	517,940
	418,092	627,546	(527,698)	-	517,940

Previous reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2023 £
General fund	455,509	431,997	(469,414)	-	418,092
	455,509	431,997	(469,414)	-	418,092

Name of	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
General fund	The free reserves after allowing for all designated funds

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General fund £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	517,940	-	517,940
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-
Total 2024	517,940	-	517,940
Previous reporting period			
	General fund £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	418,092	-	418,092
Total 2023	418,092	-	418,092

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	99,848	(37,417)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	-	-
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(1,051)	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(163,979)	13,763
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	74,725	(52,942)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating	9,543	(76,596)

YOUTH FOCUS NORTH WEST LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1125563

Accounts

Company Number:6486517

Charity Number: 1125563

Youth Focus North West Limited

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31st March 2023

Youth Focus North West Limited
Reference and administrative information
for the year ended 31st March 2023

Company number **6486517**

Charity number **1125563**

Registered office and operational address

Unit 6b Micklehead Business Village

St Michaels Road

Sutton

St Helens

WA9 4YU

Trustees Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Sue Lomas	Chair
Sally Carr	Vice Chair from October 22
Iqra Ali	Vice Chair to October 22
James Cooke	Treasurer from October 22
Nicky Parker	Treasurer to October 22
Sharon Watts	Secretary
Rajesh Patel	Trustee
Colin Scicluna	Trustee
Andy Mycock	Trustee
Will Adams	Trustee

Key management	Stuart Dunne	Chief Executive
personnel	Sarah Lanchin	Deputy Chief Executive

Bankers Cooperative Bank
Skelmersdale

Independent Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA Slade & Cooper Limited
examiner Beehive Mill, Jersey Street, Manchester, M4 6JG

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2023

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 2023. Included within the trustees' report is the directors' report as required by company law.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Objectives and activities

The Mission of Youth Focus NW is to improve the lives of young people throughout the North West of England.

Youth Focus North West (YFNW) is uniquely placed to work alongside young people and organisations to have a voice where it counts. Working across North West England and beyond we provide space and opportunity to connect and work together. Young people and the people who work with young people can benefit from our youth voice programmes, training initiatives and networks through our commitment to increase relationship, skills and a sense of belonging and agency. YFNW empowers young people so that they feel confident and motivated to make changes to the world around them. Our five-year strategy is a blueprint for young people to be recognised as active citizens and to become the people they want to be.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Achievements and performance

The charity's main activities and who it tries to help are described below. All its charitable activities focus on Improving the lives of young people and are undertaken to further Youth Focus North West's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

We deliver:

We are passionate about young people having their voices heard where it counts. It's our privilege to support young people to take on leadership roles, to represent their views and become activists and decision makers in their local communities and beyond. We work with a range of partners and funders to deliver Youth Voice projects across the North West.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2023

Our activities engaged 292 young people during 22/23 and over 200 workers

Examples during 22/23 include:

Provide platforms for young people to amplify their voice. We will do this by creating space for young people to come together to tackle the issues that they feel are important.

How	Outputs	Outcomes
Youthforia – North West Regional Youth Forum	6 x Regional Meetings 1 x Residential	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities
Members of Youth Parliament (UKYP)	Monthly	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities
Cared 4 network	2-4 x a year	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities

Increase opportunities for young people to influence. We will do this by connecting decision making bodies, decision makers and young people together.

How	Outputs	Outcomes
Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority	10 x meetings per year 2 x development days per year	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2023

		sense of belonging and agency • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities
Bee Heard - Mental Health Youth Forum	12 x meetings per year	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities
Bee Counted - Young Health Inspectors	5-10 YP Recruited and trained to be Inspectors 10 x Youth Led Health Inspections completed and recommendation reports produced	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities •
ACE- Youth Advisory Board	18 x YP recruited and trained as board members, 12 x full board meetings, 12 sub-region meetings (1yr pilot)	• Young people take on responsibility and show leadership. • Young people develop a heightened sense of belonging and agency • Young people increase empathy, compassion and stretch their identities. • Young people enjoy their engagement with our programmes and develop their personal and social skills/capabilities

We develop:

We are committed to developing Youth Work practice in the North West. We want to see a vibrant Youth Work sector that is equipped, qualified and able to meet the needs of young people. 93% of participants on our Youth Work training programmes said they now felt equipped to build professional relationships with young people.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2023

Increase the number of qualified youth workers by providing routes to formal qualifications (Level 2 and Level 3) and working with partners to strengthen links with the academic institutions.

How	Outcomes
National Youth Agency Bursary Scheme	• Youth work practitioners are better prepared for work with young people • Youth work practitioners are more confident to respond to issues relating to young people • Youth work practitioners enjoy their engagement with our programmes and increase their relationship skills and intellectual capabilities • Number of candidates completed in 22/23 -

Develop impact and evaluation by reviewing and investing in our, and others (NW) understanding of impact and evaluation, and linking this to the delivery of high quality services for young people.

How	Output	Outcomes
Peer to Peer Youth Enterprise Learning Network on behalf of CfYI	4 x national meetings	• Youth work practitioners enjoy their engagement with our programmes and increase their relationship skills and intellectual capabilities
Develop Lundy Training Module	x 1 pilot x 2 Training Beginners / Advanced	• Youth work practitioners are better prepared for work with young people • Youth work practitioners are more confident to respond to issues relating to young people • Youth work practitioners enjoy their engagement with our programmes and increase their relationship skills and intellectual capabilities

We bring together:

We believe that bringing people together and sharing ideas will make the youth work sector stronger and more sustainable. We coordinate a number of thematic networks to build infrastructure, support and improve young people's lives. Over 200 workers have engaged with our networks in 22/23

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2023

Network	Outputs	Outcomes
Participation/Youth Voice Workers	Quarterly	- Youth work practitioners feel a heightened sense of belonging and agency towards each other and the youth sector - Youth work practitioners develop positive relationships with colleagues outside of their locality - Partnership projects are developed and delivered
Strategic Leads for Youth Work	Quarterly	- Youth work practitioners feel a heightened sense of belonging and agency towards each other and the youth sector - Youth work practitioners develop positive relationships with colleagues outside of their locality - Partnership projects are developed and delivered
Regional Impact	Quarterly	
Cared 4 Network	Quarterly meetings of workers & young people	- Youth work practitioners feel a heightened sense of belonging and agency towards each other and the youth sector - Youth work practitioners develop positive relationships with colleagues outside of their locality - Partnership projects are developed and delivered
GMCA Workers	3 x year	- Youth work practitioners feel a heightened sense of belonging and agency towards each other and the youth sector - Youth work practitioners develop positive relationships with colleagues outside of their locality - Partnership projects are developed and delivered

Chair's review:

As we have emerged from the constraints of the pandemic, the work of Youth Focus North West (YFNW) has become even more in demand. We continue to support young people to express their opinions and aspirations about the world they live in through the forums of Youthforia and the Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority. We want them to feel empowered to shape their environment, their workplace and their leisure opportunities.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2023

The work of YFNW is still growing and has the buy-in of all 23 local authorities across the North West. We continue to create networks, broker partnerships and open up opportunities for young people and organisations to work together. A strong area of growth this year have been our partnerships with the health sector. A legacy of the Covid pandemic has been the rise in demand for support for young people with mental health issues. Our work with several agencies has ensured that young people can contribute to discussions about how they can best be served across a range of health provision. We are particularly grateful to our strategic partners, United Utilities, who have supported all our work this year.

Outstanding youth work requires a skilled and well-trained workforce. We continue to provide opportunities for youth workers to develop their knowledge and understanding of youth work and to attain formal qualifications in the sector. We have been leading providers of training in the Lundy Model of Youth Participation and this important sector of our work continues to grow.

As trustees we have continued to work on our policies and processes that enable our team to do a brilliant job of embedding our Five - Year Strategy. We are even more determined to promote our vision of 'a world where young people feel valued and embraced for who they are and who they want to be'. We want to ensure that we are identifying and breaking down any structural and systemic barriers within our own work and practice to ensure effective inclusion and representation. A small working group has been formed to identify how we could do better and how we could ensure we provide the kind of place of work where everyone is welcome. To this end, we are carrying out a review of our data collection and usage, and our recruitment practices. This is a priority and is ongoing work.

My thanks go to my colleague Trustees who give their time and support freely and with enthusiasm and I welcome Jim Cooke into the position of Treasurer. I am also grateful to the small but perfectly formed team of staff we have, ably led by Stuart Dunne who has spearheaded the work of YFNW with enthusiasm and dedication. We have made good progress that we should be proud of, but we still have lots we can do, areas we can reach and innovative partnerships we can generate. I am grateful to my Vice Chair, Iqra Ali, for all the support she provided and welcome Sally Carr into the role as we work together to lead the trustees of YFNW.

Sue Lomas OBE DL FRGS

Treasurer's review:

The charity continues to be in a strong financial position. In 2022/23, total income increased slightly to £460,517 (2021/22: £444,940). This income was secured from a diverse range of sources, reducing our risk of over-reliance on any single funding stream. We were pleased to continue to receive support from all 23

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2023

local authorities in the North West, and through our partnership work we have also been able to access funds from national sources.

Expenditure increased significantly, to £497,934 (2021/22: £376,979). The main driver of this was increased staffing costs, following the creation of new permanent staff posts during 2021/22 and increased use of associates to cover some vacancies. Trustees closely monitored the impact of inflation and cost-of-living pressures which were felt during the year and staff pay increases were awarded in line with JNC and NJC scales.

This resulted in an overall deficit for the year of £37,417 (2021/22: £67,987). Although we had originally projected to achieve a balanced budget for the year, the final deficit was primarily due to the timing of when some income and expenditure were recognised, and did not result from any significant underlying issues.

Having made surpluses for the previous several years, the charity has a strong balance sheet, ending the year with net assets of £418,092 (2021/22: 455,509).

Reserves policy:

In 22/23 our policy was to hold reserves of £150K. We currently hold reserves that are substantially higher than this level. We have planned to review our reserves policy in 2023/24 and to invest some of our surplus reserves in activities that will support the delivery of our strategic priorities, in particular the evaluation of our impact.

Jim Cooke - Treasurer

Plans for the future:

- Diversity the Board
- Commission 2 impact studies – GMYCA & Youthforia
- Develop website
- Grow the Training & Development arm of the organisation
- Grow the work in sub regions of Merseyside and Cheshire
- Explore long term funding options
- Amend reserves policy
- Prepare for larger charity reporting systems.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2023

Structure, governance and management:

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on Jan 2008 and registered as a charity in August 2008.

The company was established under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its articles of association.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at year end was 7. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note to the accounts.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations:

N/A

Risk management:

Risk monitoring and mitigation is a running agenda item at Board meetings and feeds through the organisation from Chair to CEO and staff team.

We use a risk register with a rag rating to flag up any immediate concerns and act accordingly.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others:

N/A

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2023

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Frs102 Small Company Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual 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
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper 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.

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 14 / 10 /2023 and signed on their behalf by

Sue Lomas

Chair

Independent examiner's report
to the members of
Youth Focus North West Limited

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 12 to 25.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the 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 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.

Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA
Beehive Mill, Jersey Street
Manchester, M4 6JG
Date: 22 November 2023

Youth Focus North West Limited
Statement of Financial Activities
(including Income and Expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:					
Charitable activities:	3	431,997	28,520	460,517	444,940
Investments	4	-	-	-	26
Total income		431,997	28,520	460,517	444,966
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:	5	469,414	28,520	497,934	376,979
Total expenditure		469,414	28,520	497,934	376,979
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	7	(37,417)	-	(37,417)	67,987
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the year		(37,417)	-	(37,417)	67,987
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		455,509	-	455,509	387,522
Total funds carried forward		418,092	-	418,092	455,509

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

Youth Focus North West Limited
Company number 06486517
Balance sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023	2022
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	-	-
Total fixed assets		-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	12	82,009	95,772
Cash at bank and in hand		493,435	570,031
Total current assets		575,444	665,803
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	14	(157,352)	(210,294)
Net assets		418,092	455,509
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	16	-	-
Unrestricted income funds	17	418,092	455,509
Total charity funds		418,092	455,509

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an 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

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes on pages 15 to 25 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on 14/10/2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Chair

Treasurer

Youth Focus North West Limited
Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ending 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities	19	(76,596)	143,979
<i>Cash flows from investing activities:</i>			
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments		-	26
Cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities		-	26
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(76,596)	144,005
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		570,031	286,141
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		493,435	430,146

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a 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), second edition - October 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Youth Focus North West Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees have made no key judgments which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

c Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

d Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

e Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

f Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

g Operating leases

Operating leases are leases in which the title to the assets, and the risks and rewards of ownership, remain with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

h Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Computer equipment	5 years
Office fixtures and equipment	4 years

i 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.

j 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.

k 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 amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

I Pensions

Employees of the charity are entitled to join a defined contribution 'money purchase' scheme. The charity's contribution is restricted to the contributions disclosed in note 8. There were no outstanding contributions at the year end. The costs of the defined contribution scheme are included within expenditure on charitable activities.

The money purchase plan is managed by Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited Plc and the plan invests the contributions made by the employee and employer in an investment fund to build up over the term of the plan a pension fund which is then converted into a pension upon the employee's normal retirement year age when eligible for a state pension. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

Contributions outstanding at the year-end was £2,318 (2022 : £2,956).

2 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The registered office address is disclosed on page 1.

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £
Conferences and training	17,313	-	17,313
Membership subscriptions	37,950	-	37,950
Contract income	312,120	28,520	340,640
Fees & other income	64,614	-	64,614
Total 2023	431,997	28,520	460,517

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £
<i>Conferences and training</i>	<i>7,950</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7,950</i>
<i>Membership subscriptions</i>	<i>44,596</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>44,596</i>
<i>Contract income</i>	<i>389,194</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>389,194</i>
<i>Fees</i>	<i>3,200</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3,200</i>
Total 2022	444,940	-	444,940

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

4 Investment income

	2023 £	2022 £
Income from bank deposits	-	26
	<u>-</u>	<u>26</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>26</u>

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts. All investment income is unrestricted.

5 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	294,195	-	294,195
Premises costs	18,915	-	18,915
Administrative costs	23,771	-	23,771
Project costs	130,325	28,520	158,845
Governance costs (see note 6)	2,208	-	2,208
	<u>469,414</u>	<u>28,520</u>	<u>497,934</u>
Total 2023	<u>469,414</u>	<u>28,520</u>	<u>497,934</u>

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £
Staff costs	254,668	-	254,668
Premises costs	17,134	-	17,134
Administrative costs	28,391	-	28,391
Project costs	74,686	-	74,686
Depreciation	-	-	-
Governance costs	2,100	-	2,100
	<u>376,979</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>376,979</u>
Total 2022	<u>376,979</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>376,979</u>

6 Analysis of governance costs

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Accountancy services	1,632	1,560
Independent examination	576	540
	<u>2,208</u>	<u>2,100</u>
	<u>2,208</u>	<u>2,100</u>

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

7 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2023 £	2022 £
Operating lease rentals:		
Equipment	-	-
Independent examiner's fee - accountancy	1,360	1,250
Independent examiner's fee - payroll	504	346
Independent examination	480	400

8 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	237,722	200,498
Social security costs	18,545	14,788
Pension costs	15,197	16,499
Other costs	22,730	22,883
	294,194	254,668

No employees has employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2022: nil).

The average number of staff employed during the period was 8 (2022: 6).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the board trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £nil (2022: £nil).

9 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration or reimbursed expenses during the year (2022: Nil).

No trustees received travel and subsistence expenses during the year (2022:£nil).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2022: nil).

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

10 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

11 Fixed assets: tangible assets

Cost	Computer equipment £
At 1 April 2022	13,454
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2023	13,454
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2022	13,454
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2023	13,454
Net book value	
At 31 March 2023	-
<i>At 31 March 2022</i>	-

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

12 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	59,514	86,459
Prepayments and accrued income	22,495	9,313
	82,009	95,772

13 Cash at bank and in hand

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank and on hand	493,435	570,031

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	2,770	3,899
Other creditors and accruals	2,208	2,100
Deferred income	146,864	197,715
Taxation and social security costs	5,510	6,580
	157,352	210,294

15 Deferred income

	2023 £	2022 £
Annual membership and contract income		
Deferred grant brought forward	197,715	209,545
Income received	536,009	421,960
Released to income from charitable activities	(586,860)	(433,790)
Deferred income carried forward	146,864	197,715

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

16 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Arts Council England	-	28,520	(28,520)	-	-
Total 2023	-	28,520	(28,520)	-	-
Previous reporting period	<i>Balance at 1 April 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>As at 31 March 2022 £</i>
<i>Awards for All</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Total 2022	-	-	-	-	-

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

17 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2023 £
General fund	455,509	431,997	(469,414)	-	418,092
	455,509	431,997	(469,414)	-	418,092
Previous reporting period	<i>Balance at 1 April 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>As at 31 March 2022 £</i>
General fund	387,522	444,966	(376,979)	-	455,509
	387,522	444,966	(376,979)	-	455,509

Name of	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
General fund	The free reserves after allowing for all designated funds

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General fund £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	418,092	-	418,092
Total 2023	418,092	-	418,092

Previous reporting period

	General fund £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	455,509	-	455,509
Total 2022	455,509	-	455,509

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	(37,417)	67,987
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	-	-
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	-	(26)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	13,763	89,239
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(52,942)	(13,221)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating	(76,596)	143,979

YOUTH FOCUS NORTH WEST LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1125563

Accounts

Company no: 6486517

Charity no: 1125563

Youth Focus North West Limited

**Report and financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2022**

Youth Focus North West Limited
Reference and administrative information
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Company number 6486517

Charity number 112556

Registered office and operational address:

Unit 6b Micklehead Business Village
St Michaels Road
Sutton, St Helens
WA9 4YU

Trustees Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Bernard Booth chair until Oct 21
Sue Lomas chair from Oct 21
Iqra Ali – Vice Chair
Tracey Walsh – Trustee until Oct 21
Nicky Parker – Treasurer from Oct 21
Colin Scicluna – Trustee
Will Adams – Trustee
James Cooke – Trustee from January 21
Sally Carr – Trustee from January 21
Andy Mycock – Trustee from January 21
Rajesh Patel – Trustee from January 21

Key management	Stuart Dunne	Chief Executive
personnel	Sarah Lanchin	Deputy Chief Executive

Bankers Cooperative Bank

Independent Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA Slade & Cooper Limited
examiner Beehive Mill, Jersey Street, Manchester, M4 6JG

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2022

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022. Included within the trustees' report is the directors' report as required by company law.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Youth Focus North West (YFNW) is uniquely placed to work alongside young people and organisations to have a voice where it counts. Working across North West England and beyond we provide space and opportunity to connect and work together. Young people and the people who work with young people can benefit from our youth voice programmes, training initiatives and networks through our commitment to increase relationship skills and a sense of belonging and agency. YFNW empowers young people so that they feel confident and motivated to make changes to the world around them. Our five-year strategy is a blueprint for young people to be recognised as active citizens and to become the people they want to be. More information on this and more can be found on www.youthfocusnw.org.uk

Objectives and activities

The Company's objects are the advancement of the education of young people and those who work with young people in the North West of England so that said young people may develop their personal, social, physical and spiritual capacities, achieve their potential and find their place as active members of their communities and society as a whole.

Youth Focus North West (YFNW) is an organisation with strong youth work roots. We work in partnership with young people and organisations to have a voice where it counts. Our youth voice work gives young people the opportunities to make a difference individually, locally, regionally and nationally. We nurture youth work practice and we create networks, broker partnerships and open up opportunities for young people and organisations to work together

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Our Vision:

To improve the lives of young people in the North West of England

Our Mission:

To help young people realise their potential and become active citizens.

Our Aims:

To support the effectiveness, efficiency, quality and relevance of youth work across the region.

To support services working with young people to maximise young peoples' opportunities for personal and social development and help them make a successful transition to adult life and citizenship.

Achievements and performance

The continuing challenges of Covid 19 impacted on the youth sector throughout 21/22 and the majority of our delivery was online. Always adhering to the current guidance we adopted a blended approach where possible.

During 21/22 we added to our staff team with the appointment of a Campaigns and Communications Manager. As a result, our reach and impact has increased across a variety of platforms.

At March 22 our staff team was as follows:

- CEO
- Deputy CEO
- Business Manager
- Campaigns & Communications Manager
- Youth Voice Lead
- Youth Voice Project Worker
- Administrative Assistant

We also have a pool of associates and bank workers who we can call upon as and when required as well as a number of young volunteers.

Youth Focus North West Limited
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The charity's main activities and who it tries to help are described below. All its charitable activities focus on education and engagement and are undertaken to further Youth Focus North West Limited's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

We improve young people's lives through Youth Work. The work of YFNW falls naturally into three strands:

1. We work with young people to have a voice and we work with organisations and services who want to give young people a voice. – DELIVER

- We continue to coordinate the Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority on behalf of the GMCA, with an increase of 26 organisations represented by 52 young people attending 10 meetings a year plus additional events and opportunities.
- We coordinate the Youth Advisory Board (YAB) on behalf of Arts Council England. This is a joint initiative between us and the Units in Yorkshire & Humber and the North East.
- We continue to coordinate UKYP on behalf of the British Youth Council, including Youthforia (our unique regional youth forum) which is over 10 years old.
- We continue to advocate and deliver projects that involve young people having a say in how health services are run – physical and mental health.
- We have been part of European projects exploring the subject of Youth Participation – models and methods.

2. We help develop Youth Work practice. – DEVELOP

- With funding available from DCMS we continue to provide bursaries for Youth Work training at Level 2 and Level 3, including courses targeted at black and brown youth workers, youth workers who are hearing impaired as well as workers across LAs in the region.

3. We bring people together to create networks and partnerships. – BRING TOGETHER

We continue to coordinate several networks for professionals including:

- Strategic Leads
- Cared4NW
- Participation Workers
- Workforce Development

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
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Plans for the future

- Develop and enhance website
- Develop framework to measure impact of our work, including number of beneficiaries, journey travelled etc
- Diversify our funding streams
- Recruit to new youth voice posts and increase delivery capacity

Chair's Report - Sue Lomas OBE DL FRGS

The period covered by this annual report has been unprecedented for Youth Focus North West (YFNW) and for all those who work with young people, but most importantly for the children and young people we exist to serve. As one Youth Worker put it recently 'It's been tough on all of us, but it's been especially tough on young people, who've had their worlds turned upside down'.

Young people returning to school and to work has restored some normality, but equally important is what they are able to do outside school hours and how they are able to make their voices heard. This is where the work of YFNW has such a vital part to play and as the year progressed, there appeared to be a newfound interest in supporting young people.

The work of YFNW is still growing and has the buy-in of all 23 local authorities across the North West. We create networks, broker partnerships and open up opportunities for young people and organisations to work together. For example, developing our Youth Voice Work with The Arts Council; supporting the United Kingdom Youth Parliament with the British Youth Council and facilitating the Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority with the GMCA.

We launched our new Five - Year Strategy in 2022. Based on wide consultation with young people and the sector it encapsulates our mission, our purpose and our values and sets out how we will go about delivering our vision of 'a world where young people feel valued and embraced for who they are and who they want to be'.

Our four new trustees have brought their wide-ranging knowledge and expertise to contribute to the organisation and its work. We have formed three new sub-committees to share the governance workload:

- a Policy Committee;
- a Risk and Finance Committee and
- an Equality, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Committee.

These forums will give space for forensic discussion and debate which is not always available at formal board meetings. I am grateful to my Vice Chair, Iqra Ali, for all the support she provides.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Looking forward, measuring our impact and sharing the results is crucially important to us. We will continue to identify how we can improve so that our funders feel their money is well spent and our stakeholders can trust our work. We will also develop our work in training. Our CEO is one of the leaders in developing the Lundy Model of Training which is underpinned by the United Nations Conventions of The Rights of the Child and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. We will develop our training programmes to nurture improving youth work practice, across the North West and beyond.

During this period, we have said goodbye to two people who have played key roles in the life of Youth Focus North West to date. We are very grateful to Bernard Booth who served as our CEO until October 2021. Bernard has been a long-term supporter of YFNW and also served as our Treasurer.

Tracey Walsh has also been a longstanding trustee and has held the posts of Chair and Vice Chair. They both made a very significant contribution to YFNW, for which we are extremely grateful.

I would like to thank the YFNW Trustees for their support for the Company, for their generosity in offering their time and skills, and for their friendship and wise counsel to me as Chair. I would also like to thank our staff team for their hard work and special thanks go to our CEO, Stuart Dunne, who has played a vital part in maintaining the work of YFNW, and whose commitment and deep understanding of youth work are among our greatest assets.

Financial review - Treasurer - Nicky Parker

Youth Focus North West remains in a stable financial position at the end of this 2021/22 Financial Year despite sustained government austerity measures, the cost of living crisis and recovery from the Global Pandemic Covid19 virus. Staff within the Company continue to show great flexibility and resilience as they changed the way they worked to protect themselves and stakeholders. Meetings moved online again, then became hybrid and then slowly we started to meet in person again. The Board continued to meet virtually, and we are planning to meet again in person in 2022/23.

Despite the pandemic our work has continued to flourish. We are now combining a mixture of traditional and modern methods of communicating and working with young people utilising online applications such as Zoom to continue and develop service delivery.

Looking to the future there are signs that the government will improve funding to the youth sector with funded programmes such as the Youth Investment Fund and we are optimistic that our wider role in supporting others will further develop as additional funding is made available.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2022

The Company continues to work with old and new stakeholders, which has allowed us to maintain our position as leaders within the region and continue to ensure the voices of young people are both listened to and responded to. The partnerships with local authorities, National Youth Agency and Greater Manchester Combined Authority among others continue to provide opportunities that are exciting. There were larger contracts with GMYCA and the physical health contract as well as smaller contracts such as Bee Well and the Young Inspectors. They enable the Company to offer increased benefits for young people, staff, local authorities and the third sector.

The Company changed its way of securing funding from local authorities in 2020/21 and that has had a positive benefit on our financial position in 2021/22. Youth Focus North West continues to have support via the fees from all North West Region Local Authorities totalling £46k.

This £46k has contributed to increased income of £444,966 compared to £426,085 in the previous year representing an increase of £18,881. Expenditure is more than the previous year at (£376,976 compared to £274,720) meaning there is a net in year surplus of £67,987.

The increased expenditure reflects the move back to hybrid and in person meetings. This financial position of the Company shows we remain on a solid footing. The principles of strong and sound financial management have continued following the lead set by the previous Treasurer. This means that we have seen a small increase in reserves which stand at £455,509. The minimum amount set by the Board is 150k

The recruitment of additional operational staff in 2020/21 including a Deputy CEO has been beneficial to the team and we recruited further in 2021/22 with the recruitment of:

- Communications & Campaigns Manager – Sep 21
- Youth Voice Lead – Oct 21
- Youth Voice Project Worker – Jan 2022

Whilst remaining optimistic for the future, in the short-term 2022/2023 could well be a challenging year as the full financial ramifications of the War in Ukraine, rising energy costs and salary costs to meet the cost-of-living crisis affect the economy, local government and particularly funding streams in the third sector.

The Company continues as a going concern and will do so over the coming year. Our funds are not in any difficulty. There is a large amount of restricted funds held for committed work in 22/23. The Board remains of the view that the role for the Company is still evolving because of the continually changing economic and political climate. We will continue to review how we work with, and collaborate with others. We are in a strong position and board members, staff and young people remain optimistic that new work will develop from regional changes, and are confident that we will continue to recruit new income sources as well as meet contracts that we currently hold.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated in January 2008 and registered as a charity in August 2008

The company was established under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its articles of association.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2022 was 9. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note to the accounts.

Our current Board of Trustees consists of 9 members and we aim to recruit an additional Trustee during 22/23.

During the recruitment process, potential trustees are invited to send a letter of intent and CV to the Chair of the Board for consideration and voted by colleagues. New Trustees will then complete an induction process, safeguarding training, organisational and policy information.

During 21/22 the Board established 3 working groups to focus more intently on the following issues:

- Policy
- Risk & Finance
- Equality, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set the Charity's unrestricted reserves at a level of £150,000 to cover closure and redundancy costs. This objective has been met and the Trustees aim to hold £150,000 in reserve to support the charity over the next 12-18 months. Consideration needs to be given to funding in the event of long term sickness, maternity or pension liabilities which would increase the financial burden

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Youth Focus NW for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual 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
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper 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.

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 15/10/2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Sue Lomas

Chair

Independent examiner's report
to the members of
Youth Focus North West Limited

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are set out on pages 11 to 24.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

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

Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA
Beehive Mill, Jersey Street
Manchester, M4 6JG
Date: 20 December 2022

Youth Focus North West Limited
Statement of Financial Activities
(including Income and Expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:					
Charitable activities:	3	444,940	-	444,940	425,836
Investments	4	26	-	26	249
Total income		444,966	-	444,966	426,085
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:	5	376,979	-	376,979	276,720
Total expenditure		376,979	-	376,979	276,720
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	7	67,987	-	67,987	149,365
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the year		67,987	-	67,987	149,365
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		387,522	-	387,522	238,157
Total funds carried forward		455,509	-	455,509	387,522

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

Youth Focus North West Limited
Company number 06486517
Balance sheet as at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022	2021
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	-	-
Total fixed assets		-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	12	95,772	185,011
Cash at bank and in hand		570,031	426,026
Total current assets		665,803	611,037
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	14	(210,294)	(223,515)
Net assets		455,509	387,522
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	16	-	-
Unrestricted income funds	17	455,509	387,522
Total charity funds		455,509	387,522

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an 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

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes on pages 14 to 24 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on 15 / 10 / 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Sue Lomas
Chair

Nicky Parker
Treasurer

Youth Focus North West Limited
Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ending 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	19	143,979	139,637
<i>Cash flows from investing activities:</i>			
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments		26	249
Cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		26	249
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		144,005	139,886
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		426,026	286,141
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		570,031	426,027

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a 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), second edition - October 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Youth Focus North West Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees have made no key judgments which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

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

c Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

d Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

e Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

f Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Youth Focus North West Limited

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

g Operating leases

Operating leases are leases in which the title to the assets, and the risks and rewards of ownership, remain with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

h Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Computer equipment	5 years
Office fixtures and equipment	4 years

i 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.

j 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.

k 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 amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Youth Focus North West Limited

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

I Pensions

Employees of the charity are entitled to join a defined contribution 'money purchase' scheme. The charity's contribution is restricted to the contributions disclosed in note 8. There were no outstanding contributions at the year end. The costs of the defined contribution scheme are included within expenditure on charitable activities.

The money purchase plan is managed by Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited Plc and the plan invests the contributions made by the employee and employer in an investment fund to build up over the term of the plan a pension fund which is then converted into a pension upon the employee's normal retirement year age when eligible for a state pension. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

There were no contributions outstanding at the year-end of £864 (2021 : £864).

2 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The registered office address is disclosed on page 1.

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £
Conferences and training	7,950	-	7,950
Membership subscriptions	44,596	-	44,596
Contract income	389,194	-	389,194
Fees & other income	3,200	-	3,200
Total 2021	444,940	-	444,940
<i>Previous reporting period</i>			
	<i>Unrestricted £</i>	<i>Restricted £</i>	<i>Total 2021 £</i>
<i>Conferences and training</i>	<i>35,685</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>35,685</i>
<i>Membership subscriptions</i>	<i>55,255</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>55,255</i>
<i>Contract income</i>	<i>333,486</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>333,486</i>
<i>Fees</i>	<i>1,410</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1,410</i>
Total 2020	425,836	-	425,836

Youth Focus North West Limited

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

4 Investment income

	2022 £	2021 £
Income from bank deposits	26	249
	<u>26</u>	<u>249</u>

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts. All investment income is unrestricted.

5 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £
Staff costs	254,668	-	254,668
Premises costs	17,134	-	17,134
Administrative costs	28,391	-	28,391
Project costs	74,686	-	74,686
Depreciation	-	-	-
Governance costs (see note 6)	2,100	-	2,100
	<u>376,979</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>376,979</u>

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £
Staff costs	184,091	-	184,091
Premises costs	17,049	-	17,049
Administrative costs	18,437	-	18,437
Project costs	52,831	2,000	54,831
Depreciation	332	-	332
Governance costs	1,980	-	1,980
	<u>274,720</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>276,720</u>

6 Analysis of governance costs

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Accountancy services	1,560	1,500
Independent examination	540	480
	<u>2,100</u>	<u>1,980</u>

Youth Focus North West Limited

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

7 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2022 £	2021 £
Operating lease rentals:		
Equipment	-	-
Independent examiner's fee - accountancy	1,250	1,250
Independent examiner's fee - payroll	346	346
Independent examination	400	400
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

8 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	200,498	156,096
Social security costs	14,788	9,537
Pension costs	16,499	12,385
Other costs	22,883	6,073
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	254,668	184,091
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

No employees has employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2021: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the period was 6 (2021: 6.8).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the board trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £Nil (2021: £Nil).

9 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration or reimbursed expenses during the year (2021: Nil).

No trustees received travel and subsistence expenses during the year (2021:£nil).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2021: nil).

Youth Focus North West Limited

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

10 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

11 Fixed assets: tangible assets

Cost	Computer equipment £
At 1 April 2021	13,454
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2022	13,454
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2021	13,454
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2022	13,454
Net book value	
At 31 March 2022	-
<i>At 31 March 2021</i>	-

Youth Focus North West Limited

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

12 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	86,459	138,719
Prepayments and accrued income	9,313	46,292
	95,772	185,011

13 Cash at bank and in hand

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash at bank and on hand	570,031	426,026

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	3,899	7,866
Other creditors and accruals	2,100	1,980
Deferred income	197,715	209,545
Taxation and social security costs	6,580	4,124
	210,294	223,515

15 Deferred income

	2022 £	2021 £
Annual membership and contract income		
Deferred grant brought forward	209,545	91,255
Income received	421,960	483,015
Released to income from charitable activities	(433,790)	(364,725)
Deferred income carried forward	197,715	209,545

Youth Focus North West Limited

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

16 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Awards for All	-	-	-	-	-
Total 2022	-	-	-	-	-
Previous reporting period	<i>Balance at 1 April 2020 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>As at 31 March 2021 £</i>
<i>Awards for All</i>	<i>2,000</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>(2,000)</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
Total 2021	<i>2,000</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>(2,000)</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>

Youth Focus North West Limited

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

17 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2022 £
General fund	387,522	444,966	(376,979)	-	455,509
	<u>387,522</u>	<u>444,966</u>	<u>(376,979)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>455,509</u>
	<u><u>387,522</u></u>	<u><u>444,966</u></u>	<u><u>(376,979)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>455,509</u></u>
Previous reporting period	<i>Balance at 1 April 2020 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>As at 31 March 2021 £</i>
General fund	236,157	426,085	(274,720)	-	387,522
	<u>236,157</u>	<u>426,085</u>	<u>(274,720)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>387,522</u>
	<u><u>236,157</u></u>	<u><u>426,085</u></u>	<u><u>(274,720)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>387,522</u></u>

Name of	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
General fund	The free reserves after allowing for all designated funds

Youth Focus North West Limited

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

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General fund £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	455,509	-	455,509
Total 2022	455,509	-	455,509

Previous reporting period

	General fund £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	387,522	-	387,522
Total 2022	387,522	-	387,522

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	67,987	149,365
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	-	333
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(26)	(249)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	89,239	(134,026)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(13,221)	124,214
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating	143,979	139,637

YOUTH FOCUS NORTH WEST LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1125563

Accounts

Company number: 6486517

Charity Number: 1125563

Youth Focus North West Limited

Report and financial statements
For the year ended 31st March 2021

Youth Focus North West Limited
Reference and administrative information
for the year ended 31st March 2021

Company number 6486517

Charity number 1125563

Registered office and operational address Unit 6B, Micklehead Business Village
St Michaels Road
St Helens
Merseyside
WA9 4YU

Trustees Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Tony McGee	Chair (up to October 2020)
Bernard Booth	Treasurer (to October 2020) Chair (from October 2020)
Tracey Walsh	
Nicola Parker	
Sue Lomas	
Aiden Ray	
William Adams	Treasurer (from October 2020)
Iqra Ali	
Colin Scicluna	
Sally Carr	(appointed 16 January 2021)
James Cooke	(appointed 24 April 2021)
Andrew Mycock	(appointed 16 January 2021)
Rajesh Patel	(appointed 16 January 2021)

Trustees who held title to property belonging to the charity during the reporting period or at the date of approval were:

Key management personnel Stuart Dunne Chief Executive

Bankers Co-operative Bank
12-14 Old Market Place
Warrington
WA1 1BQ

Independent examiner Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA Slade & Cooper Limited
Beehive Mill, Jersey Street, Manchester, M4 6JG

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2021

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Objectives and activities

'The advancement of the education of young people and those who work with young people in the North West of England so that said young people may develop their personal, social, physical and spiritual capacities, achieve their potential and find their place as active members of their communities and society as a whole.'

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity's Commission general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aim and objectives and in planning our activities. The trustees have considered how the activities will contribute to the aims and objectives of the charity.

Our Vision:

To improve the lives of young people in the North West of England

Our Mission:

To help young people realise their potential and become active citizens.

Our Aims:

To support the effectiveness, efficiency, quality and relevance of youth work across the region.

To support services working with young people to maximise young peoples' opportunities for personal and social development and help them make a successful transition to adult life and citizenship.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

A strategic plan for the next 5 years is currently being developed.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2021

Achievements and performance

The global pandemic and the lockdown from March 2020 created challenges for the sector and young people. Youth Focus NW reacted quickly and transferred all the services online within weeks, continuing to support and provide opportunities (digitally) for young people.

During 20/21 one major achievement was the development of a new website and an increase in social media activity. Communications has been identified as an area for improvement and as such as we have recruited a Communications Manager to start in September 2021.

At March 21 our staff team was as follows:

- CEO
- Deputy CEO
- 2 x participation workers
- 2 x support workers
- 1 x business manager
- 1 x admin assistant

The charity's main activities and who it tries to help are described below. All its charitable activities focus on education and engagement and are undertaken to further Youth Focus North West Limited's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Youth Focus North West (YFNW) is an organisation with strong youth work roots. We work in partnership with young people and organisations to have a voice where it counts. Our youth voice work gives young people the opportunities to make a difference individually, locally, regionally and nationally. We nurture youth work practice and we create networks, broker partnerships and open up opportunities for young people and organisations to work together.

We improve young people's lives through Youth Work. The work of YFNW falls naturally into three strands:

1. We work with young people to have a voice and we work with organisations and services who want to give young people a voice. – DELIVER

- We continue to coordinate the Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority on behalf of the GMCA, with 20 organisations represented by 40 young people attending 10 meetings a year plus additional events and opportunities.

- We continue to coordinate the Cooperative Foundations Youth Advisory Board where young people can influence where funding is awarded.

- We continue to work with passionate young people on protecting the environment and funding from Electricity North West enables us to develop campaigns, projects and peer educator videos and webinars to reach 1000s of young people.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2021

- We continue to coordinate Youthforia (our unique regional youth forum) which is over 10 years old, we adapted to host the events online as with most of our programmes during COVID.
- We continue to train Young Inspectors to assess health services in Greater Manchester, both physical and mental health services.

2. We help develop Youth Work practice. – DEVELOP

- With funding available from DCMS we have been able to provide bursaries for Youth Work training at Level 2 and Level 3. Workers from Merseyside, Gr Man and Lancashire have been able to access the courses. In 21/22 we will be offering a unique BAME focused bursary.

3. We bring people together to create networks and partnerships. – BRING TOGETHER

We continue to coordinate several networks for professionals including:

- Strategic Leads
- Cared4NW
- Participation Workers
- Workforce Development

Financial review

Youth Focus North West remains in a stable financial position at end of this Financial Year despite sustained government austerity measures and the continued effect of the pandemic Covid19 virus. Staff within the Company have shown great flexibility and resilience through the pandemic and demonstrated different ways of working ensuring social distancing measures, thereby protecting themselves and stakeholders. Some staff were furloughed at their own request, due to personal circumstances. This had a small but positive effect on our annual costs. In May 2020 4 staff members were furloughed for 1 month. 1 staff member was furloughed for May to July 20 and again in Jan to March 2021.

Despite the pandemic our work has continued to flourish. We are now combining a mixture of traditional and modern methods of communicating and working with young people utilising online applications such as Zoom to continue and develop service delivery. Looking to the future there are signs that the government will improve funding to the youth sector and we are optimistic that our wider role in supporting others will further develop as additional funding is made available. The Company continues to work with old and new stakeholders, which has allowed us to maintain our position as leaders within the region and continue to ensure the voices of young people are both listened and responded to. The partnerships with local authorities, Electricity North West and Greater Manchester Combined Authority among others continue to provide opportunities. are exciting. They enable the Company to offer increased benefits for young people, staff, local authorities and the third sector. The Company changed its way of securing funding from local authorities, introducing a new scheme of charges which has had a positive benefit on our financial position. The principles of strong and sound financial management have continued following the lead set by the previous Treasurer. This means that we have seen a net increase in reserves of £149,365 to £387,52.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2021

Youth Focus North West continues to have support via the fees from Local Authorities totalling £46k. This £42k has contributed to an increased income of £426,085 compared to £375,624 in the previous year representing an increase of £50,461 or 13.43%. Expenditure is less than the previous year at (£276,720 compared to £326,786) meaning there is a net in year surplus of £149,365.

There have been changes in our service delivery – for example, we have not run any residential events for the last 2 years so these funds will be carried forward to 2022. We also moved delivery of Youthforia and GMYCA events to being predominantly online, both of which have led to reduced expenditure.

This financial position of the Company shows we remain on a solid footing. Whilst remaining optimistic for the future, in the short-term 2021/2022 could well be a challenging year as the full financial ramifications of the pandemic affect the economy, local government and particularly funding streams in the third sector.

The recruitment of additional operational staff has been beneficial to the team. We recruited a deputy CEO who started in January 2021 and plan to add to our staff team during 21/22.

The Company continues as a going concern and will do over the coming year. Our funds are not in any difficulty. There is a large amount of restricted funds held for committed work in 21/22. The Board remains of the view that the role for the Company is still evolving because of the continually changing economic and political climate. We will continue to review how we work with, and collaborate with others. We are in a strong position and board members, staff and young people remain optimistic that new work will develop from regional changes, and are confident that we will continue to recruit new income sources as well as meet contracts that we currently hold.

Reserves policy

The Directors have set the Charity's unrestricted reserves at a level of £150,000 to cover closure and redundancy costs. This objective has been met and the Directors aim to hold £150,000 in reserve to support the charity over the next 12-18 months. Consideration needs to be given to funding in the event of long term sickness, maternity or pension liabilities which would increase the financial burden.

Chairs report

Recently, I read the Chairs last report to the AGM. It talked about coronavirus and how our industry had responded to it. Remote and virtual ways of working have continued in the intervening months and both have become the 'norm'. Unlike those bleak days in 2020, there is now clear light at the end of the tunnel, and gradually we are all coming to terms with living with the virus. The vaccination roll-out is continuing and with it the return of what we used to call normality. What that means to us is that our methods of working with young people will include a resumption of face-to-face meetings, the return of conferences and residential work. Undoubtedly, we will have a more blended approach to our work as a means of engaging a wider contact with young people and our partners.

All the Boards' meetings have been virtual throughout the reporting period, as have our planning meetings. The AGM is our attempt to get together in person, increase social interaction and further collaboration. This year is also the first time we are presenting our annual report and 5-year strategic plan in an open meeting.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2021

I look back on the year with an overall sense of satisfaction and pride on what we have achieved. In particular, for the first time in our history we have recruited to the Board through open recruitment. We had 8 applicants and recruited 5. I am confident that the Board of trustees are of high calibre and will serve young people and partners well in the coming years. It is very pleasing and encouraging to have a young Treasurer and vice Chair on the Board who have been with us as young people and now sit as trustees and custodians of our work. We have continued with our core activity around supporting young people's engagement through elements such as Youthforia as well as engaging new and old partnerships. Our work with the NYA and partners to deliver youth work training has had excellent results and positive benefits to the North West region. This resurgence in youth work training will provide a sound platform as we all emerge from the current crisis. Other strategic relationships such as that with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, and with sponsors such as Electricity North West linking to Youthforia on environmental challenges also show how we enable partners to support young people's engagement and development.

As Treasurer for many years and seeing us work through some turbulent financial times, I am extremely pleased to report our financial position remains very positive and our income has grown. The move to create a new more uniform and relevant financial relationship with our Local Authority partners has resulted in all of them engaging as full member organisations. We are looking at how our offer may be of benefit to our third sector partners in the forthcoming financial year. There is an increased confidence that the youth sector will benefit from future government funding and we are ready and willing to support our partners in preparation for this.

The leadership and vision of our Chief Executive, Stuart Dunne has continued from his positive start. The staff team has grown and it is through their support and commitment that YFNW has been able to respond to the massive challenge that hit everyone in 2020 and continued in 2021. Professional Development Reviews have been introduced for all staff and a 360 pilot scheme involving the CEO has been trialled with an intent to review and roll out to all staff. The Articles have been reviewed and a limit is now agreed on the size of the Board and length of office for trustees. A new Chair is elected and will remain in office for 5 years rather than seek annual re-election. A trustee vacancy will be recruited through open advertisement.

One member of the Board who has served us superbly is Tracey Walsh, who has been Chair and vice Chair of the Board in previous years. She has been with the Company for over 10 years and is now standing down. Thank you, Tracey, for all your work, your shoes will be hard to fill.

Finally, I look back with an overall sense of satisfaction and pride for what YFNW has achieved since it became a charitable organisation. I have been with the it throughout that journey. The time has now come for me to step aside and let others develop the company further, continuing with, and developing our service to young people. I am confident that it will continue to do so.

Bernard S Booth

Chair

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2021

Structure, governance and management

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees:

The Directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and serve according to the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Trustees are drawn from the youth and community sector and are appointed at the AGM. The Chair is nominated from existing members

Trustee Induction and Training

Trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity. An induction pack will be available for any new Trustees that may join the Board from wider sectors.

Organisational Structure:

YFNW is governed by a Board of Directors, consisting of youth work professionals and young alumni. The Board is consulted on strategic and operational matters and when necessary separate meetings between the Chair and the Chief Executive (who is also the company secretary) will be held. The staff team consists of a full time Chief Executive, 2 development workers, a business development manager, support worker and team administrator. When required, consultants, researchers and bank staff may be contracted for specific work.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 28 January 2008 and registered as a charity in August 2008. The company was established under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its articles of association.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 9 to the accounts.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations:

Youth Focus NW is a member of the Network of Regional Youth Work Units England.

Risk management:

The Trustees have considered the risks to which the Charity is exposed and have established systems for mitigating those risks. External risks have been minimised by implementing appropriate policies. The key external risk is the lack of availability of unrestricted funding. The Trustees carefully monitor the position regarding these funds.

Internal risks have been minimised by implementing procedures for authorising transactions and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all aspects of the Charity's activities. Strategic and operational risks are reviewed regularly.

Youth Focus North West Limited
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2021

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Youth Focus North West Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual 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
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper 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.

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 16/10/2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Will Adams
Treasurer

Independent examiner's report
to the members of
Youth Focus North West Limited

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on pages 10 to 23.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

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

Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA
Beehive Mill, Jersey Street
Manchester, M4 6JG
Date: 12/11/2021

Youth Focus North West Limited
Statement of Financial Activities
(including Income and Expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Income from:					
Charitable activities:	3	425,836	-	425,836	375,624
Investments	4	249	-	249	260
Total income		426,085	-	426,085	375,884
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:	5	274,720	2,000	276,720	326,786
Total expenditure		274,720	2,000	276,720	326,786
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	7	151,365	(2,000)	149,365	49,098
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the year		151,365	(2,000)	149,365	49,098
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		236,157	2,000	238,157	189,059
Total funds carried forward		387,522	-	387,522	238,157

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

Youth Focus North West Limited
Company number 06486517
Balance sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021	2020
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	-	332
Total fixed assets		-	332
Current assets			
Debtors	12	185,011	50,985
Cash at bank and in hand		426,026	286,141
Total current assets		611,037	337,126
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	14	(223,515)	(99,301)
Net assets		387,522	238,157
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	16	-	2,000
Unrestricted income funds	17	387,522	236,157
Total charity funds		387,522	238,157

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an 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

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes on pages 13 to 23 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on 16/10/2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Bernard Seth Booth
Chair

Will Adams
Treasurer

Youth Focus North West Limited
Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ending 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	19	139,636	52,316
<i>Cash flows from investing activities:</i>			
Dividends, interest, and rents from investments		249	260
Cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		249	260
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		139,885	52,576
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		286,141	233,565
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		426,026	286,141

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a 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), second edition - October 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Youth Focus North West Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees have made no key judgments which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

c Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

d Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

e Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

f Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

g Operating leases

Operating leases are leases in which the title to the assets, and the risks and rewards of ownership, remain with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

h Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Computer equipment	5 years
Office fixtures and equipment	4 years

i 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.

j 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.

k 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 amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

I Pensions

Employees of the charity are entitled to join a defined contribution 'money purchase' scheme. The charity's contribution is restricted to the contributions disclosed in note 8. There were no outstanding contributions at the year end. The costs of the defined contribution scheme are included within expenditure on charitable activities.

The money purchase plan is managed by Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited Plc and the plan invests the contributions made by the employee and employer in an investment fund to build up over the term of the plan a pension fund which is then converted into a pension upon the employee's normal retirement year age when eligible for a state pension. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

There were no contributions outstanding at the year-end of £864 (2020 : £864).

2 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The registered office address is disclosed on page 1.

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £
Conferences and training	35,685	-	35,685
Membership subscriptions	55,255	-	55,255
Contract income	333,486	-	333,486
Fees	1,410	-	1,410
Total 2021	425,836	-	425,836

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £
<i>Awards for All grant</i>	-	-	-
<i>Conferences and training</i>	34,158	-	34,158
<i>Membership subscriptions</i>	38,798	-	38,798
<i>Contract income</i>	298,009	-	298,009
<i>Fees</i>	4,659	-	4,659
Total 2020	375,624	-	375,624

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

4 Investment income

	2021 £	2020 £
Income from bank deposits	249	260
	<u>249</u>	<u>260</u>
	<u>249</u>	<u>260</u>

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts. All investment income is unrestricted.

5 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £
Staff costs	184,091	-	184,091
Premises costs	17,049	-	17,049
Administrative costs	18,437	-	18,437
Project costs	52,831	2,000	54,831
Depreciation	332	-	332
Governance costs (see note 6)	1,980	-	1,980
	<u>274,720</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>276,720</u>
	<u>274,720</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>276,720</u>
Previous reporting period			
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £
Staff costs	169,768	-	169,768
Premises costs	15,211	-	15,211
Administrative costs	21,885	-	21,885
Project costs	117,609	-	117,609
Depreciation	333	-	333
Governance costs	1,980	-	1,980
	<u>326,786</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>326,786</u>
	<u>326,786</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>326,786</u>

6 Analysis of governance costs

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Accountancy services	1,500	1,500
Independent examination	480	480
	<u>1,980</u>	<u>1,980</u>
	<u>1,980</u>	<u>1,980</u>

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

7 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2021 £	2020 £
Operating lease rentals:		
Equipment	-	-
Independent examiner's fee - accountancy	1,250	1,250
Independent examiner's fee - payroll	346	346
Independent examination	400	400

8 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	156,096	132,495
Social security costs	9,537	9,150
Pension costs	12,385	8,747
	178,018	150,392

No employees has employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2020: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the period was 6.8 (2020: 6).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the board trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £Nil (2020: £Nil).

9 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration or reimbursed expenses during the year (2020: Nil).

No trustees received travel and subsistence expenses during the year (2020:£nil).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2020: nil).

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

10 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

11 Fixed assets: tangible assets

Cost	Computer equipment £
At 1 April 2020	13,454
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2021	13,454
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2020	13,122
Charge for the year	332
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2021	13,454
Net book value	
At 31 March 2021	-
<i>At 31 March 2020</i>	<i>332</i>

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

12 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	138,719	32,845
Prepayments and accrued income	46,292	18,140
	185,011	50,985

13 Cash at bank and in hand

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash at bank and on hand	426,026	286,141

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	7,866	3,204
Other creditors and accruals	1,980	1,980
Deferred income	209,545	91,255
Taxation and social security costs	4,124	2,862
	223,515	99,301

15 Deferred income

	2021 £	2020 £
Annual membership and contract income		
Deferred grant brought forward	91,255	137,177
Income received	483,015	319,455
Released to income from charitable activities	(364,725)	(365,377)
Deferred income carried forward	209,545	91,255

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

16 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Awards for All	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-
Total 2020	<u>2,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Previous reporting period	<i>Balance at 1 April 2019 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>As at 31 March 2020 £</i>
<i>Awards for All</i>	<i>2,000</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2,000</i>
Total 2019	<u>2,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,000</u>

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

17 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2021 £
General fund	236,157	426,085	(274,720)	-	387,522
	236,157	426,085	(274,720)	-	387,522
Previous reporting period	<i>Balance at 1 April 2019 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>As at 31 March 2020 £</i>
General fund	187,059	375,884	(326,786)	-	236,157
	187,059	375,884	(326,786)	-	236,157

Name of	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
General fund	The free reserves after allowing for all designated funds

Youth Focus North West Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General fund £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	387,522	-	387,522
Total 2021	387,522	-	387,522

Previous reporting period

	General fund £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	332	-	332
Net current assets/(liabilities)	235,825	2,000	237,825
Total 2020	236,157	2,000	238,157

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	149,365	49,098
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	332	333
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(249)	(260)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(134,026)	50,054
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	124,214	(46,909)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating	139,636	52,316