

ADVONET

England & Wales · Charity number 1126132

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [04229975](#)

Registered 2008-10-02

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Advonet
Unity Business Centre
26 Roundhay Road
Leeds
LS7 1AB

Phone 01132440606

Email office@advonet.org.uk

Website www.advonet.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE POVERTY AND SICKNESS AND PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE HEALTH OF THE PUBLIC IRRESPECTIVE OF RACE, CULTURE, GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, AGE OR DISABILITY, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY:A) PROMOTING AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF ADVOCACY PRACTICE;B) SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF ADVOCACY SERVICES;C) THE PROVISION OF A CONTACT POINT FOR PEOPLE WHO NEED ADVOCACY SUPPORT OR HELP;D) THE PROVISION OF ADVOCACY SERVICES IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND;E) THE DEVELOPMENT, CO-ORDINATION AND FACILITATION OF TRAINING AND EDUCATION ON ADVOCACY AND ISSUES RELEVANT TO ADVOCACY.F) THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF GOOD PRACTICE STANDARDS FOR ADVOCACY.

Activities: Advonet exists to ensure everyone can have their needs heard and their rights respected. It both delivers services directly and promotes independent advocacy provided by partners in Leeds and the surrounding area. Advonet will work to strengthen and empower, individuals, families and communities. Advonet will champion and inspire positive change in service provision.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Kirklees
- Leeds City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£2,097,069	£2,258,959	£397,757	78
2024-03-31	£2,248,215	£2,337,634	£559,647	82
2023-03-31	£2,136,061	£2,238,315	£647,463	83
2022-03-31	£2,083,493	£2,066,152	£749,717	80
2021-03-31	£1,947,860	£1,938,709	£732,376	80

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Cllr Peter John Gruen		2018-09-18
Cllr Sharon Burke		2023-12-06
IVAN NIP		2012-09-18
Jodie Champaneria		2024-07-03
Keith Kirwin		2025-09-24
Kirti Tandel		2015-07-07
Nick Stone		2025-03-31
Nicola Nicholson		2025-03-31
RALPH PORTER		2012-09-18
REINHARD BECK		2012-09-18

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England & Wales - Charity number 1126132

Accounts

ADVONET
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Trustees	R Beck S Burke W Case (resigned 30 August 2024) J Champaneria (appointed 3 July 2024) M Ghosh (appointed 3 July 2024, resigned 5 June 2025) S Gill (resigned 19 June 2024) P J Gruen K M Kirwin (appointed 24 September 2025) E Long (resigned 25 July 2024) Dr N Nicholson (appointed 23 July 2025) Dr I Nip Dr M Roberts (appointed 3 July 2024, resigned 26 June 2025) R Porter N Stone (appointed 23 July 2025) K Tandel E V Williams M M Yip (resigned 30 August 2025)
Company registered number	04229975
Charity registered number	1126132
Registered office	Unity Business Centre 26 Roundhay Road Leeds LS7 1AB
Company secretary	R S Whitmore (appointed 3 July 2024) P S Bramson (resigned 3 July 2024)
Independent auditors	BHP LLP Albert Works Sidney Street Sheffield S1 4RG
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank plc Four Brindleyplace Birmingham B1 2JB

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Key management personnel P Bramson - Chief Executive (resigned July 2024)
C Watson - Finance Director (appointed January 2025)
W Cork - Development Director and Deputy Chief Executive Officer
N Hussain - Advocacy Director (resigned December 2023)
A Ellis - CEO (appointed September 2024)
L Kelly - Finance Director (resigned May 2023)

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the charity for the 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the group and the charity qualify as small under section 383 of the Companies Act 2006, the Group strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Introduction to the Trustee's Report**a. Chair's Introduction**

As Chair of Trustees, I am proud to present this year's annual report for Advonet. Whilst like many others in the sector, it has been a year of challenges, many of these out of our control. We have still achieved much that has helped local people to have a voice and achieve greater control. Our commitment to empowering adults across Yorkshire has never been stronger. We have re-designed our core values and these have shone through in our work; there is kindness, inclusivity, accountability, diversity, and empowerment in everything we do.

We have supported thousands of individuals through advocacy and self-advocacy, expanded our reach to new communities, and strengthened our partnerships with local organisations. These achievements are a testament to the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and fellow trustees, whose tireless efforts make our mission possible.

This year marked a significant transition for Advonet, with Angela Ellis appointed as CEO in September 2024, succeeding Philip Bramsom after 12 years of dedicated leadership. We thank Philip for his invaluable contribution and welcome Angela as she leads us into a new chapter.

Looking ahead, we remain focused on innovation, co-production, and ensuring that every voice is heard. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our journey this year. Together, we continue to make meaningful differences.

Peter Gruen, Chair of The Advonet Group

b. Context of the Report

This report was prepared by the Board of Trustees. It contextualises the consolidated financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary, Leep1 CIC, for the year ending 31 March 2025. The financial statements are prepared to meet the requirements of a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

They comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

This report provides a detailed overview of The Advonet Group, a Leeds-based provider of advocacy-related services.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Advonet Group

The Advonet Group's Aims and Objectives

The objectives of The Advonet Group are to relieve poverty and sickness and preserve and protect the health of the public irrespective of race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, age or disability. In particular, the organisation's aims include:

- Promoting awareness and understanding of advocacy practice.
- Supporting the development of advocacy services.
- The provision of a point of contact for people who need advocacy support or help.
- The provision of advocacy services in the North of England.
- The development, co-ordination and facilitation of training and education on advocacy and issues relevant to advocacy.
- The development and promotion of good practice standards for advocacy.

The Trustees review the aims and objectives of the organisation each year and in the current year, they did this as part of their Board Awayday. The Trustees have referred to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives.

This review encompasses what we achieved and the outcomes of our work over the year ended 31 March 2025.

The Advonet Group's Mission, Vision and Values

Advonet exists to empower people to have their voices heard and take greater control over their lives. Our work is rooted in our values.

We provide independent advocacy services, support self-advocacy groups, and collaborate with local partners to ensure people's rights are upheld and their voices heard.

We are proud to be a Disability Confident employer. 40% of colleagues have a disability, many of whom are autistic or have a learning disability.

The Advonet Group's Group Achievements in 24-25

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Our services are free, accessible, and targeted at those who face barriers due to disability, mental health, or social exclusion.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Advonet Group's Group Achievements in 24-25 (continued)

a. Overall Achievements of The Advonet Group

During the year, we:

- Supported over 3,900 individuals through one-to-one advocacy and peer support sessions;
- Signposted and responded to enquiries from over 1,600 individuals;
- Facilitated 55 self-advocacy group sessions in-person and online;
- Established three newly funded projects: Autism Mental Health Transformation, Multiply and LIFE Employment;
- Maintained eleven existing services and projects, including CHANGE easy read, the statutory and community advocacy provision for Leeds City Council, Live Well Leeds, Mental Health Access and Asking You!;
- Delivered 31 training sessions on subjects including inclusive communication, advocacy and autistic clients, employing people with lived experience and rights-based approaches;
- Trained people with lived experience and co-produced 57 accessible or easy-read resources, including 14 commissions from other organisations.

Feedback from service users highlighted increased confidence, better understanding of rights, and improved access to services.

"It's so nice to finally talk to someone who I can relate to and can relate to me. I was hoping this is what would happen when I got diagnosed ... it's the most helpful and reassuring thing that I can imagine. Thank you so much for doing this" (AIM Post- Diagnosis Client)

"The advocate did really well and didn't need to do anything differently. I was grateful and happy to have someone who actually listened" (Health Complaints advocacy client)

"Thank you for all you are doing. I genuinely do not know where I would be without you and your support, knowledge and understanding" (Care Act advocacy client)

"General thank you for the organisation and a personal thank you for listening" (person making an enquiry through the First Contact Team)

"Your workshop plans look fantastic! It's a really perfect example of embedding digital into your project and not segregating it into it's own siloed bit. You're using digital tools and resources as an enabler to the wider aims of the project" (feedback from 100% Digital Leeds)

The Future

At the Board awayday in January 2025, trustees were joined by members of the Advonet Senior Leadership Team and the following priorities were agreed for the 2025/26 Business Plan:

- We offer quality services for people in Leeds and beyond
- Advonet has a secure future and continues to strengthen its mission
- The Board and SLT are able to make informed decisions and evidence our impact to staff and external partners
- As a workforce, we are solution focused and productive

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Structure Governance and Management

Advonet is a charitable company limited by guarantee, governed by its Articles of Association. The board of trustees meets quarterly and oversees strategic direction, risk management, and compliance.

Details of the registered number and office are given on Page 1.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

New trustees are recruited through open calls and engagement with local umbrella and trade bodies. Trustees receive induction training and one of the trustees is the named safeguarding lead who attends regular training. In addition, all trustees have been offered sexual harassment training since the legislative changes in October 2024.

Trustee Recruitment and Development Process

Potential trustees first meet with the CEO to learn about the role. Following this meeting, they are encouraged to attend board meetings as observers. If they remain interested, they are interviewed by the Chair and another trustee. Upon joining the Board, new trustees are immediately offered an induction to familiarize themselves with the organisation's policies, procedures, and structures. All trustees attend a formal induction session with the Chair and the Chief Executive. Trustees undergo an annual performance review with the Chair. They also have access to the organisation's online training programme. Additional training is provided to trustees individually or as a group, based on emerging training needs.

Annual audits capture Trustees' skills and key characteristics in order to facilitate targeted recruitment when a vacancy occurs.

Board and Leadership Structure

The Board meets at least four times a year and is responsible for the strategic direction and governance of the organisation, as well as determining its policies. Throughout the financial year, the Resources, Quality & Operations and Development sub-groups also meet quarterly.

Sub-Groups:

Resources Sub-Group: Focuses on finance, health and safety, and data protection.

Quality & Operations Sub-Group: Concentrates on service delivery, the quality regime, policies and procedures, service quality, and HR.

Development Sub-Group: Deals with communications, horizon scanning, and business development strategy.

The sub-groups delve into greater detail about the organisation's activities and plans.

The Board delegates the operational running of the organisation to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), headed by the Chief Executive, who is appointed by the Board to manage day-to-day operations.

Key management remuneration

During the financial year ending 31 March 2025, the Senior Leadership Team, listed above made up the organisation's key personnel.

The key management's pay award is set by the Board following a benchmarking exercise which compared the salaries of similar roles in comparable organisations. No employee earned more than £60,000 per annum in the current or previous financial year.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Risk and Opportunity Management

The charity trustees have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that systems or procedures are established in order to manage those risks.

The Board Development Subgroup conducts a quarterly review of the risks and opportunities facing the organisation. The full Board completes a comprehensive review during its Annual Awayday. These findings are documented in the Risk Register, which considers Governance, Operational, Financial, and Environmental/Social/Political factors.

The register assesses the potential impact and likelihood of each risk, the existing controls and additional measures that could mitigate these risks. The Senior Leadership Team maintains this process, with oversight from the Development Subgroup.

At the last review, the principal risks and uncertainties identified were the loss of funding, the impact of inflation on contracts and staff retention and changes in health and social care policy. These risks are managed by developing strong strategic partnerships with funders and other stakeholders, implementing an organisation-wide efficiencies programme and diversifying funding sources.

Financial Review

Advonet ended the year with a balanced budget. Total income was £2,097,069 (2024: £2,248,215), primarily from local authority contracts and grants. Expenditure was £2,258,959 (2024: £2,337,634) with reserves maintained in line with our policy to cover three months of core costs.

Reserves totalled £397,757 (2024: £559,647) of which £313,905 (2024: £418,111) were unrestricted and £83,852 (2024: £141,536) were restricted.

In early 2025, the Board of Trustees made the difficult decision to close Café Leep and begin insolvency proceedings for Leep1. This was due to sustained financial pressures, including rising wage and operational costs, which had led to ongoing deficits. To protect Advonet's reserves, the café and training offer, which faced the greatest financial strain, was not viable to continue and ceased operating in February 2025. Other services and funded projects were transferred into Advonet, along with the staff delivering them after securing additional funding.

No significant uncertainties or ongoing concern issues were identified.

The Advonet Group's Reserves Policy

The trustees have established a reserves policy to ensure the charity can continue to meet its objectives in the event of unforeseen financial difficulties. At the end of the financial year, the charity held £167,586 (2024: £271,792) in free reserves.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The trustees have identified the following principal risks facing the charity:

- Financial instability resulting from lack of increase in funding from local authorities
- Main advocacy contract is likely to be out for re-tender in summer 2025
- Government fiscal / cost of living policies

Mitigation strategies are in place for each of these risks, including regular reviews, trustee oversight and robust income generation plans.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee

Advonet did not hold any funds as a custodian trustee on behalf of other charities during the financial year.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Group and the charity and of their incoming resources and application of resources, including their income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 Group will continue in business.

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

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable group's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable group's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, BHP LLP, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Emma Williams

Signer ID: CHAKOIO4SH...

E V Williams

Date: 17/12/2025 GMT

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ADVONET

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025, and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ADVONET (CONTINUED)

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ADVONET (CONTINUED)

decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- the senior statutory auditor individual ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charitable group through discussions with management and trustees and from our knowledge and experiences of the sector;
- we focussed on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charitable group, including Charities Act 2011, Companies Act 2006, GDPR, employment law, food standards agency and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and trustees;
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charitable group's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by;

- making enquiries of management and trustees as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risks of fraud through management bias and override controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in note 3 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance including Finance and Audit Committee;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ADVONET (CONTINUED)

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Signer ID: WKOLTHN6RI...
Rachel Heath (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

BHP LLP

Chartered Accountants
Albert Works
Sidney Street
Sheffield
S1 4RG

Date: 18/12/2025 GMT

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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
	Note				
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	4,980	-	4,980	6,082
Charitable activities	5	890,000	1,194,886	2,084,886	2,234,566
Investments	6	5,613	-	5,613	5,417
Other income	7	1,590	-	1,590	2,150
Total income		902,183	1,194,886	2,097,069	2,248,215
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	9	691,802	1,567,157	2,258,959	2,337,634
Total expenditure		691,802	1,567,157	2,258,959	2,337,634
Net income/(expenditure) before taxation		210,381	(372,271)	(161,890)	(89,419)
Taxation		-	-	-	1,603
Net income/(expenditure) after taxation		210,381	(372,271)	(161,890)	(87,816)
Transfers between funds	18	(314,587)	314,587	-	-
Net movement in funds		(104,206)	(57,684)	(161,890)	(87,816)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		418,111	141,536	559,647	647,463
Net movement in funds		(104,206)	(57,684)	(161,890)	(87,816)
Total funds carried forward		313,905	83,852	397,757	559,647

The Consolidated statement of financial activities complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006 and includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**REGISTERED NUMBER: 04229975

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETAS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	4,794	13,699
		<u>4,794</u>	<u>13,699</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	15	5,789	9,504
Debtors	16	448,315	520,098
Cash at bank and in hand		345,765	381,045
		<u>799,869</u>	<u>910,647</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(406,906)	(364,699)
		<u>392,963</u>	<u>545,948</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>397,757</u>	<u>559,647</u>
Total net assets		<u>397,757</u>	<u>559,647</u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	18	83,852	141,536
Unrestricted funds	18	313,905	418,111
		<u>397,757</u>	<u>559,647</u>
Total funds		<u>397,757</u>	<u>559,647</u>

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

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

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 04229975

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Emma Williams

Signer ID: CHAKOIO4SH...

E V Williams

Date: 17/12/2025 GMT

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**REGISTERED NUMBER: 04229975

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	4,504	13,300
Investments	14	-	10
		<u>4,504</u>	<u>13,310</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	15	5,789	8,989
Debtors	16	323,334	485,689
Cash at bank and in hand		325,480	370,302
		<u>654,603</u>	<u>864,980</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(245,948)	(329,690)
		<u>408,655</u>	<u>535,290</u>
Net current assets			
		<u>413,159</u>	<u>548,600</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			
		<u>413,159</u>	<u>548,600</u>
Total net assets			
		<u><u>413,159</u></u>	<u><u>548,600</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	18	56,399	141,536
Unrestricted funds	18	356,760	407,064
		<u>413,159</u>	<u>548,600</u>
Total funds			
		<u><u>413,159</u></u>	<u><u>548,600</u></u>

The charity's net movement in funds for the year was £(135,441) (2024 - £(78,351)).

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

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

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 04229975

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Emma Williams

Signer ID: CHAKOIO4SH...

E V Williams

Date: 17/12/2025 GMT

The notes on pages 20 to 44 form part of these financial statements.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	21	(40,514)	(308,589)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		5,613	5,417
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets		-	110
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(379)	(3,636)
Net cash provided by investing activities		5,234	1,891
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(35,280)	(306,698)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		381,045	687,743
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22	345,765	381,045

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. General information

The charitable company is limited by guarantee, with the liability of members limited to £1 per member. The charitable company is registered in England and Wales with the Charity Commission. The registered office is Unity Business Centre, 26 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS7 1AB.

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charitable company there remain any assets, after satisfying all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having objectives similar to the Charity.

2. Accounting policies**2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

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

The Consolidated statement of financial activities (SOFA) and Consolidated balance sheet consolidate the financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary undertaking. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line by line basis.

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not presented its own Statement of financial activities in these financial statements.

2.2 Going concern

As outlined in note 27, on 29 August 2025, the charity's trading subsidiary LEEP1 CIC entered a process of voluntary liquidation. The Trustees consider that this development does not have a material impact on the overall going concern status of the group.

The trustees believe that Advonet, as a standalone entity, maintains adequate reserves and has reliable forecasts of income and expenditure to continue as a going concern.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2. Accounting policies (continued)**2.3 Income (continued)**

Grants are included in the Consolidated statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Donated services: The value of the services provided by volunteers has not been included. Further details of the contribution made by volunteers can be found in the annual report.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Group's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Group; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.6 Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

2. Accounting policies (continued)**2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives .

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	-	33%	straight line
Computer equipment	-	33%	straight line

2.8 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Consolidated statement of financial activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

2.9 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

2.10 Debtors

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

2.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.12 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Consolidated statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.13 Financial instruments

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

2.14 Employee benefits

The costs of short term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense where settlement of obligations does not fall within the same period.

Employee severance and redundancy pay is recognised within the accounts, on an accruals basis in the year in which the employee either left, or agreed to leave, the organisation.

2.15 Pensions

The Group operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Group to the fund in respect of the year.

2.16 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Group and which have not been designated for other purposes.

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

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

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The Trustees consider that there are no critical accounting estimates and judgements that have a material impact on these financial statements.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations	4,980	4,980	6,082
Total 2024	6,082	6,082	

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Local authority contracts	606,398	675,000	1,281,398	1,263,264
Other contracts	-	-	-	72,020
Other service income	79,158	(12)	79,146	75,116
Other grants	19,399	519,898	539,297	636,925
Cafe income	63,610	-	63,610	62,344
Other Leep1 income	121,435	-	121,435	124,897
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	890,000	1,194,886	2,084,886	2,234,566
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total 2024	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	965,066	1,269,500	2,234,566	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Interest received	5,613	5,613	5,417
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total 2024	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,417	5,417	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

7. Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Other income	1,590	1,590	2,150
Total 2024	2,150	2,150	

8. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Grants paid	18,556	18,556	14,050
Total 2024	14,050	14,050	

During the year the charity paid grants to the following institutions:

<i>Current year</i>	<i>Prior year</i>
DAMASQ	DAMASQ
Trans Leeds	Leeds Refugee Forum
SLATE	Lippy People
MEMAC	MEMAC

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

9. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities*Summary by fund type*

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Direct costs	527,463	1,147,547	1,675,010	1,627,306
Support costs	125,956	419,610	545,566	679,424
Governance costs	19,827	-	19,827	16,854
Grants paid (note 8)	18,556	-	18,556	14,050
	<u>691,802</u>	<u>1,567,157</u>	<u>2,258,959</u>	<u>2,337,634</u>
Total 2024	<u>924,639</u>	<u>1,412,995</u>	<u>2,337,634</u>	

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Direct costs	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Salaries, social security and pension	398,588	1,022,579	1,421,167	1,433,134
Age UK Leeds	-	56,000	56,000	56,000
Touchstone	-	27,129	27,129	25,429
Other subcontractors	13,391	6,559	19,950	22,609
Volunteer expenses	3,102	1,847	4,949	4,441
Project evaluation	-	9,140	9,140	11,501
Training	16,753	-	16,753	7,860
Recruitment	3,029	60	3,089	8,025
Travel	5,185	13,702	18,887	19,307
Subscriptions	3,847	1,277	5,124	3,408
Insurance	9,066	-	9,066	7,880
Activity costs	6,511	9,254	15,765	17,677
Cafe provision	9,863	-	9,863	10,035
Exceptional item- Irrecoverable VAT	58,128	-	58,128	-
Total 2025	527,463	1,147,547	1,675,010	1,627,306
Total 2024	583,126	1,044,180	1,627,306	

The exceptional item: Irrecoverable VAT expense in 2025 is in relation to the retrospective VAT registration of LEEP1 CIC.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Support costs				
Salaries, social security and pension	293,417	-	293,417	327,102
Computer costs	70,057	1,358	71,415	63,217
Premises costs	30,778	1,265	32,043	95,658
Communications	16,279	9,719	25,998	34,266
Printing, postage and stationary	5,560	2,605	8,165	10,220
Repairs and maintenance	54,198	80	54,278	53,754
Legal and professional	20,649	1,469	22,118	29,288
Bad debts	(343)	-	(343)	(1,293)
Depreciation	9,284	-	9,284	16,866
Irrecoverable VAT	3,876	-	3,876	31,617
Other	23,495	870	24,365	17,670
Bank charges	950	-	950	1,059
Allocation of shared resources	(402,244)	402,244	-	-
Total 2025	125,956	419,610	545,566	679,424
Total 2024	310,609	368,815	679,424	
Governance costs		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Trustee and management meetings		216	216	-
Auditor's remuneration		19,611	19,611	16,854
Total 2025		19,827	19,827	16,854
Total 2024		16,854	16,854	

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

10. Net income/(expenditure)

This is stated after charging:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
- owned by the charity	8,796	16,866
Operating lease charges	88,830	46,955
Auditor's remuneration - audit	12,075	11,500
Auditor's remuneration - other services	5,585	5,320
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

11. Staff costs

	Group 2025	Group 2024	Charity 2025	Charity 2024
	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,527,226	1,565,634	1,394,471	1,435,594
Social security costs	114,273	120,672	110,969	112,385
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	73,085	73,930	67,219	68,082
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	1,714,584	1,760,236	1,572,659	1,616,061
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The above figures include redundancy and settlement costs of £20,670 (2024: £10,241) and ex-gratia payments of £nil made to 6 employees (2024: £3,401, to one employee).

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	Group 2025	Group 2024
	No.	No.
Administration and advocacy (excluding volunteers)	78	82
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The total amount of employee benefits, including employer's pension contributions and employers' national insurance, received by the key management team is £121,538 (2024: £164,714). The charity's key management personnel are detailed on page 1.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2024: £nil).

During the year ended 31 March 2025, no Trustees expenses were reimbursed or paid directly (2024: £510 paid to 1 Trustee relating to travel and refreshments for meetings).

13. Tangible fixed assets**Group**

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2024	23,273	2,384	73,792	99,449
Additions	379	-	-	379
At 31 March 2025	23,652	2,384	73,792	99,828
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2024	22,874	2,384	60,492	85,750
Charge for the year	488	-	8,796	9,284
At 31 March 2025	23,362	2,384	69,288	95,034
Net book value				
At 31 March 2025	290	-	4,504	4,794
At 31 March 2024	399	-	13,300	13,699

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

13. Tangible fixed assets (continued)**Charity**

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2024	2,022	67,717	69,739
At 31 March 2025	2,022	67,717	69,739
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2024	2,022	54,417	56,439
Charge for the year	-	8,796	8,796
At 31 March 2025	2,022	63,213	65,235
Net book value			
At 31 March 2025	-	4,504	4,504
At 31 March 2024	-	13,300	13,300

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

14. Fixed asset investments

Charity

	Investments in subsidiary companies £
<i>Cost or valuation</i>	
At 1 April 2024	10
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2025	10
	<hr/> <hr/>
<i>Impairment</i>	
Charge for the year	10
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2025	10
	<hr/> <hr/>
<i>Net book value</i>	
At 31 March 2025	-
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	10
	<hr/> <hr/>

The consolidated financial statements include the results of Leep1 CIC, a company limited by guarantee (incorporated in England and Wales, registered number 07252221), its sole member being Advonet. The liability of the charity in the event of Leep1 CIC being wound up is limited by a sum not exceeding £1.

The principal activity of Leep1 CIC is that of providing independent advocacy and related/connected services.

Investment in the wholly owned subsidiary is carried at £nil (2024: £10) in the balance sheet of the charity as the investment has been impaired as the subsidiary has been liquidated post year end.

Income earned and expenditure incurred by Leep1 CIC have been recognised within the charitable activities of Advonet's consolidated accounts on the basis that these activities are deemed to have charitable intentions and purposes.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

15. Stocks

	Group 2025	Group 2024	Charity 2025	Charity 2024
	£	£	£	£
Finished goods	5,789	9,504	5,789	8,989

16. Debtors

	Group 2025	Group 2024	Charity 2025	Charity 2024
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	391,825	424,749	269,101	384,969
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	-	11,583
Other debtors	6,480	6,180	5,680	5,380
Prepayments and accrued income	50,010	89,169	48,553	83,757
	448,315	520,098	323,334	485,689

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2025	Group 2024	Charity 2025	Charity 2024
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	21,621	60,478	21,621	59,661
Other taxation and social security	166,860	39,190	36,875	39,094
Other creditors	3,068	3,321	3,322	2,429
Accruals and deferred income	215,357	261,710	184,130	228,506
	406,906	364,699	245,948	329,690

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2025 £	Charity 2024 £
Deferred income at 1 April	159,620	272,875	146,034	261,906
Resources deferred during the year	98,229	159,620	111,511	146,034
Amounts released from previous periods	(159,620)	(272,875)	(146,034)	(261,906)
	98,229	159,620	111,511	146,034

Deferred income relates to funding received in advance of the period to which the funding relates.

18. Statement of funds**Statement of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>					
<i>Designated funds</i>					
RRP waiting list reduction	29,620	-	-	-	29,620
Easy Read & Training	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Finance Officer and Business Development role	33,000	-	-	-	33,000
Advocacy development	45,000	-	-	-	45,000
	132,620	-	-	-	132,620
<i>General funds</i>					
Charity core activities	285,491	902,183	(691,802)	(314,587)	181,285
Total Unrestricted funds	418,111	902,183	(691,802)	(314,587)	313,905

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

18. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Restricted funds					
Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy	45,383	204,000	(213,063)	-	36,320
Leeds Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy	2,197	245,988	(490,177)	241,992	-
Leeds Independent Mental Health Advocacy	26,773	200,000	(212,058)	-	14,715
Leeds Care Act Advocacy	-	25,000	(94,119)	69,119	-
Autism North	4,692	66,607	(69,594)	-	1,705
Asking You!	28,680	64,602	(83,700)	-	9,582
LGBTQ+	23,547	-	(15,970)	(7,577)	-
Changemakers	4,556	167,622	(172,178)	-	-
Autism - AIM Mentoring & Peer Support	(1)	69,090	(79,556)	10,467	-
Employ Me	-	43,683	(43,753)	70	-
Bradford Craven Mentoring	-	53,568	(33,161)	-	20,407
Transforming Mental Health Access	-	49,819	(49,819)	-	-
Other restricted funds	5,709	4,907	(10,009)	516	1,123
	141,536	1,194,886	(1,567,157)	314,587	83,852
Total of funds	559,647	2,097,069	(2,258,959)	-	397,757

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

18. Statement of funds (continued)**Statement of funds - prior year**

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>					
<i>Designated funds</i>					
RRP waiting list reduction	29,620	-	-	-	29,620
Easy Read & Training	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Finance Officer and Business Development role	33,000	-	-	-	33,000
Advocacy development	45,000	-	-	-	45,000
	<hr/> 132,620	<hr/> -	<hr/> -	<hr/> -	<hr/> 132,620
<i>General funds</i>					
Charity core activities	420,767	978,715	(923,036)	(190,955)	285,491
	<hr/> 553,387	<hr/> 978,715	<hr/> (923,036)	<hr/> (190,955)	<hr/> 418,111
<i>Total Unrestricted funds</i>					

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

18. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
<i>Restricted funds</i>					
Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy	47,389	204,000	(206,006)	-	45,383
Leeds Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy	-	246,000	(422,065)	178,262	2,197
Leeds Independent Mental Health Advocacy	9,099	200,000	(182,326)	-	26,773
Leeds Care Act Advocacy	-	25,000	(65,096)	40,096	-
Autism North	(2,215)	68,101	(61,885)	691	4,692
Asking You!	31,156	64,602	(66,628)	(450)	28,680
Health Inequalities	-	50,270	(50,270)	-	-
LGBTQ+	3,807	89,089	(67,699)	(1,650)	23,547
Changemakers	4,531	85,602	(85,602)	25	4,556
Respite Review	-	26,340	(20,364)	(4,950)	1,026
Autism - AIM Mentoring & Peer Support	-	36,149	(44,912)	8,762	(1)
Respect Project	(124)	23,212	(7,230)	(15,983)	(125)
Heritage Project	-	14,567	(11,927)	(2,700)	(60)
ICS Health Navigator	-	57,558	(56,334)	-	1,224
Employ Me	-	27,900	(27,881)	-	19
BDCT Sensory Inpatient	-	24,359	(24,460)	101	-
Bradford Craven Mentoring	-	15,065	(4,636)	(10,429)	-
WY Ambassador	-	5,657	(3,460)	-	2,197
Other restricted funds	433	6,029	(4,214)	(820)	1,428
	<u>94,076</u>	<u>1,269,500</u>	<u>(1,412,995)</u>	<u>190,955</u>	<u>141,536</u>
<i>Total of funds</i>	<u>647,463</u>	<u>2,248,215</u>	<u>(2,336,031)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>559,647</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

18. Statement of funds (continued)**Designated Fund**

ASC Community Funding from Leeds City Council: ASC received in respect of community advocacy designated to 2022/2023 spend as not utilised in full in the current financial year.

The other designated funds have been approved by the Board to enhance existing provision, develop our commercial offer (easy read and training) and strengthen external partnerships.

Restricted Funds

All restricted funds are income which has been given for a specific purpose. The funds are not available for use for anything other than the specific project the funding was issued for.

Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy: This is independent health complaints advocacy which is required to be commissioned by local authorities. This advocacy support is aimed at empowering anyone in the Leeds area to resolve a complaint about healthcare commissioned or provided by the NHS in England.

Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy: instructed and non-instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Mental Capacity Act.

Independent Mental Health Advocacy: provision of instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Mental Health Act 1983. Including provision of instructed advocacy support for people with learning disabilities who qualify for IMHA as required by the Mental Health Act (amendment 2007).

Care Act Advocacy: provision of instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Care Act 2014.

Autism North - core offer provided by CCG/ICB (initially non recurrent)- information, advocacy and peer support for autistic people to increase access to services: drop in hubs, groups, signposting, resources etc.

Asking You!: This is funding provided by Leeds City Council. This funding is used for a project to get people with learning disabilities involved in the services they use. This is through engagement in People's Parliament and also by being involved in the new strengths-based approach by Adult Social Care.

LGBT+ – Outspoken Project: funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, providing self- advocacy, peer support for LGBTQ+ people who are autistic or have a learning disability and training to health professionals.

Changemakers Fund: improving mental health support for autistic people- to provide local and regional development of direct ongoing consultation routes with autistic people on mental health with health services, autism specific peer support groups and autism support for generic peer support with Leeds Mind, training to advocacy and social prescribing services and self-advocacy resources (Yorkshire AIM)

Respite Project: £30k Asking You to undertake consultation together with people with lived experience on local Respite services (Asking You)

Autism AIM - Funded by the National lottery 3 years from Jan 2022: to expand autism mentoring and one to one peer support provision locally and peer support groups (Leeds AIM) Extended to March 2025.

ADVONET

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Respect Project: Funded by NIHR in partnership with Warwick University – as subcontractors from 01 April 2022: social care research partnership - easy read resources (and consultation) on End of Life/ future planning to support Respect aims (CHANGE)

Heritage Project: Funded by Leeds Community Foundation from 01 April 2022 to produce a project celebrating the history and strengths of people with learning disabilities.

AIM ICS Health Navigator: £58K pilot work WY ICS – health navigator roles at pilot hubs as below- until March 24.

Employ Me- The LIFE project is funded by the National Lottery Community Fund for £198k for 3 years Feb 2024- February 2027. The project was initially based in Leep1 and a formal transfer was agreed to Advonet as Leep1 were in the liquidation process, in June 2025. The project activities and outcomes are not expected to change. The project supports local adults with learning disabilities to maintain employment. It provides self-advocacy in employment workshops co developed and co-delivered by trained staff with learning disabilities, supporting accessible resources and training for employers.

AIM BDCT Sensory – Bradford 23/24 – extending the sensory inpatient pilot work from last year in partnership with BDCT- AIM providing sensory checker audits. Bradford District Care Trust.

Bradford Craven Mentoring - To provide information, signposting, navigation and peer support to autistic adults in Bradford, with a focus on increasing health and mental health access (linking to other streams).

AIM West Yorkshire Ambassador – Initially 1 year April 2023 – March 2024. Payment for one member of staff to be an ambassador on 4 hours a week.

Transforming Mental Health Access - 1 year funding via Leeds Community Foundation to support autism access to wider services in the new transforming mental health offer.

Health Inequalities: AIM: pilot work supporting a Local Care Partnership (The Light Surgery and Leeds Student Medical Practice) to increase access to healthcare for autistic people: training to health professionals and peer support. This was initially applied for through WYHHCP and taken up by Leeds CCG/ ICB.

Transfers

During the year, a transfer of £314,587 was made from unrestricted funds to restricted funds. This transfer was due to the unrestricted fund supporting the spend on the Leeds contracts and the finishing of various projects during the year.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

19. Summary of funds**Summary of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Designated funds	132,620	-	-	-	132,620
General funds	285,491	902,183	(691,802)	(314,587)	181,285
Restricted funds	141,536	1,194,886	(1,567,157)	314,587	83,852
	<u>559,647</u>	<u>2,097,069</u>	<u>(2,258,959)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>397,757</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Designated funds	132,620	-	-	-	132,620
General funds	420,767	978,715	(923,036)	(190,955)	285,491
Restricted funds	94,076	1,269,500	(1,412,995)	190,955	141,536
	<u>647,463</u>	<u>2,248,215</u>	<u>(2,336,031)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>559,647</u>

20. Analysis of net assets between funds**Analysis of net assets between funds - current year**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	4,794	-	4,794
Current assets	595,796	204,073	799,869
Creditors due within one year	(286,685)	(120,221)	(406,906)
Total	<u>313,905</u>	<u>83,852</u>	<u>397,757</u>

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

20. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	13,699	-	13,699
Current assets	611,424	299,223	910,647
Creditors due within one year	(207,012)	(157,687)	(364,699)
Total	418,111	141,536	559,647

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

	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(161,890)	(87,816)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	9,284	16,866
Investment income	(5,613)	(5,417)
Profit on the sale of fixed assets	-	(110)
Decrease in stocks	3,715	6,073
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	71,783	(178,511)
Increase in creditors	103,590	50,448
(Decrease) in deferred income	(61,383)	(110,122)
Net cash used in operating activities	(40,514)	(308,589)

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Group 2025	Group 2024
	£	£
Cash in hand	345,765	381,045
<i>Total cash and cash equivalents</i>	345,765	381,045

23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2024	Cash flows	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	381,045	(35,280)	345,765
	381,045	(35,280)	345,765

24. Pension commitments

The group participates in a defined contribution scheme. The charge to the statement of financial activities in respect of the scheme was £73,065 (2024: £73,930). Amounts owed at year end were £nil (2024: £nil) which are held within creditors.

25. Operating lease commitments

At 31 March 2025 the Group and the charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Group 2025	Group 2024	Charity 2025	Charity 2024
	£	£	£	£
Not later than 1 year	98,398	83,635	89,710	75,361
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	52,170	74,277	52,170	74,277
	150,568	157,912	141,880	149,638

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

26. Related party transactions

During the year Advonet subcontracted to Age UK Leeds and Touchstone (2024: Age UK Leeds, Touchstone and Sign Health). Note 9 includes details of amounts paid to these parties for subcontracted advocacy work. Touchstone is a charity which had a director/trustee in common until their resignation March 2023..

In October 2018, Advonet also entered into partnership with Touchstone in delivering advocacy work for the Kirklees Advocacy Hub. Total income received from Touchstone as part of this partnership was £nil (2024: £68,700).

During the year, in addition to the recharge of expenses, Advonet charged Leep1 CIC (a subsidiary) management charges amounting to £19,951 (2024: £22,944). At the year end, Leep1 CIC owed Advonet £nil (2024: £11,583) after providing against the full balance of £66,334 as the subsidiary company has entered liquidation post year end and the rest is not recoverable.

27. Post balance sheet events

On 29 August 2025, the charity's trading subsidiary, Leep1 CIC, entered into vountary liquidation. Advonet's investment in LEEP1 and balance due from LEEP1 have been fully impaired in 2025. It is considered unlikely that any assets will be recovered from LEEP1 following the conclusion of the liquidation process.

ADVONET

England & Wales - Charity number 1126132

Accounts

Registered number: 04229975

Charity number: 1126132

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

ADVONET
(A company limited by guarantee)

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ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Trustees	M Ahmed (resigned 9 December 2023) R Beck S Burke (appointed 6 December 2023) W Case (resigned 30 August 2024) J Champaneria (appointed 3 July 2024) M Ghosh (appointed 3 July 2024) S Gill (resigned 19 June 2024) P C Gleeson (resigned 6 December 2023) P J Gruen E Long (appointed 13 September 2023, resigned 25 July 2024) I Nip Dr M Roberts (appointed 3 July 2024) R Porter K Tandel E V Williams M M Yip
Company registered number	04229975
Charity registered number	1126132
Registered office	Unity Business Centre 26 Roundhay Road Leeds LS7 1AB
Company secretary	R S Whitmore (appointed 3 July 2024) P S Bramson (resigned 3 July 2024)
Independent auditors	BHP LLP 2 Rutland Park Sheffield S10 2PD
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank plc Four Brindleyplace Birmingham B1 2JB
Key management personnel	P Bramson - Chief Executive (resigned July 2024) L Kelly - Finance Director (resigned May 2023) W Cork - Partnership and Development Director N Hussain - Advocacy Director A Ellis - CEO L Ebel - Finance Manager (appointed July 2023)

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the charity for the 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the group and the charity qualify as small under section 383 of the Companies Act 2006, the Group strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Introduction to the Trustee's Report**a. Chair's Introduction**

The past year has been tinged with a sense of suspense, with the potential for a change in government and a shift in the future direction of Health and Social Care looming large. The cost-of-living crisis has continued to significantly impact our staff, volunteers and clients. We have continued to work with many individuals with complex needs, whose access to essential services and support has been constrained by the ongoing shortage of resources in health, social care and the wider public sector. Despite these challenges, the unwavering dedication and hard work of our colleagues have led to many significant achievements, both large and small.

Peter Gruen, Chair of The Advonet Group

b. Context of the Report

This report was prepared by the Board of Trustees. It contextualises the consolidated financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary, Leep1 CIC, for the year ending 31 March 2024. The financial statements are prepared to meet the requirements of a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

They comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

This report provides a detailed overview of The Advonet Group, a Leeds-based provider of advocacy-related services. It includes the following sections:

- 2.0 **Introduction to The Advonet Group:** An introduction to our organization and the advocacy services we provide.
- 3.0 **Objectives and Activities:** An explanation of our objectives and the activities we undertake to achieve them.
- 4.0 **Vision, Mission, and Values:** A presentation of our vision, mission, and core values that guide our work.
- 5.0 **Annual Summary:** A summary of our activities over the past year, highlighting key achievements and milestones.
- 6.0 **Future Plans:** An outline of our plans and priorities for the coming year, focusing on continued growth and service enhancement.

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

The Advonet Group

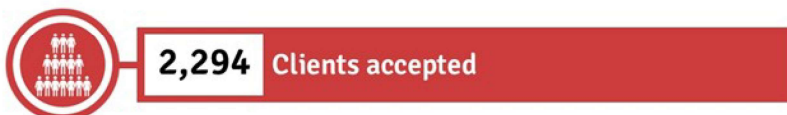
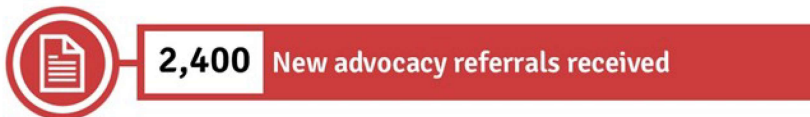
The Advonet Group

Providing Independent Advocacy

Advonet, short for Advocacy Network, was established in 2021 as an advocacy infrastructure organisation for Leeds. Initially, it was jointly managed by three long-standing local advocacy providers: Advocacy for Mental Health, Dementia Advocacy, and Advocacy. In 2015, these organisations merged to form a single entity. Subsequently, Advonet rebranded itself as The Advonet Group to reflect its dual role in delivering advocacy services and hosting a variety of user-led projects, each with its own distinct identity, under the Advonet umbrella.

In 23/24 The Group consisted of:

a. The Advocacy Services in Leeds



- **Care Act Advocacy:** Supporting individuals to understand their rights under the Care Act and be fully involved in local authority assessments, care reviews, care planning, and safeguarding processes.
- **Independent Mental Capacity Act Advocacy (IMCA):** Providing independent safeguards for those unable to make important decisions, ensuring their involvement in major life decisions and that these decisions are made in their best interests.
- **Relevant Person's Representative (RPR) Advocacy:** Supporting and representing individuals deprived of their liberty under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS), ensuring their rights are upheld and their care is in their best interests.
- **Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA):** Helping individuals understand their rights under the Mental Health Act, supporting them in decisions about their care and treatment.
- **Independent Health Complaints Advocacy:** Assisting individuals who wish to complain about NHS services, providing information and support through the NHS complaints procedure.
- **Community Advocacy:** This heading covers advocacy which unlike the others listed above there is no legal entitlement to. We changed delivery model this year to a hub model. We invite individuals to our community hubs in various Leeds locations, including a virtual hub. These hubs focus on self-advocacy, equipping clients with ideas and tools to address their advocacy issues.

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(A company limited by guarantee)

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

The Advonet Group (continued)

b. Learning Disabilities Services

c. Asking You



This project supports people with learning disabilities who want to help public bodies in Leeds to make service improvements. Examples of their work include advising on a public health campaign, providing learning disability awareness training or independent service reviews. The project supports the Leeds Learning Disability People's Parliament and the Leeds Learning Disability Partnership Board.

Volunteer Citizen Advocates supported by the project are matched on an ongoing basis for a long period with a person who often has no-one independent in their lives, only paid services. This means clients have to work together with their Citizen Advocate to help them make their voice heard and ensure their rights are respected.

d. Leep1



This service is a self-advocacy project for adults with a learning disability. It is also a separate user led organisation and CIC. It helps its members to speak up for themselves, improve their confidence and communicate the needs of their community. It offers a wide range of activities and groups that identify improve skills, build confidence and wellbeing.

e. Cafe Leep



This project was set up to fulfil the ambitions of Leep1 Members. It provides training placements to adults with a learning disability who are supported to gain catering qualifications.

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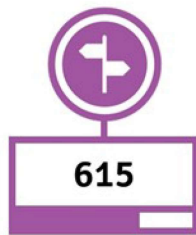
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Advonet Group (continued)

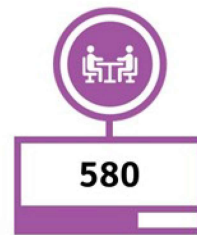
f. Autism AIM Services



Autistic clients we have worked with



Total people supported through signposting



Total autistic people supported one-to-one

g. Leeds Autism AIM



This is a free service co-led by and run for autistic adults (aged 18 and over) in the Leeds City Council area. It provides low-level support, including advocacy, information and signposting, mentoring and peer support. Most staff working with our AIM service are autistic adults themselves.

h. Autism AIM - Mental Health Equity Project



This project helps mental health services across West Yorkshire work improve the way that they work with autistic adults accessing support from them.

The project's primary purpose is to increase access to services for autistic adults. However, it also provides peer support, facilitates consultations on the accessibility of mental health services and provides training to mental health professionals.

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

The Advonet Group (continued)

i. Bradford and Craven Autism AIM



A pilot project that launched in summer 2023, Bradford and Craven Autism AIM provides information and signposting, one-to-one peer support and a Health Access Project for autistic adults who get little or no funded support in the Bradford, Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven areas.

j. CHANGE



Since joining The Advonet Group in 2019, after 25 years as a groundbreaking, independent User-Led Organisation, CHANGE have worked on the Restraint, Seclusion and Segregation (RSS) Project for the CQC and currently work on the Outspoken LGBTQ+ Inclusion Project alongside Yorkshire MESMAC.

The CHANGE team under the leadership of the Development Director has recently sought to combine its commitment to promoting the human rights of people with learning disabilities with the spirit of social enterprise by providing the following services available for purchase through their new website:

- Easy read and accessible resources, including booklets and images.
- Training around learning disability awareness.

The Advonet Group's Aims and Objectives

The objectives of The Advonet Group are to relieve poverty and sickness and preserve and protect the health of the public irrespective of race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, age or disability. In particular, the organisation's aims include:

- Promoting awareness and understanding of advocacy practice.
- Supporting the development of advocacy services.
- The provision of a point of contact for people who need advocacy support or help.
- The provision of advocacy services in the North of England.
- The development, co-ordination and facilitation of training and education on advocacy and issues relevant to advocacy.
- The development and promotion of good practice standards for advocacy.

The Trustees review the aims and objectives of the organisation each year and in the current year, they did this as part of their Board Awayday. The Trustees have referred to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives.

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

This review encompasses what we achieved and the outcomes of our work over the year ended 31 March.

a. The Advonet Group's Mission, Vision and Values



People having their voices heard and taking greater control over their lives, no longer marginalised.



Our Mission

Enabling people to better communicate their needs, understand their choices and obtain their rights.

Independence and Empowerment

- Trust each other to make decisions.
- This should be based on The Advonet Group's values, policies, processes and resources. This includes the Advocacy Charter.
- Work hard to support and helpfully challenge ourselves, our clients and other people we work with.
- Make sure that available resources are accessible to everyone.

Integrity

- Be open, honest and clear with our clients, ourselves and other professionals about what we can and can't do.
- To be accountable to each other and our clients. To be responsible for what we do.
- Be open to challenges. Reflect and take responsibility when things don't go as planned.
- Celebrate The Advonet Group's achievements and successes.

Equality and Diversity

- Make sure we are inclusive and accessible. This is for people of all ethnicities, races, gender identities, sexualities and religious beliefs. Make sure we meet the needs of both colleagues and clients.
- Offer training and development to colleagues and service users. This should promote equality and diversity within The Advonet Group and the wider community.
- We should work with our clients and the community to provide our services. This is to give everyone an equal voice.

The Advonet Group's Group Achievements in 23-24

The Advonet Group's Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

They continue to make sure that The Advonet Group's activities and ambitions are aligned with its charitable objectives and drive the charity forward to achieve as much as possible for our beneficiaries.

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

The Advonet Group's Group Achievements in 23-24 (continued)**a. Overall Achievements of The Advonet Group**

Advocacy Support: We provided advocacy support or involvement opportunities for 2,454 people.

Advocacy Development Fund: The Board launched the second round of the Advocacy Development Fund, using reserves to support community organisations working with specific communities of interest. Awards were made to:

TransLeeds: Supporting the Transgender, Non-Binary, and Gender Expansive Community in and around Leeds to develop their community advocacy offer.

Leeds Refugee Forum: Assisting in the development of an advocacy service for refugee and asylum seeker communities.

Slate: A furniture workshop and retail outlet providing work and training opportunities for adults with learning disabilities. The funding enabled volunteers to set up a self-advocacy group.

Damasq: A Leeds-based nonprofit organisation focused on uniting communities, received funding to offer advocacy to migrant communities.

Trustees led the selection process in November 2023, building on the success of the first round. It is predicted that over 1,000 people will benefit from these awards. This initiative also allows small grassroots organisations to learn about advocacy, and The Advonet Group to make its 'generic' advocacy more inclusive. We plan to celebrate this mutual learning at a city-wide event in 2025.

Investors in Volunteering Accreditation: We were awarded our Investors in Volunteering accreditation for the third time. The assessor highlighted many positive aspects from our volunteers and provided useful pointers for the future. We plan to launch our new Volunteer Strategy in January 2025.

Management and Leadership Streamlining : We streamlined the Management and Senior Leadership Team, flattening the structure to create greater synergies and capacity for development. From autumn 2024, the Senior Team will include the Development Director, Finance Manager, Autism Services Manager, Advocacy Manager, Learning Disabilities Service Manager and Quality & Performance Manager.

b. Advocacy Services

In 2023/24, the Advocacy Management Team prepared to roll out the 1.2 Representative (Rep) advocacy, developed in collaboration with commissioners to address a pressing need for Leeds citizens. A 1.2 Rep is appointed to support individuals who lack the capacity to consent to restrictions on their freedom and may be deprived of their liberty in a community or domestic setting and is authorised by the court of protection . The 1.2 Rep ensures that the individual's rights are upheld, their care is in their best interests and they are involved as much as possible in decisions about their lives.

c. Learning Disabilities Services

In early 2024, Leep1 (with support from Asking You!) worked on setting up their Leep1 Inclusion For Employment (LIFE) project. Work on that, including helping participants to speak up for themselves when trying to get into employment, begins this summer.

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

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


The Advonet Group's Group Achievements in 23-24 (continued)

d. Autism AIM Services

- In 2023-24, Leeds Autism AIM actively supported 409 people, with 513 new referrals received. 190 unique visitors came to their Autism Hub sessions, with an average of 20 attending each drop-in. On their website, the AIM team's resources were downloaded nearly 2,500 times.
- In the autumn of 2023, the entire Autism AIM service picked up the Outstanding Service prize at the National Advocacy Awards.
- In the autumn of 2023, in partnership with Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust, the Bradford project won at the Celebrate as One awards for their work on sensory audits of mental health inpatient settings.
- In the Bradford AIM project's first year, the project supported 88 people, including 39 people through one-to-one peer support and 26 people through its Health Access Project. From summer 2024, the project was awarded an extra year's funding having met all its targets. They also co-facilitate mental health peer support groups with the Mental Health Equity Project team and have replaced one-to-one peer support with post-diagnostic support for the coming year.

The Future

In March 2024, during their annual awayday, Trustees decided to focus the organisation's energies on 'Thriving in Challenging Times' due to the current uncertainty in Health & Social Care. They believed the future landscape would become clearer after the upcoming election. Between March and June, Trustees adapted the existing five-year Strategic Plan into a more focused two-year business plan. Staff were consulted on the initial draft, and the new plan was adopted in June.

Strategic Business Plan: 2024-2026 	OUR GOALS	OUR OBJECTIVES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stabilisation: Strengthen financial resilience; optimise operational efficiency; enhance governance practices; Improve staff recruitment and retention.• Opportunities: Identify innovative funding sources; collaborate with local partners; leverage technology for improved service agility; use data-driven decision-making.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainability: Stabilise income; prepare for growth; diversify income, base decisions on data insights• Quality: Maintain high-quality advocacy services; regularly assess impact and client satisfaction• Collaboration: Lead annual campaign; develop new work with partners• People: Pay market rate salaries; define career paths; promote wellbeing
	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	CHALLENGES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finances: Maintain reserve fund; balanced budget• Client impact: Aim for 80% advocacy client satisfaction; increase self-advocacy participation• Visibility and Collaboration: Get regular media coverage every three months; partner with at least three other orgs• People: Aim for 85% staff retention annually; monitor turnover and address concerning trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Financial pressure: Funding cuts; growing demand• Health & Social Care Landscape: Adapt to funding shortages and growing demand• Advocacy Accessibility: Reach marginalised groups• Competition: Attracting and retaining talent• Burnout: Address staff workload and stress• Inclusivity: Ensure staff/vols reflect who we work with

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

The Future (continued)

To deliver our plan over the next year, we will focus on the following actions:

Stabilisation

- Secure replacement funding for expiring grants and prepare for the upcoming contract review.
- Task the Staff and Trustee Involvement Group with leading a productivity review.
- Develop a data utilisation plan to enable data-driven decision-making.

Quality

- Create an accessible performance dashboard, including compliance metrics, for Board and staff assurance.
- Conduct six annual staff and trustee audits to ensure continuous improvement.

Collaboration

- Partner with external organisations to conduct at least one campaign aimed at enhancing system learning in Leeds.

People

- The Staff and Trustee Group will implement a pay and benefits review programme to ensure we offer a competitive compensation package.

Structure Governance and Management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 6 June 2001 and a registered charity. The charity is established under a Memorandum of Association which outlines the objectives and aims of the organisation. Members are required to contribute £1 in the event of the Company winding up. Details of the registered number and office are given on Page 1.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Members of the Board act in two capacities. They are both a Company Director and Trustee. They receive no remuneration, and any expenses are shown in Note 12 to the financial statements. Appointments to the Board are made by the Members of the Company at the Annual General Meeting or at a Board meeting held during the year in accordance with the Articles of Association.

There are 14 places on the Board. The Board decided in 2023 to increase the number of Trustees to help it have the scope to better represent the diverse of the communities which it serves.

When a vacancy arises on the Board, a recruitment campaign is run to identify a replacement for the departing Trustee. The campaign is informed by the Board's annual skills audit. This is used to focus the recruitment campaign to fill identified gaps in skills, experience or knowledge.

Under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, one third of the Board must retire by rotation at each Annual General Meeting.

The Board members who retire are the longest serving directors. Retiring Trustees can offer themselves for re-election.

Trustee Recruitment and Development Process

Potential trustees first meet with the CEO to learn about the role. Following this meeting, they are encouraged to attend board meetings as observers. If they remain interested, they are interviewed by the Chair and another trustee. Upon joining the Board, new trustees are immediately offered an induction to familiarize themselves with the organisation's policies, procedures, and structures. All trustees attend a formal induction session with the Chair and the Chief Executive. Trustees undergo an annual performance review with the Chair. They also have access to the organisation's online training programme. Additional training is provided to trustees individually or as a group, based on emerging training needs.

Annual audits capture Trustees' skills and key characteristics in order to facilitate targeted recruitment when a vacancy occurs.

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Structure Governance and Management (continued)**Board and Leadership Structure**

The Board meets at least four times a year and is responsible for the strategic direction and governance of the organisation, as well as determining its policies. Throughout the financial year, the Resources, Quality & Operations and Development sub-groups also meet quarterly.

Sub-Groups:

Resources Sub-Group: Focuses on finance, health and safety, and data protection.

Quality & Operations Sub-Group: Concentrates on service delivery, the quality regime, policies and procedures, service quality, and HR.

Development Sub-Group: Deals with communications, horizon scanning, and business development strategy.

The sub-groups delve into greater detail about the organisation's activities and plans.

The Board delegates the operational running of the organisation to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), headed by the Chief Executive, who is appointed by the Board to manage day-to-day operations.

In 2023/24, the Senior Leadership Team was restructured, with the roles of Advocacy Director, Inclusion Projects Director, and Finance Director removed. The new team now includes the Development Director, Finance Manager (also responsible for data protection), three Service Area Managers and a Quality & Performance Manager (responsible for compliance).

The Advonet Group: Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024**Key management remuneration**

During the financial year ending 31 March 2024, the Senior Leadership Team, listed above made up the organisation's key personnel.

The key management's pay award is set by the Board following a benchmarking exercise which compared the salaries of similar roles in comparable organisations. No employee earned more than £60,000 per annum in the current or previous financial year.

Risk and Opportunity Management

The charity trustees have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that systems or procedures are established in order to manage those risks.

The Board Development Subgroup conducts a quarterly review of the risks and opportunities facing the organisation. The full Board completes a comprehensive review during its Annual Awayday. These findings are documented in the Risk Register, which considers Governance, Operational, Financial, and Environmental/Social/Political factors.

The register assesses the potential impact and likelihood of each risk, the existing controls and additional measures that could mitigate these risks. The Senior Leadership Team maintains this process, with oversight from the Development Subgroup.

At the last review, the principal risks and uncertainties identified were the loss of funding, the impact of inflation on contracts and staff retention and changes in health and social care policy. These risks are managed by developing strong strategic partnerships with funders and other stakeholders, implementing an organisation-wide efficiencies programme and diversifying funding sources.

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Financial Review

The financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the conditions in the company's memorandum and articles of association. The movement in funds is shown on the Statement of Financial Activities on Page 15.

Principal Funding Sources

The Advonet Group and its consortium partners (Touchstone and Age UK Leeds) started to deliver the five-year contract for Advocacy in Leeds in April 2018. A three-year extension was awarded in 2023. This contract with Leeds City Council remains the major source of funding for the organisation, consistent with the prior year. (56% of income in 23/24; 60% of income in 22/23).

Other funding comes from several different sources including other departments of Leeds City Council, The West Yorkshire NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB), Comic Relief and The National Lottery Community Fund.

The Advonet Group does not use professional fundraisers or third parties to fundraise on our behalf. There have been no complaints about fundraising activity this year.

Charity Reserves**Performance in year**

During the year ended 31 March 2024 Advonet made a deficit of £87,816 (2022/23: deficit of £102,254).

Information in relation to the charity's reserves policy is given below.

This year the Board has drawn on the organisation's free reserves for the following Designated funds:

- The Advocacy Development Fund created to enable The Advonet Group to fund community groups to use advocacy approaches to equip people in minoritized groups to be better socially included. This approach is building capacity and seeding new partnerships to help the organisation increase the inclusivity of our advocacy offer.
- Scoping our Easy Read and Training Social Enterprise with support of a consultant social entrepreneur.
- An additional Finance Role to help optimise the finance function for the future.
- An additional Business Support Role to lead a range of business development activities.

In addition, the organisation has drawn on reserves to support staff to cope with a cost-of-living crisis offering a 3% pay rise and a one-off cost-of-living payment.

Restricted funds

The restricted funds at the end of March 2024 totalled £141,536 principally represents amounts held for Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy, Leeds Independent Mental Health Advocacy, LGBTQ+ and Asking You! projects.

The Advonet Group's Reserves Policy

In forming a reserves policy, the Trustees have taken into account the financial impact of the principal risks identified above. The Advonet Group maintains an unrestricted cash reserve to provide a reasonable working balance between meeting existing commitments and recognising that there can sometimes be a delay in receiving grants or other income due.

The Board has undertaken a more detailed review of reserves requirements rather than the previous target of three months' operating costs totalling £231,159 and has reviewed the level of reserves required to take account of known liabilities and possible contingencies.

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

The Risk and Opportunity Register

As detailed above, this reviewed on a regular basis and informs the Reserves Policy to ensure that we capture funds that enable us to deal with known risks in a sustainable way.

The required reserves estimate as at 31 March 2024 is £231,159 following our annual review, using our established methodology. Free reserves (excluding fixed assets and designated funds) of the organisation as at the end of March 2024 are £271,792 (2023: £393,838). This means that we are currently £40,633 above our reserves target.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and the charity and of their incoming resources and application of resources, including their income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 group will continue in business.

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

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable group's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable group's auditors are aware of that information.

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Auditors

The auditors, BHP LLP, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Emma Williams

Signer ID: CHAKOIO4SH...

E V Williams

Date: 30/01/2025 GMT

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ADVONET

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024, and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ADVONET (CONTINUED)

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic

ADVONET

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ADVONET (CONTINUED)

decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- the engagement responsible individual ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charitable group through discussions with management and trustees and from our knowledge and experiences of the sector;
- we focussed on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charitable group, including Charities Act 2011, Companies Act 2006, GDPR, employment law, food standards agency and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and trustees;
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charitable group's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by;

- making enquiries of management and trustees as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risks of fraud through management bias and override controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in note 3 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance including Finance and Audit Committee;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ADVONET (CONTINUED)

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Signer ID: WKOLTHN6RI...

Rachel Heath (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

BHP LLP

Chartered Accountants

2 Rutland Park

Sheffield

S10 2PD

Date: 30/01/2025 GMT

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
	Note				
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	6,082	-	6,082	1,473
Charitable activities	5	965,066	1,269,500	2,234,566	2,129,632
Investments	6	5,417	-	5,417	1,965
Other income	7	2,150	-	2,150	2,991
Total income		978,715	1,269,500	2,248,215	2,136,061
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	9	924,639	1,412,995	2,337,634	2,238,315
Total expenditure		924,639	1,412,995	2,337,634	2,238,315
Net income/(expenditure) before taxation		54,076	(143,495)	(89,419)	(102,254)
Taxation		1,603	-	1,603	-
Net income/(expenditure) after taxation		55,679	(143,495)	(87,816)	(102,254)
Transfers between funds	18	(190,955)	190,955	-	-
Net movement in funds		(135,276)	47,460	(87,816)	(102,254)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		553,387	94,076	647,463	749,717
Net movement in funds		(135,276)	47,460	(87,816)	(102,254)
Total funds carried forward		418,111	141,536	559,647	647,463

The Consolidated statement of financial activities complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006 and includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**REGISTERED NUMBER: 04229975

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET*AS AT 31 MARCH 2024*

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	13,699	26,929
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		13,699	26,929
Current assets			
Stocks	15	9,504	15,577
Debtors	16	520,098	341,587
Cash at bank and in hand		381,045	687,743
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		910,647	1,044,907
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(364,699)	(424,373)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net current assets		545,948	620,534
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total assets less current liabilities		559,647	647,463
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total net assets		559,647	647,463
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	18	141,536	94,076
Unrestricted funds	18	418,111	553,387
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds		559,647	647,463
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

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

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

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 04229975

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Emma Williams

Signer ID: CHAKOIO4SH...

E V Williams

Date: 30/01/2025 GMT

The notes on pages 25 to 48 form part of these financial statements.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**REGISTERED NUMBER: 04229975

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET*AS AT 31 MARCH 2024*

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	13,300	24,119
Investments	14	10	10
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		13,310	24,129
Current assets			
Stocks	15	8,989	15,577
Debtors	16	485,689	310,364
Cash at bank and in hand		370,302	664,338
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		864,980	990,279
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(329,690)	(387,457)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net current assets		535,290	602,822
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total assets less current liabilities		548,600	626,951
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total net assets		548,600	626,951
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	18	141,536	94,076
Unrestricted funds	18	407,064	532,875
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds		548,600	626,951
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The charity's net movement in funds for the year was £(78,351) (2023 - £(80,825)).

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

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

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 04229975

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Emma Williams

Signer ID: CHAKOIO4SH...

E V Williams

Date: 30/01/2025 GMT

The notes on pages 25 to 48 form part of these financial statements.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	21	(308,589)	(84,359)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		5,417	-
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets		110	-
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(3,636)	(17,823)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		1,891	(17,823)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(306,698)	(102,182)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		687,743	789,925
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22	381,045	687,743
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. General information

The charitable company is limited by guarantee, with the liability of members limited to £1 per member. The charitable company is registered in England and Wales with the Charity Commission. The registered office is Unity Business Centre, 26 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS7 1AB.

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charitable company there remain any assets, after satisfying all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having objectives similar to the Charity.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

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

The Consolidated statement of financial activities (SOFA) and Consolidated balance sheet consolidate the financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary undertaking. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line by line basis.

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not presented its own Statement of financial activities in these financial statements.

2.2 Going concern

The Trustees have at the time of approving the financial statements a reasonable expectation that the charitable group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charitable group has taken steps to reduce exposure to long term costs and has contingency planning in place in the event of losing a core contract. The trustees have taken into consideration the potential contingent liability detailed in note 24 in making their assessment. It is for these reasons that the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Consolidated statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Donated services: The value of the services provided by volunteers has not been included. Further details of the contribution made by volunteers can be found in the annual report.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the group's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the group; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)**2.6 Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives .

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	-	33% straight line
Computer equipment	-	33% straight line

2.8 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Consolidated statement of financial activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

2.9 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

2.10 Debtors

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

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and 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.

2.12 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Consolidated statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.13 Financial instruments

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

2.14 Employee benefits

The costs of short term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense where settlement of obligations does not fall within the same period.

Employee severance and redundancy pay is recognised within the accounts, on an accruals basis in the year in which the employee either left, or agreed to leave, the organisation.

2.15 Pensions

The group operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the group to the fund in respect of the year.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)**2.16 Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the group and which have not been designated for other purposes.

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

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

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The Trustees consider that there are no critical accounting estimates and judgements that have a material impact on these financial statements.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	6,082	6,082	1,473
Total 2023	1,473	1,473	

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Local authority contracts	588,401	674,863	1,263,264	1,281,018
Other contracts	72,020	-	72,020	110,290
Other service income	75,116	-	75,116	79,225
Other grants	42,288	594,637	636,925	490,858
Cafe income	62,344	-	62,344	50,606
Other Leep1 income	124,897	-	124,897	117,635
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	965,066	1,269,500	2,234,566	2,129,632
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total 2023	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	997,418	1,132,214	2,129,632	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Interest received	5,417	5,417	1,965
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total 2023	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,965	1,965	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

7. Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Other income	2,150	2,150	2,991
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total 2023	2,991	2,991	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

8. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Grants paid	14,050	14,050	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

During the year the charity paid grants to the following institutions:

DAMASQ
Leeds Refugee Forum
Lippy People
MEMAC

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

9. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities**Summary by fund type**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Direct costs	583,126	1,044,180	1,627,306	1,600,080
Support costs	310,609	368,815	679,424	626,165
Governance costs	16,854	-	16,854	12,070
Grants paid (note 8)	14,050	-	14,050	-
	<u>924,639</u>	<u>1,412,995</u>	<u>2,337,634</u>	<u>2,238,315</u>

Total 2023	<u>945,058</u>	<u>1,293,257</u>	<u>2,238,315</u>	
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	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Direct costs				
Salaries, social security and pension	524,601	908,533	1,433,134	1,440,298
Age UK Leeds	-	56,000	56,000	42,993
Touchstone	-	25,429	25,429	26,424
Other subcontractors	5,042	17,567	22,609	14,473
Volunteer expenses	545	3,896	4,441	3,018
Project evaluation	2,801	8,700	11,501	5,491
Training	6,465	1,395	7,860	11,137
Recruitment	7,840	185	8,025	1,246
Travel	4,203	15,104	19,307	16,473
Subscriptions	2,656	752	3,408	2,801
Insurance	7,880	-	7,880	7,410
Activity costs	11,058	6,619	17,677	18,953
Cafe provision	10,035	-	10,035	9,363
Total 2024	<u>583,126</u>	<u>1,044,180</u>	<u>1,627,306</u>	<u>1,600,080</u>

Total 2023	<u>640,936</u>	<u>959,144</u>	<u>1,600,080</u>	
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(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Support costs	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Salaries, social security and pension	327,102	-	327,102	338,371
Computer costs	61,958	1,259	63,217	55,187
Premises costs	95,175	483	95,658	95,076
Communications	23,598	10,668	34,266	28,827
Printing, postage and stationary	7,036	3,184	10,220	7,130
Repairs and maintenance	53,720	34	53,754	31,956
Legal and professional	28,180	1,108	29,288	23,631
Bad debts	(1,224)	(69)	(1,293)	(137)
Depreciation	16,866	-	16,866	20,316
Irrecoverable VAT	31,617	-	31,617	6,786
Other	13,832	3,838	17,670	18,010
Bank charges	1,059	-	1,059	1,012
Allocation of shared resources	(348,310)	348,310	-	-
Total 2024	310,609	368,815	679,424	626,165
Total 2023	292,052	334,113	626,165	

Governance costs	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Trustee and management meetings	-	-	1,836
Auditor's remuneration	16,854	16,854	10,234
Total 2024	16,854	16,854	12,070
Total 2023	12,070	12,070	

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

10. Net income/(expenditure)

This is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
- owned by the charity	16,866	20,316
Operating lease charges	46,955	54,218
Auditor's remuneration - audit	11,500	9,365
Auditor's remuneration - other services	5,320	4,135
	<u>80,641</u>	<u>88,034</u>

11. Staff costs

	Group 2024	Group 2023	Charity 2024	Charity 2023
	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,565,634	1,572,480	1,435,594	1,450,554
Social security costs	120,672	129,614	112,385	121,800
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	73,930	76,575	68,082	71,134
	<u>1,760,236</u>	<u>1,778,669</u>	<u>1,616,061</u>	<u>1,643,488</u>

The above figures include redundancy costs of £10,241 (2023: £nil) and ex-gratia payments of £3,401 made to 1 employee (2023: nil).

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	Group 2024	Group 2023
	No.	No.
Administration and advocacy (excluding volunteers)	82	83

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The total amount of employee benefits, including employer's pension contributions and employers' national insurance, received by the key management team is £164,714 (2023: £167,196). The charity's key management personnel are detailed on page 1.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2023 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 March 2024, expenses totalling £510 were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 Trustee (2023 - £268 to 1 Trustee) relating to travel and refreshments for meetings.

13. Tangible fixed assets**Group**

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
<i>Cost or valuation</i>				
At 1 April 2023	23,273	2,664	70,156	96,093
Additions	-	-	3,636	3,636
Disposals	-	(280)	-	(280)
At 31 March 2024	23,273	2,384	73,792	99,449
<i>Depreciation</i>				
At 1 April 2023	21,676	2,516	44,972	69,164
Charge for the year	1,198	148	15,520	16,866
On disposals	-	(280)	-	(280)
At 31 March 2024	22,874	2,384	60,492	85,750
<i>Net book value</i>				
At 31 March 2024	399	-	13,300	13,699
At 31 March 2023	1,597	148	25,184	26,929

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

13. Tangible fixed assets (continued)**Charity**

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
<i>Cost or valuation</i>			
At 1 April 2023	2,022	64,081	66,103
Additions	-	3,636	3,636
At 31 March 2024	<u>2,022</u>	<u>67,717</u>	<u>69,739</u>
<i>Depreciation</i>			
At 1 April 2023	1,874	40,110	41,984
Charge for the year	148	14,307	14,455
At 31 March 2024	<u>2,022</u>	<u>54,417</u>	<u>56,439</u>
<i>Net book value</i>			
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>13,300</u>	<u>13,300</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>148</u>	<u>23,971</u>	<u>24,119</u>

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

14. Fixed asset investments

<i>Charity</i>	Investments in subsidiary companies £
<i>Cost or valuation</i>	
At 1 April 2023	10
At 31 March 2024	<u>10</u>

Principal subsidiaries

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the charity:

Name	Company number	Holding	Included in consolidation
LEEP1 CIC	07252221	100%	Yes

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Income £	Expenditure £	Loss for the year £	Net assets £
LEEP1 CIC	229,272	(238,746)	(9,474)	11,048

The consolidated financial statements include the results of Leep1 CIC, a company limited by guarantee (incorporated in England and Wales, registered number 07252221), its sole member being Advonet. The liability of the charity in the event of Leep1 CIC being wound up is limited by a sum not exceeding £1.

The principal activity of Leep1 CIC is that of providing independent advocacy and related/connected services.

Investment in the wholly owned subsidiary is carried at cost of £10 (2023: £10) in the balance sheet of the charity.

Income earned and expenditure incurred by Leep1 CIC have been recognised within the charitable activities of Advonet's consolidated accounts on the basis that these activities are deemed to have charitable intentions and purposes.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

15. Stocks

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Finished goods	9,504	15,577	8,989	15,577

16. Debtors

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Trade debtors	424,749	281,164	384,969	251,963
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	11,583	9,533
Other debtors	6,180	10,245	5,380	9,445
Prepayments and accrued income	89,169	50,178	83,757	39,423
	520,098	341,587	485,689	310,364

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Trade creditors	60,478	46,295	59,661	46,118
Other taxation and social security	39,190	15,429	39,094	15,420
Other creditors	3,321	11,983	2,429	1,473
Accruals and deferred income	261,710	350,666	228,506	324,446
	364,699	424,373	329,690	387,457

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

	Group 2024	Group 2023	Charity 2024	Charity 2023
	£	£	£	£
Deferred income at 1 April	272,875	328,257	261,906	292,736
Resources deferred during the year	159,620	272,875	146,034	261,906
Amounts released from previous periods	(272,875)	(328,257)	(261,906)	(292,736)
	159,620	272,875	146,034	261,906

18. Statement of funds**Statement of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers in/out	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>					
<i>Designated funds</i>					
RRP waiting list reduction	29,620	-	-	-	29,620
Easy Read & Training	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Finance Officer and Business Development role	33,000	-	-	-	33,000
Advocacy development	45,000	-	-	-	45,000
	132,620	-	-	-	132,620
<i>General funds</i>					
Charity core activities	420,767	978,715	(923,036)	(190,955)	285,491
Total Unrestricted funds	553,387	978,715	(923,036)	(190,955)	418,111

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

18. Statement of funds (continued)***Restricted funds***

Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy	47,389	204,000	(206,006)	-	45,383
Leeds Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy	-	246,000	(422,065)	178,262	2,197
Leeds Independent Mental Health Advocacy	9,099	200,000	(182,326)	-	26,773
Leeds Care Act Advocacy	-	25,000	(65,096)	40,096	-
Autism North	(2,215)	68,101	(61,885)	691	4,692
Asking You!	31,156	64,602	(66,628)	(450)	28,680
Health Inequalities	-	50,270	(50,270)	-	-
LGBTQ+	3,807	89,089	(67,699)	(1,650)	23,547
Changemakers	4,531	85,602	(85,602)	25	4,556
Respite Review	-	26,340	(20,364)	(4,950)	1,026
Autism - AIM Mentoring & Peer Support	-	36,149	(44,912)	8,762	(1)
Respect Project	(124)	23,212	(7,230)	(15,983)	(125)
Heritage Project	-	14,567	(11,927)	(2,700)	(60)
ICS Health Navigator	-	57,558	(56,334)	-	1,224
BDCT PD Peer Support	-	27,900	(27,881)	-	19
BDCT Sensory Inpatient	-	24,359	(24,460)	101	-
HEE Peer Support	-	15,065	(4,636)	(10,429)	-
WY Ambassador	-	5,657	(3,460)	-	2,197
Other restricted funds	433	6,029	(4,214)	(820)	1,428
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	94,076	1,269,500	(1,412,995)	190,955	141,536
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total of funds</i>	647,463	2,248,215	(2,336,031)	-	559,647
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

18. Statement of funds (continued)**Statement of funds - prior year**

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
RRP waiting list reduction	-	-	-	29,620	29,620
Easy Read & Training	-	-	-	25,000	25,000
Finance Officer and Business Development role	-	-	-	33,000	33,000
Advocacy development	-	-	-	45,000	45,000
ASC community	140,000	-	(140,000)	-	-
	<u>140,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(140,000)</u>	<u>132,620</u>	<u>132,620</u>
General funds					
Charity core activities	526,600	1,003,847	(805,058)	(304,622)	420,767
	<u>666,600</u>	<u>1,003,847</u>	<u>(945,058)</u>	<u>(172,002)</u>	<u>553,387</u>
Restricted funds					
Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy	3,073	-	(3,073)	-	-
Leeds Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy	45,482	204,000	(216,093)	14,000	47,389
Leeds Independent Mental Health Advocacy	-	246,000	(372,345)	126,345	-
Leeds Care Act Advocacy	-	200,000	(190,901)	-	9,099
Autism North	-	25,000	(56,452)	31,452	-
Asking You!	1,346	66,936	(51,475)	(19,993)	(3,186)
Health Inequalities	33,273	64,602	(66,719)	-	31,156
LGBTQ+	-	4,726	(4,726)	-	-
Changemakers	408	3,021	(3,021)	-	408
Respite Review	-	52,158	(52,158)	-	-

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

18. Statement of funds (continued)***Statement of funds - prior year (continued)***

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Autism - AIM Mentoring & Peer Support	(168)	-	(18,861)	20,000	971
Respect Project	-	54,947	(51,140)	-	3,807
Heritage Project	-	55,986	(51,455)	-	4,531
ICS Health Navigator	-	20,821	(20,821)	-	-
BDCT PD Peer Support	-	59,661	(59,661)	-	-
BDCT Sensory Inpatient	-	50,985	(50,985)	-	-
HEE Peer Support	(124)	17,623	(17,623)	-	(124)
WY Ambassador	-	5,173	(5,173)	-	-
Other restricted funds	(173)	575	(575)	198	25
	<hr/> 83,117	<hr/> 1,132,214	<hr/> (1,293,257)	<hr/> 172,002	<hr/> 94,076
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total of funds</i>	749,717	2,136,061	(2,238,315)	-	647,463

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Funds summary

Transfers from Autism North were made to CCG Funding - Autism Hubs in North Leeds as these are related contracts but split for the records of the charity.

Designated Fund

ASC Community Funding from Leeds City Council: ASC received in respect of community advocacy designated to 2022/2023 spend as not utilised in full in the current financial year.

Restricted Funds

All restricted funds are income which has been given for a specific purpose. The funds are not available for use for anything other than the specific project the funding was issued for.

Advocacy Awareness: Training provided for Advocacy Awareness.

Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy: This is independent health complaints advocacy which is required to be commissioned by local authorities. This advocacy support is aimed at empowering anyone in the Leeds area to resolve a complaint about healthcare commissioned or provided by the NHS in England.

Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy: instructed and non-instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Mental Capacity Act.

Independent Mental Health Advocacy: provision of instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Mental Health Act 1983. Including provision of instructed advocacy support for people with learning disabilities who qualify for IMHA as required by the Mental Health Act (amendment 2007).

Care Act Advocacy: provision of instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Care Act 2014.

Asking You!: This is funding provided by Leeds City Council. This funding is used for a project to get people with learning disabilities involved in the services they use. This is through engagement in People's Parliament and also by being involved in the new strengths-based approach by Adult Social Care.

Respite Project: £30k Asking You to undertake consultation together with people with lived experience on local Respite services (Asking You)

Respect Project: Funded by NIHR in partnership with Warwick University – as subcontractors from 01 April 2022: social care research partnership - easy read resources (and consultation) on End of Life/ future planning to support Respect aims (CHANGE)

Heritage Project: Funded by Leeds Community Foundation from 01 April 2022 to produce a project celebrating the history and strengths of people with learning disabilities (CHANGE) End date of this was changed.

LGBT – Outspoken Project: funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, providing self- advocacy, peer support for LGBTQ+ people who are autistic or have a learning disability and training to health professionals (CHANGE)

Autism AIM: core offer provided by CCG/ICB (initially non recurrent)- information, advocacy and peer support for autistic people to increase access to services: drop in hubs, groups, signposting, resources etc

ADVONET

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

18. Statement of funds (continued)

AIM Post Diagnostic: CCG/ICB funded work providing autistic led peer support post diagnosis for the autistic community locally, linked to the core work

Live Well Leeds: AIM funding as part of the Live Well Leeds contract to deliver autism training and consultation to the 18 LWL providers.

Health Inequalities: AIM: pilot work supporting a Local Care Partnership (The Light Surgery and Leeds Student Medical Practice) to increase access to healthcare for autistic people: training to health professionals and peer support. This was initially applied for through WYHHCP and taken up by Leeds CCG/ ICB.

Yorkshire Autism AIM Mental Health Equity Project (Yaamhep): 4 years from Sept 2021 - Funded by Comic Relief Changemakers Fund: improving mental health support for autistic people- to provide local and regional development of direct ongoing consultation routes with autistic people on mental health with health services, autism specific peer support groups and autism support for generic peer support with Leeds Mind, training to advocacy and social prescribing services and self-advocacy resources (Yorkshire AIM)

Autism Alert Cards: funded by Safer Communities (WY police) 1 year to provide autism alert cards with West Yorkshire Police to enable autistic people to put forward their needs (Leeds AIM)

Sensory Inpatient Project: from Nov 2021 1- year, joint project with Bradford District Care Trust- pilot work to explore models to improve the sensory environment on inpatient wards- we are providing lived experience input- sensory checker training and resources, animation etc (Yorkshire AIM) Funded by Health Education England (via Bradford -through joint bid)

Autism AIM Mentoring and Peer Support: Funded by the National lottery 3 years from Jan 2022: to expand autism mentoring and one to one peer support provision locally (Leeds AIM) Extended to March 2025.

AIM ICS Health Navigator: £58K pilot work WY ICS – health navigator roles at pilot hubs as below- until March 24

AIM BDCT PD Peer Support - Bradford 23/24 - £25k Bradford council pilot work developing and testing peer support hub models with focus on post diagnostic – until March 24 (note this funding was joined together for drop in hubs in Bradford- also utilising some of Yaamep funds for MH navigators)

AIM BDCT Sensory – Bradford 23/24 – extending the sensory inpatient pilot work from last year in partnership with BDCT- AIM providing sensory checker audits. Bradford District Care Trust.

AIM HEE Peer Support – 1 year project starting in January 2023 funded by Health Education England. Unusual funding as 4x trainee’s were given a bursary to complete training. The funding is also restricted to “embed Peer Support within your organisation” so can be spent on other activities, wages, wellbeing activities and equipment to pilot different ways of working.

AIM West Yorkshire Ambassador – Initially 1 year April 2023 – March 2024. Payment for one member of staff to be an ambassador on 4 hours a week.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

19. Summary of funds**Summary of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Designated funds	132,620	-	-	-	132,620
General funds	420,767	978,715	(923,036)	(190,955)	285,491
Restricted funds	94,076	1,269,500	(1,412,995)	190,955	141,536
	<u>647,463</u>	<u>2,248,215</u>	<u>(2,336,031)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>559,647</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Designated funds	140,000	-	(140,000)	132,620	132,620
General funds	526,600	1,003,847	(805,058)	(304,622)	420,767
Restricted funds	83,117	1,132,214	(1,293,257)	172,002	94,076
	<u>749,717</u>	<u>2,136,061</u>	<u>(2,238,315)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>647,463</u>

20. Analysis of net assets between funds**Analysis of net assets between funds - current period**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	13,699	-	13,699
Current assets	769,111	141,536	910,647
Creditors due within one year	(364,699)	-	(364,699)
Total	<u>418,111</u>	<u>141,536</u>	<u>559,647</u>

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

20. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period**

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	26,929	-	26,929
Current assets	950,831	94,076	1,044,907
Creditors due within one year	(424,373)	-	(424,373)
Total	553,387	94,076	647,463

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

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £
Net expenditure for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(87,816)	(102,254)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	16,866	20,316
Investment income	(5,417)	-
Profit on the sale of fixed assets	(110)	-
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	6,073	(6,477)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(178,511)	73,789
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	50,448	(14,351)
Decrease in deferred income	(110,122)	(55,382)
Net cash used in operating activities	(308,589)	(84,359)

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £
Cash in hand	381,045	687,743
Total cash and cash equivalents	381,045	687,743

23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	687,743	(306,698)	381,045
	687,743	(306,698)	381,045

24. Contingent liabilities

Post year-end, it was discovered that the subsidiary entity, LEEP1 CIC, should have historically been registered for VAT. Due to various factors that remain unknown at the time of signing these financial statements, a reliable estimate of any asset or liability cannot be determined. However, the worst-case scenario is an estimated liability of £110,000.

25. Pension commitments

The group participates in a defined contribution scheme. The charge to the statement of financial activities in respect of the scheme was £73,930 (2023: £76,575). Amounts owed at year end were £nil (2023: £nil) which are held within creditors.

ADVONET**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

26. Operating lease commitments

At 31 March 2024 the group and the charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Not later than 1 year	83,635	44,443	75,361	36,486
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	74,277	20,625	74,277	20,625
	157,912	65,068	149,638	57,111

27. Related party transactions

During the year Advonet subcontracted to Age UK Leeds, Touchstone and Sign Health (2023: Age UK Leeds, Touchstone and Sign Health). Note 9 includes details of amounts paid to these parties for subcontracted advocacy work. Touchstone is a charity which has a director/trustee in common.

In October 2018, Advonet also entered into partnership with Touchstone in delivering advocacy work for the Kirklees Advocacy Hub. Total income received from Touchstone as part of this partnership was £68,700 (2023: £106,211).

During the year, in addition to the recharge of expenses, Advonet charged Leep1 CIC (a subsidiary) management charges amounting to £22,944 (2023: £32,322). At the year end, Leep1 CIC owed Advonet £11,583 (2023: £9,533) which is included within debtors.

ADVONET

England & Wales - Charity number 1126132

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 1126132
Company Number: 04229975

Advonet
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report and
Consolidated Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Advonet

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Advonet

Charity Information

Trustees

M Ahmed
R Beck
P C Gleeson
P J Gruen
I Nip
R Porter
K Tandel
E V Williams
M M Yip
W Case
S Gill (appointed 13 December 2022)
E Long (appointed 13 September 2023)
K S Thirkill (resigned 28 February 2023)

Company Secretary

P S Bramson

Key Management Personnel

P Bramson	Chief Executive
L Kelly	Finance Director (Resigned May 2023)
W Cork	Partnership and Development Director
N Hussain	Advocacy Director

Registered charity number

1126132

Company number

04229975

Principal and registered office

Unity Business Centre
26 Roundhay Road
Leeds
LS7 1AB

Independent Auditor

Azets Audit Services Limited
Triune Court
Monks Cross Drive
York
YO32 9GZ

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc
Four Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2JB

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the consolidated financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary, Leep1 CIC, for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are also prepared to meet the requirements of a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and Administrative details

The charity information on page 1 forms part of this report.

Chair's Introduction

As you will know, this year has been an extraordinarily difficult one for charities, their beneficiaries and, indeed, the wider population. The Advonet Group has been buffeted by an extremely challenging external environment. The cost-of-living crisis has had an enormous impact on the organisation's clients, volunteers, staff and the affordability of services. Nonetheless, as you will read, we, the Board of Trustees have much to be proud of. Like us, I am confident that you will be impressed by what has been achieved and the way in which our staff have been able to adapt to overcome these significant tests and continue to deliver great outcomes.

Peter Gruen, Chair of The Advonet Group

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of Advonet are to relieve poverty and sickness and preserve and protect the health of the public irrespective of race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, age or disability in particular, the organisation's aims include:

- Promoting awareness and understanding of advocacy practice
- Supporting the development of advocacy services
- The provision of a point of contact for people who need advocacy support or help
- The provision of advocacy services in the North of England
- The development, co-ordination and facilitation of training and education on advocacy and issues relevant to advocacy
- The development and promotion of good practice standards for advocacy

The Trustees review the aims and objectives of the organisation each year and in the current year they did this as part of the Strategic Review. The Trustees have referred to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives. This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work over the year ended 31 March 2023.

The Advonet Group

In 2020, Advonet rebranded itself as The Advonet Group to encapsulate how both an advocacy service and a number of user-led projects with separate identities flourished under the umbrella of Advonet.

The Group in 22/23 consisted of:

- **Care Act Advocacy:** Care Act advocates support people to understand their rights under the Care Act and to be fully involved in local authority assessments, care review, care and support planning or safeguarding process.
- **Community Advocacy:** People who are vulnerable due to a disability, illness or their age may find it difficult to put their views across or feel listened to. Community advocates support people to deal with an issue they are facing.
- **Independent Mental Capacity Act Advocacy (IMCA):** The main role of an advocate under the Mental Capacity Act is to provide an independent safeguard for people assessed as not being able to make some important decisions. An IMCA's role is to ensure that people are as involved as possible in major decisions about their lives, and that any decisions made on a person's behalf are made in that person's best interests.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

Objectives and Activities (continued)

- **Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA):** IMHAs support people to understand their rights under the Mental Health Act and we support people to participate in decisions around their care and treatment. IMHAs support people to speak up and say what they want, understand their rights under the Act and participate in decisions about their care and treatment.
- **Independent Health Complaints Advocacy:** Advocates support people who feel that they have not had the service they expect from the NHS and want to complain about the service, using the NHS complaints procedure. Health Complaints Advocates provide clients with the information that they need to raise their complaint by themselves or to provide them with the support of an experienced Advocate who can help individuals to make your complaint.

ASK Advocacy Service in Kirklees: A manager and two advocates from The Advonet Group were seconded to Touchstone to support Kirklees' equivalent of the Leeds service throughout 2022/23.

Asking You

This project supports people with learning disabilities who want to help public bodies in Leeds to make service improvements. Examples of their work include advising on a public health campaign, providing learning disability awareness training or independent service reviews. The project supports the Leeds Learning Disability People's Parliament and the Leeds Learning Disability Partnership Board.

Volunteer Citizen Advocates supported by the project are matched on an ongoing basis for a long period with a person who often has no one independent in their lives, only paid services. This means clients have to work together with their citizen advocate to help them make their voice heard and ensure their rights are respected.

CHANGE

The CHANGE team provide the following services:

- Easy read and accessible resources, including booklets and images.
- Training around learning disability awareness.
- Promotion of the human rights of people with learning disabilities.

Since joining The Advonet Group in 2019, after 25 years as a groundbreaking, independent User-Led Organisation, CHANGE have worked on the Restraint, Seclusion and Segregation (RSS) Project for the CQC and currently work on the Out Spoken LGBTQ+ Inclusion Project alongside Yorkshire MESMAC.

Leep1

This service is a self-advocacy project for adults with a learning disability. It helps its members to speak up for themselves, improve their confidence and communicate the needs of their community. It offers a wide range of activities and groups that identify improve skills, build confidence and wellbeing.

Café Leep

This project was set up to fulfil the ambitions of Leep1 Members. It provides training placements to adults with a learning disability who are supported to gain catering qualifications and find work if they feel ready.

Leeds Autism AIM

This is a free service co-led by and run for autistic adults (aged 18 and over) in the Leeds City Council area. It provides low-level support, including advocacy, information and signposting, mentoring and peer support. Most staff working with our AIM service are autistic adults themselves.

Yorkshire Autism AIM Mental Health Equity Project

This project helps mental health services across West Yorkshire work improve the way that they work with autistic adults accessing support from them.

The project's primary purpose is to increase access to services for autistic adults. However, it also provides peer support, facilitates consultations on the accessibility of mental health services and provides training to mental health professionals.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

Mission Vision and Values



People having their voices heard and taking greater control over their lives, no longer marginalised.



Enabling people to better communicate their needs, understand their choices and obtain their rights.

Independence and Empowerment

- Trust each other to make decisions.
- This should be based on The Advonet Group's values, policies, processes and resources. This includes the Advocacy Charter.
- Work hard to support and helpfully challenge ourselves, our clients and other people we work with.
- Make sure that available resources are accessible to everyone.

Integrity

- Be open, honest and clear with our clients, ourselves and other professionals about what we can and can't do.
- To be accountable to each other and our clients. To be responsible for what we do.
- Be open to challenges. Reflect and take responsibility when things don't go as planned.
- Celebrate The Advonet Group's achievements and successes.

Equality and Diversity

- Make sure we are inclusive and accessible. This is for people of all ethnicities, races, gender identities, sexualities and religious beliefs. Make sure we meet the needs of both colleagues and clients.
- Offer training and development to colleagues and service users. This should promote equality and diversity within The Advonet Group and the wider community.
- We should work with our clients and the community to provide our services. This is to give everyone an equal voice.

Achievements and Performance

The Advonet Group's Group Achievements in 22-23

The Advonet Group's Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'. They continue to make sure that The Advonet Group's activities and ambitions are aligned with its charitable objectives and drive the charity forward to achieve as much as possible for our beneficiaries.

Achievements for The Advonet Group as a whole

- We provided advocacy support or involvement opportunities to nearly 4,000 people over the year.
- The Board launched the Advocacy Development Fund, funded from the organisation's reserves. This was a pot of money available to community organisations working with particular communities of interest.
- The Board made awards to Lippy People and Mediterranean and the Middle Eastern Community Group (MEMEC). The former co-created videos with people with learning disabilities about key issues for decision makers; the latter were providing bespoke advocacy with migrants, including refugees, from the Middle East.
- Trustees were proud of this new way of pursuing its objective by delivering advocacy through partners with specialists. This was a fantastic opportunity for more people to learn about advocacy and The Advonet Group to learn how to make advocacy more inclusive.
- We were awarded our Investors in People accreditation for the third time. The assessor found colleagues were proud of the work of The Advonet Group and the difference it made to so many people's lives. Colleagues loved the culture of the organisation in which people can be themselves and not be judged and colleagues valued how their ideas were appreciated and they could be confident that they would be listened to.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023 Achievements and Performance (continued)

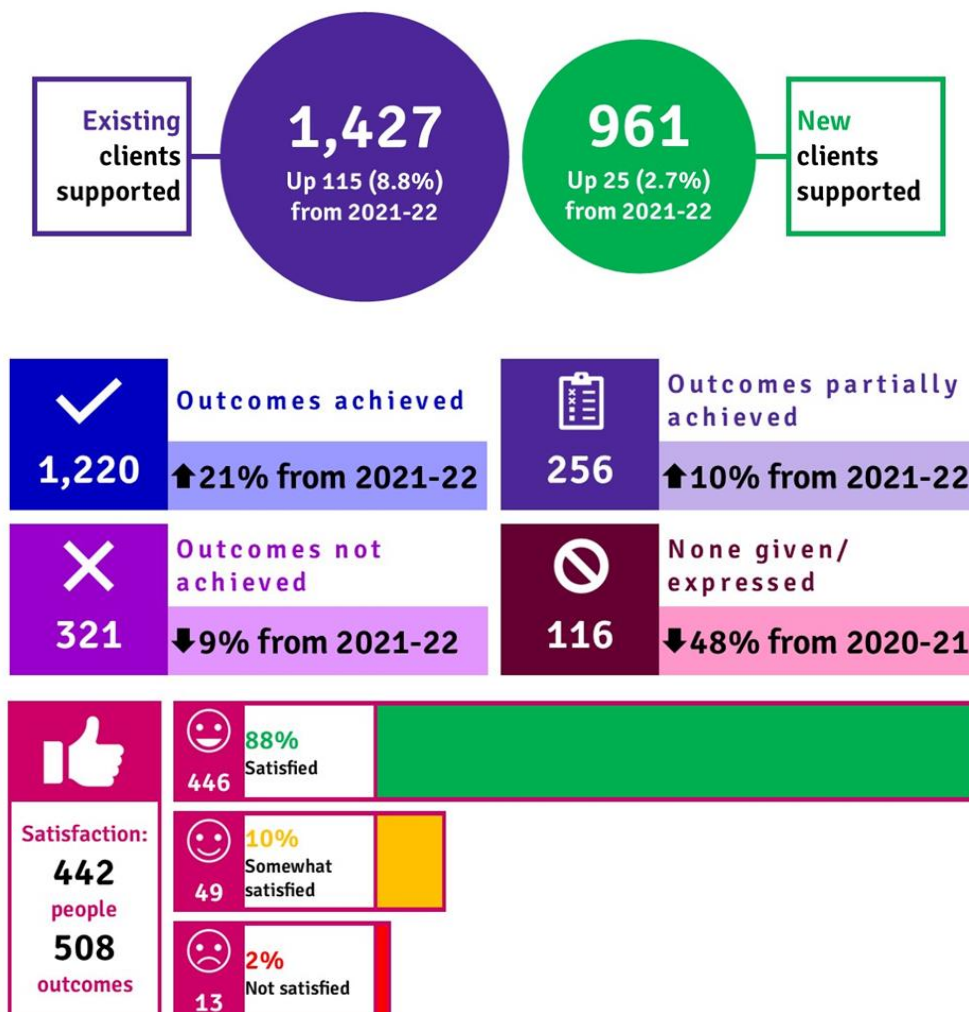
- Our client involvement worker joined the staff team in March. The purpose of the role was to create an additional feedback route for feedback from clients, as well as to enable clients to participate in the organisation’s quality regime, the planning of services and the imagining of new services.
- Her first initiative has been to move to developing focus groups collaboratively with individual teams. she asks individual team members to invite and/or to bring in the people they know to the focus group. this will be more personal than the approach we were using previously.
- We introduced ‘link trustees’: every board member has been allocated a service to link to within the organisation, attending team meetings, and shadowing members of staff.
- This initiative was created following the Board of Trustees’ annual review of its work against the National Council of voluntary organisation ‘Governance Wheel’. The year’s review also led the Board to increase its size in order to have greater diversity in its membership.
- Leeds City Council exercised its right to extend the advocacy contract for Leeds for three years.
- A new pilot Autism AIM service was commissioned in Bradford, launching in July 2023.

How our activities deliver public benefit

The main project areas we have worked in this year and who we try to help are outlined in the paragraphs below.

Advocacy Service

The service responded to a reduction to its community advocacy funding of 10% by doing more with less, as the infographic below illustrates:



Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Asking You!

Good Lives Leaders: This quality checking service is gearing up for a relaunch, where it will be reviewing the Leeds day opportunities service. This is being co-produced with previous Good Lives Leaders, Better Action for Families, Connect in the North and Leeds City Council.

The Leeds Learning Disability People's Parliament: has continued to be successful and increase its numbers quarter-on-quarter. Feedback from our most recent People's Parliament stated: 'It was great, nice to hear people's voices and feedback.' We had our annual Leeds Council Chambers Takeover during Leeds Learning Disability Awareness Week.

Quality Checking of Leeds Respite Provision: The work began. 95 participants completed paper surveys, 2 focus groups ran and 3 1:1 interviews were completed.

Leep1

Between October 2022 and March 2023, we supported 26 members. From our annual reviews, we learned the following about the people who use our service:

- 89% of members said their happiness and wellbeing was good or excellent.
- 89% of members said the programme was good or excellent.

10 of our members took part in our Feel Good Friday sessions (Healthy Living) with funding we received from Anchor Housing as well as funding from People Matters as part of their NHS Health inequalities project.

Between September 2022 and March 2023, six of our members who attended on a Wednesday attended drama sessions that we attended with Bright Sparks Theatre and performed in one show.

CHANGE

The Accessible Information Team began developing the new interactive resource with Macmillan. This will be a web hosted interactive assessment tool for patients with cancer.

The project team went to the Warwick Medical Schools' ReSPECT conference to present our research findings on the ReSPECT process. (ReSPECT is an acronym for Recommended Summary Plan for Emergency Care and Treatment. The ReSPECT process creates a summary of personalised recommendations for a person's clinical care in a future emergency in which they do not have the capacity to make or express choices).

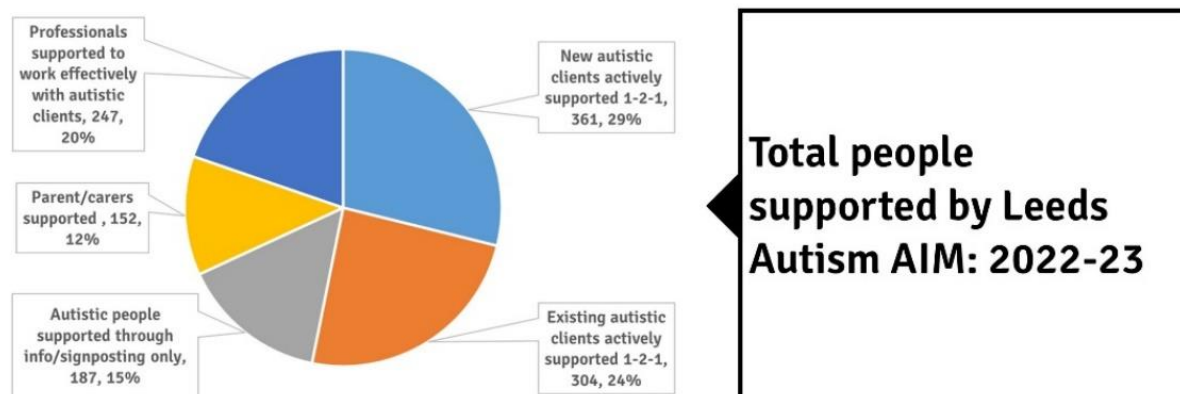
The projects team worked on the Leeds Civic Trust Community Heritage Fund project and prepared to premier the short historical animation 'Tommy's Story' for the first time.

Advonet

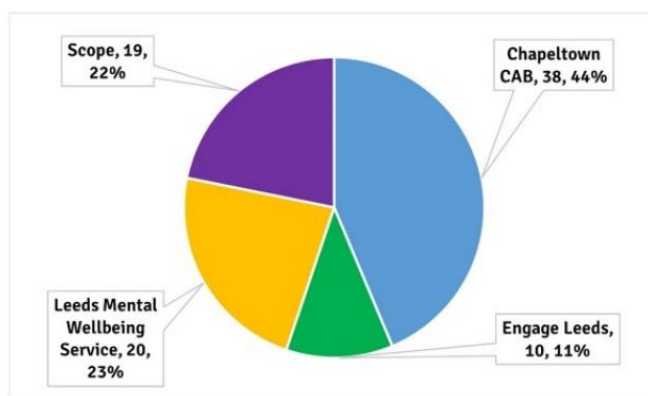
Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023 Achievements and Performance (continued)

Leeds Autism AIM

In 22/23, Leeds Autism AIM worked with 684 people, a significant increase. AIM have doubled the amount of work they have done in a year with the same resources. The full figures are below:



Appointments with Leeds Autism AIM's partner services: 2022-23



Our Volunteers

The Advonet Group had 36 active volunteers in three main roles: Leeds Autism AIM Volunteer Mentor (16 volunteers), Learning Disability Citizen Advocate (16 volunteers), and four volunteers from the Turn to Us project, a pilot project with the advocacy service.

- Leeds Autism AIM - Volunteer Mentors: The Leeds Autism AIM service pairs a volunteer mentor with an autistic adult (mentee). Mentors meet regularly with mentees to help them set and achieve life goals.
- Learning Disability Citizen Advocate: A volunteer Citizen Advocate is paired with someone with a learning disability in an advocacy match. The two people in an advocacy match meet regularly and the Citizen Advocate helps their advocacy partner by ensuring they feel supported to speak up for their rights.
- The Turn to Us project: This provides peer advocates to help parents be heard in meetings. Peer advocates are trained volunteers who are parents themselves with experience of going through social services meetings. The peer advocate can help parents to plan to have their voice heard in the formal meetings.

Volunteering sits under the Director of Development on the Senior Leadership Team. A Board of Trustees oversees the Advonet Group, and a link trustee has been identified to work with the lead of the Volunteer Coordinators' Group.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 6 June 2001 and a registered charity. The charity is established under a Memorandum of Association which outlines the objectives and aims of the organisation. Members are required to contribute £1 in the event of the Company winding up.

Details of the registered number and office are given on page 1.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Members of the board act in two capacities. They are both a company director and a trustee. They receive no remuneration, and any expenses are shown in Note 7 to the financial statements. Appointments to the Board are made by the members of the company at the annual general meeting or at a board meeting held during the year in accordance with the articles of association.

As of December 2023, there are 14 places available on the board. The Board decided in 2023 to increase the number of Trustees to help it have the scope to better represent the diverse communities that it serves.

When a vacancy arises on the board, a recruitment campaign is run to identify a replacement for the departing trustee. The campaign is informed by the board's annual skills audit. This is used to focus the recruitment campaign to fill identified gaps in skills, experience or knowledge.

Under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, one third of the board must retire by rotation at each annual general meeting.

The board members who retire are the longest serving directors. Retiring Trustees can offer themselves for re-election.

Trustee Induction and Training

Potential trustees are encouraged to attend board meetings as observers before joining the board so that they are able to familiarise themselves with the policy, procedures and structures of the organisation. All Trustees are issued with a Trustee handbook and attend a formal induction session when they join the Board with the Chair and the Chief Executive.

Trustees have an annual performance review with the Chair. All Trustees are offered access to the organisation's online training programme. Additional training is offered to Trustees individually or as a group, as training needs emerge.

Organisational Structure

The Board meets at least four times a year. The Board is responsible for the strategic direction and governance of the organisation and determines the organisation's policies. Over the financial year, the Resources, Quality & Operations and the Development sub-groups also meet quarterly.

The purpose of the sub-group is to drill into greater detail about the organisation's activities and plans. The Resources sub-group covers finance, health and safety, and data protection.

The Quality & Operations sub-group focuses on service delivery, the quality regime, policy and procedure, the quality of its services and HR. The Development sub-group focuses on communications, horizon scanning and business development strategy.

The Board delegates the operational running of the company to the Senior Leadership Team ("SLT"). The Senior Leadership Team is headed by the Chief Executive, who is appointed by the Board to be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the organisation.

Over 22/23, the Senior Leadership Team also included the Advocacy Director, the Inclusion Projects Director and the Finance Director (who is responsible for Finance, IT and Data Protection).

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

Key management remuneration

During the financial year ending 31 March 2023, the Chief Executive, the Finance Director, the Advocacy Director and the Director of Inclusion Projects formed the charity's key management personnel.

The key management's pay award is set by the board following a benchmarking exercise that compared the salaries of similar roles in comparable organisations. No employee earned more than £60,000 per annum in the current or previous financial year.

Risk Management

The Board Development Subgroup conducts a quarterly review of the risks to which the organisation is exposed, as well as considering the potential opportunities. The full board completes this at its annual awayday. The findings are kept on the Risk and Opportunity Register. This takes stock of the governance, operational, financial and environmental, social, and political factors.

The record includes assessing the potential impact and likelihood, the controls that are in place, and those that could be put in place to mitigate the risks identified. The maintenance of this process is led by the Senior Leadership Team and overseen by the Development Sub-Group of the board.

At the last review, the principal risks and uncertainties facing the charity identified were loss of funding/impact of inflation on contracts and changes in health and social care policy. These risks are managed by developing strong strategic partnerships with funders and others, an organisation-wide efficiencies programme and planned diversification of funding sources.

Financial Review

The financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the conditions in the company's memorandum and articles of association.

The movement in funds is shown on the Statement of Financial Activities on page 16.

Principal Funding Sources

The Advonet Group and its consortium partners (Touchstone and Age UK Leeds) started to deliver the five-year contract for Advocacy in Leeds in April 2018. A three-year extension was awarded in 2023. This contract with Leeds City Council remains the major source of funding for the organisation, consistent with the prior year. (60% of income in 22/23; 62% of income in 21/22).

Other funding comes from several different sources including other departments of Leeds City Council, The West Yorkshire NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB), Comic Relief and The National Lottery Community Fund.

The Advonet Group does not use professional fundraisers or third parties to fundraise on our behalf. There have been no complaints about fundraising activity this year.

Fundraising

Advonet, at present, only undertakes some small scale informal fundraising activities e.g. sponsored events. All amounts raised by fund raising activities are included in donations. Advonet does not use professional fundraisers or third parties to fundraise on our behalf. There have been no complaints about fundraising activity this year.

Charity Reserves

Performance in year

During the year ended 31 March 2023 Advonet made a deficit of £102,254 (2022: surplus of £17,341). The unrestricted deficit was £105,833 (2022: surplus was £15,018).

Unrestricted reserves (excluding fixed assets and designated funds) were £386,640 at the end of the year. Information in relation to the charity's reserves policy is given below.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

Designated funds

The trustees had designated £40,000 of unrestricted reserves for spending on Community Advocacy under the Leeds City Council Adult Social Care contract. During the prior year, after discussions with Commissioners it was reallocated it to a Turn to Us project, a specialist self-advocacy/ peer advocacy project for parents with additional needs who are going through child protection processes. We are co-producing this pilot project with Leeds City Council Children and Families Protectorate, as well as well as with parents and carers.

In addition to the reserves requirement detailed above, the Board designated £100,000 of further funds from free reserves at the end of 20/21. This was in respect of projects which will enable The Advonet Group to use advocacy approaches to equip people in minoritized groups to be better socially included. For example, through the Leeds Advocacy Fund, we will offer community groups packages of advocacy training, together with small grants to enable them to offer advocacy to groups of people which our generic advocacy offer is struggling to reach. We will support grant holders to monitor efficacy, capture outcomes and secure continuation funding. Another project will involve us to expanding our training provision, so that we can share our learning and enable others to benefit from the insights of the people who use our services. In the first phase in 20/21, people with lived experience of Learning Disabilities and Autism were employed to train local professionals in awareness of communication needs and awareness; as well as training their peers to be better to understand issues like using health and social care and decision making.

Restricted funds

The restricted funds at the end of March 2023 totalled £94,074 (2022: £83,117) and principally represents amounts held for Advocacy Awareness, Autism North, Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy and Asking You! projects.

Advonet's Reserves Policy

In forming a reserves policy, the Trustees have regard to the financial impact of the principal risks identified above.

The Advonet Group maintains an unrestricted cash reserve to provide a reasonable working balance between meeting existing commitments and recognising that there can sometimes be a delay in receiving grants or other income due.

The Board has undertaken a more detailed review of reserves requirements rather than the previous target of three months' salary costs (equating to c. £454,500k) and has reviewed the level of reserves required to take account of known liabilities and possible contingencies.

Free reserves (excluding fixed assets and designated funds) of the organisation as at the end of March 2023 are £393,838 (2022: £497,178) and therefore in excess of the amount required under the reserves policy by £68,040. Given the uncertain environment presented by the cost of living crisis the Trustees consider this to be a prudent position.

As part of the review of the financial status of the organisation, the trustees reviewed the financial forecast of the organisation for the next 12 months. This has been updated for the preparation of the financial statements and the trustees are comfortable that the basis of going concern for the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Investment Policy

The board continues to review the investment policy to ensure that the maximum investment returns are achieved, while not compromising the operational requirements and having regard to the acceptable level of investment risk.

The board has considered the most appropriate policy for the investment of funds and has decided that, given the current low return on investment obtainable investment in the form of cash remains the most appropriate policy. A higher interest deposit account has been opened with Unity Trust Bank in order to obtain a return on surplus funds. The charity has no present ethical investment stance.

The powers to invest are governed by the company Memorandum and Articles of Association which give the trustees the power to manage, invest and expend all monies belonging to the Company.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

Commitments

The Directors have not entered any commitments to future capital purchases at the balance sheet date (prior year: no commitments).

Plans for Future Periods

In March 2023, Trustees adopted and launched a new strategic business plan to guide the organisation over the next five years. It was developed by staff, trustees, volunteers and other stakeholders through a number of meetings over a six-month period.



Over 2023/34, we will pursue these objectives as follows

Sustainability

We will:

- Seek opportunities that will enable us to both diversify our funding and offer more advocacy to people in Leeds who need it but are missing out on it. We seek funding externally for projects, such as a service to help Deaf people access advocacy.
- Complete the review of our organisational structure, office accommodation, and other cost areas and implement a savings programme.

Distinctive

We will:

- Continue to develop our lived experience-led social enterprise, which offers a menu of training and accessible information to agencies who are seeking to make their services more available to people with learning disabilities.
- Further develop as a 'grassroots capacity building' advocacy provider by running the second round of the Advocacy Development Fund.

People-orientated

We will:

- Establish our Staff and Trustee Communications and Development Engagement Group (CoDE) Group to better coordinate how we connect with all stakeholders and ensure that our systemic advocacy issue makes the greatest possible difference.
- Hold quarterly focus groups of clients to ensure that the development of all our services is informed by the people.

Collaborative

We will:

- Establish our Staff and Trustee Communications and Development Engagement Group (CoDE) Group to better coordinate how we connect with all stakeholders and ensure that our systemic advocacy issue makes the greatest possible difference.
- Hold Quarterly Focus Groups of clients to ensure that the development of all our services is informed by the people.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

High Quality

We will:

- Undertake our third assessment for the National Development Team Inclusion Quality and Performance Mark (the Advocacy Industry Standard) and apply all the learning from it.
- Continue to embed our ISO 9001-based Quality Improvement regime.

Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

The Trustees (who are also directors of Advonet for the purpose of Company law) are responsible for preparing a Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of those resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those 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 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence 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 UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Board of Trustees

The Board, who are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out in page 1.

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

- So far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, or that income is not
- As the directors of the company we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditor

The auditor, Azets Audit Services Limited, is deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees' Report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 14/12/2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Ralph Porter

**R Porter
Trustee**

Advonet

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Advonet

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Advonet (the "parent charity") and its subsidiary (the "group") for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Charity Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Advonet

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Advonet

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charitable Company and Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charitable Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Advonet

Independent Auditor’s Report to the Members of Advonet

Extent to which the audit was capable of identifying irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council’s website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

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

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity’s members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity’s members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor’s report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity’s members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alan Sidebottom

15/12/2023

Alan Sidebottom
Senior Statutory Auditor

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For and on behalf of Azets Audit Services Limited
Statutory Auditor

Triune Court
Monks Cross Drive
York
YO32 9GZ

Advonet

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Income from:						
Donations and non-performance grants	3	1,473	-	-	1,473	4,282
Charitable activities	4	997,418	-	1,132,214	2,129,632	2,053,448
Gift of CHANGE's assets and activities		-	-	-	-	25,763
Other		4,956	-	-	4,956	-
Total income		1,003,847	-	1,132,214	2,136,061	2,083,493
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	5	805,058	140,000	1,293,257	2,238,315	2,066,152
Total expenditure		805,058	140,000	1,293,257	2,238,315	2,066,152
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers	6	198,789	(140,000)	(161,043)	(102,254)	17,341
Transfers between funds	14	(304,622)	132,620	172,002	-	-
Net movement in funds		(105,833)	(7,380)	10,959	(102,254)	17,341
Total funds brought forward	14,15	526,600	140,000	83,117	749,717	732,376
Total funds carried forward	14,15	420,767	132,620	94,076	647,463	749,717

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the current and previous years and all relates to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 19 to 34 form part of these financial statements.

A fully detailed Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2022 is shown in note 20 to the financial statements.

The Statement of Financial Activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

Advonet

Balance Sheets as at 31 March 2023

	Notes	Group		Charity	
		2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	10	26,929	29,422	24,119	23,366
Investments	11	-	-	10	10
		26,929	29,422	24,129	23,376
Current assets					
Stock		15,577	9,100	15,577	9,100
Debtors	12	341,587	415,376	310,364	389,782
Cash at bank and in hand		687,743	789,925	664,338	717,526
		1,044,907	1,214,401	990,279	1,116,408
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(424,373)	(494,106)	(387,457)	(432,008)
Net current assets		620,534	720,295	602,822	684,400
Total net assets	15	647,463	749,717	626,951	707,776
Represented by:					
Unrestricted charity funds:					
- General		420,767	526,600	400,257	484,659
- Designated		132,620	140,000	132,620	140,000
Restricted charity funds		94,074	83,117	94,074	83,117
Total funds	14,15	647,463	749,717	626,951	707,776

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies.

The notes on pages 19 to 34 form part of these financial statements.

14/12/2023

The financial statements were approved by the board of Trustees on and signed on its behalf by:

Ralph Porter

**R Porter
Trustee**

Company registration number: 04229975

Advonet

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash (used by)/generated by operations	18	(84,359)	13,658
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(17,823)	(18,241)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		(17,823)	(18,241)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(102,182)	(4,583)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2022		789,925	794,508
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2023		687,743	789,925

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting policies

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

Charitable company information

The charitable company is limited by guarantee, with the liability of members limited to £1 per member. The charitable company is registered in England and Wales with the Charity Commission. The registered office is Unity Business Centre, 26 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS7 1AB.

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charitable company there remain any assets, after satisfying all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having objectives similar to the Charity.

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis 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 (FRS102) ("Charities SORP (FRS102)"), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

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

On the grounds that the charitable company's results are consolidated into the charitable company's group accounts the charitable company has taken advantage of certain exemptions conferred by section 1.11 of FRS102 as follows:

- Exemption from presenting a charitable company statement of cash flows as a primary statement to the financial statements.

Going concern

The Trustees have at the time of approving the financial statements a reasonable expectation that the charitable company and group have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charitable company and group have cash reserves sufficient to meet immediate requirements. The Trustees have no intention to wind the charitable company up in the foreseeable future. It is considered that there are currently no material uncertainties which impact on the charitable company being able to continue in its current form. Thus, the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly owned subsidiary, Leep1 CIC, on a line by line basis. A separate Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) for the charitable company has not been presented as the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemption afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

The income of the charitable company for the year was £1,913,015 (2022 - £1,837,933). There was no Gift Aid asset transfer (2022 - £nil) from the subsidiary. Expenditure amounted to £1,993,840 (2022 - £1,800,313). The net deficit of the charitable company for the year was £80,825 (2022 - £9,620 surplus).

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

Income

All income is included in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities when the group is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- *Donations and non-performance grants* are received by way of grants and donations. These amounts are included in full in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant. Where grants are received during the year which contain performance conditions to be met in future periods, the amount of the grant which relates to the future periods is shown as deferred grants and included within creditors.
- *Grants* where the income is related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.
- *Donated services*: The value of the services provided by volunteers has not been included. Further details of the contribution made by volunteers can be found in the annual report.

Income arising from grants and similar contracts specifically for the provision of activities or services which are provided as part of the charitable activities of the charity is recorded under the heading of income from charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Funds held are either:

- Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees;
- Designated funds - these are funds allocated from the general fund or received from third parties which have no restrictions on their use but which are designated for a particular purpose according to the Trustees; or
- Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes, as specified by the donors, within the objects of the charity.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes related value added tax which cannot be recovered. Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise all costs relating to public accountability of the charity and the group. The costs include statutory audit fees.

Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Staff costs

The costs of short term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense where settlement of obligations does not fall within the same period.

Employee severance and redundancy pay is recognised within the accounts, on an accruals basis in the year in which the employee either left, or agreed to leave, the organisation.

Pension costs

The group operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities represents the contributions payable for the year.

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

Fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are included on a historical cost basis. It is a policy of the trustees that individual items with a cost below £500 are not capitalised.

Depreciation is provided at the following rates and bases to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives:

Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	33% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line

Financial instruments

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

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 held for working capital. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Debtors

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

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit and loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset. Impairment losses are recognised in the income and expenditure account.

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the group transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Creditors, loans and provisions

Creditors, loans and provisions are recognised where the group 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, loans and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Financial liabilities are only derecognised when, and only when, the group's obligations are discharged, cancelled or they expire.

Amounts recognised as provisions are best estimates of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

Taxation

The tax expense represents the sum of the tax currently payable.

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from net profit as reported in the profit and loss account because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible. LEEP1's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting end date.

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

The Trustees consider that there are no critical accounting estimates and judgements that have a material impact on these financial statements.

3. Donations and non-performance grants

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations	1,473	4,282

£nil of donations (2022: £nil) in the year were restricted.

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

4. Income from charitable activities

For the year ended 31 March 2023	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 £
Local authority contracts:			
Leeds City Council - Department of Adult Social Care	590,588	690,430	1,281,018
Other contracts:			
Kirklees Advocacy Hub	106,211	-	106,211
Leep1 contracts	4,079	-	4,079
Other service income:			
Ad-hoc advocacy	17,222	-	17,222
Additional service user income	5,196	592	5,788
Easy Read	56,215	-	56,215
Other grants:			
Asking You	-	64,602	64,602
Autism North CCG	-	66,344	66,344
Live Well Leeds	-	4,726	4,726
Safeguarding Project	-	3,021	3,021
Health Inequalities - Autism	-	52,158	52,158
LBGTQ+	-	54,947	54,947
Changemakers	-	55,987	55,987
Respite Review (LCC)	-	20,820	20,820
Police Cards	-	575	575
Sensory Inpatient Project	-	59,662	59,662
Autism - AIM Mentoring and Peer Support - TNL	-	50,985	50,985
Respect Project	-	2,193	2,193
Heritage Project	-	5,172	5,172
HEE Peer Support	441	-	441
Leep1 grants	49,225	-	49,225
Café income:			
Café daily takings	11,796	-	11,796
Café events catering	2,450	-	2,450
Café trainee income	36,360	-	36,360
Other Leep1 income:			
Income from activities	16,122	-	16,122
Training fee income	1,013	-	1,013
Member income	100,500	-	100,500
	997,418	1,132,214	2,129,632

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

4. Income from charitable activities

For the year ended 31 March 2022	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 £
Local authority contracts:			
Leeds City Council - Department of Adult Social Care	613,208	688,627	1,301,835
Other contracts:			
Kirklees Advocacy Hub	97,100	-	97,100
Other service income:			
Ad-hoc advocacy	22,754	-	22,754
Additional service user income	20,391	1,350	21,741
Easy Read	56,214	-	56,214
Other grants:			
Asking You	-	68,192	68,192
Autism North CCG	-	66,512	66,512
Autism - Big Lottery	-	32,692	32,692
Live Well Leeds	-	3,886	3,886
Safeguarding Project Change	3,254	-	3,254
Health Inequalities - Autism	-	37,361	37,361
LGBTQ+	-	54,078	54,078
Changemakers	-	34,841	34,841
Respite Review (LCC)	-	2,839	2,839
Police Cards	-	(1,286)	(1,286)
Sensory Inpatient Project	-	12,237	12,237
Autism - AIM Mentoring and Peer Support - TNL	-	3,094	3,094
Leep1 grants	134,338	-	134,338
Café income:			
Café daily takings	10,181	-	10,181
Café events catering	330	-	330
Café trainee income	35,620	-	35,620
Other Leep1 income:			
Income from activities	7,484	-	7,484
Training fee income	1,882	-	1,882
Member income	44,870	-	44,870
	1,047,626	1,005,822	2,053,448

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

5. Expenditure on charitable activities

For the year ended 31 March 2023	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £
Direct costs:			
Salaries, social security and pension (Note 8)	579,700	860,598	1,440,298
Age UK Leeds	-	42,993	42,993
Touchstone	-	26,424	26,424
Other subcontractors	7,189	7,284	14,473
Volunteer expenses	547	2,471	3,018
Project evaluation	2,801	2,690	5,491
Training	10,870	267	11,137
Recruitment	1,140	106	1,246
Travel	4,423	12,050	16,473
Subscriptions	2,548	253	2,801
Insurances	7,410	-	7,410
Activity costs	14,945	4,008	18,953
Café provision	9,363	-	9,363
	640,936	959,144	1,600,080
Support costs:			
Salaries, social security and pension (Note 8)	338,371	-	338,371
Computer costs	53,403	1,784	55,187
Premises costs	94,207	869	95,076
Communications	17,316	11,511	28,827
Printing, postage and stationery	6,106	1,024	7,130
Repairs and maintenance	31,956	-	31,956
Legal and professional	23,351	280	23,631
Bad debts	(137)	-	(137)
Depreciation	20,316	-	20,316
Irrecoverable VAT	6,786	-	6,786
Other	17,134	876	18,010
Bank charges	1,012	-	1,012
Allocation of shared resources	(317,769)	317,769	-
	292,052	334,113	626,165
Governance costs:			
Trustee and management meetings	1,836	-	1,836
Auditor's remuneration	10,234	-	10,234
	12,070	-	12,070
Total expenditure on charitable activities	945,058	1,293,257	2,238,315

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

5. Expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2022	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £
Direct costs:			
Salaries, social security and pension (Note 8)	586,262	768,818	1,355,080
Age UK Leeds	-	42,993	42,993
Touchstone	-	26,424	26,424
Other subcontractors	2,732	20,321	23,053
Volunteer expenses	1,065	803	1,868
Project evaluation costs	-	9,080	9,080
Training	14,696	325	15,021
Recruitment	5,367	586	5,953
Travel	3,673	7,011	10,684
Subscriptions	7,154	261	7,415
Insurances	9,584	-	9,584
Activity costs	4,743	2,280	7,023
Café provision	4,823	-	4,823
	640,099	878,902	1,519,001
Support costs:			
Salaries, social security and pension (Note 8)	284,143	-	284,143
Computer costs	50,206	576	50,782
Premises costs	77,301	-	77,301
Corporation tax	1,603	-	1,603
Communications	19,591	9,053	28,644
Printing, postage and stationery	9,506	1,150	10,656
Repairs and maintenance	19,536	-	19,536
Legal and professional	(6,571)	31,911	25,340
Bad debts	597	-	597
Depreciation	17,530	170	17,700
Irrecoverable VAT	5,199	-	5,199
Other	10,922	1,181	12,103
Bank charges	783	-	783
Allocation of shared resources	(251,423)	251,423	-
	238,923	295,464	534,387
Governance costs:			
Trustee and management meetings	380	202	582
Auditor's remuneration	12,182	-	12,182
	12,562	202	12,764
Total expenditure on charitable activities	891,584	1,174,568	2,066,152

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

6. Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	2023	2022
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation – owned assets	20,316	17,700
Operating lease charges	16,136	43,028
Auditor’s remuneration - audit services	9,365	8,650
- other services	4,135	3,232

7. Trustees’ remuneration, benefits and expenses

No trustees’ remuneration or other benefits were paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 (2022: £nil).

Trustees’ expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 amounted to £268 (2022: £432).

8. Staff costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,557,782	1,457,164
Sessional workers	14,699	4,714
National insurance	129,614	108,520
Pension costs	76,574	71,647
	1,778,669	1,642,045

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise the Trustees, Chief Executive, Finance Director, Advocacy and Operations Director, and Partnership and Development Director. The total remuneration of the key management personnel was £167,196 (2022: £162,908).

Reimbursed expenses, which are all subject to the charity’s processes of internal controls, do not form part of remuneration and are not included above.

No employee earned more than £60,000 per annum in the current or previous year.

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
The average number of employees was:		
Administration and advocacy (excluding volunteers)	83	85

9. Taxation

The charitable activities of Advonet are potentially exempt from taxation under Chapter 3 of part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

Leep1 CIC is not exempt to corporation tax and so surpluses are subject to a taxation charge – see Note 5.

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

10. Tangible fixed assets

Group	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	Total
Cost			
Balance at 1 April 2022	145,670	76,537	222,207
Additions	17,823	-	17,823
Disposals	(93,338)	(50,601)	(143,939)
Balance at 31 March 2023	70,155	25,936	96,091
Accumulated depreciation			
Balance at 1 April 2022	119,572	73,213	192,785
Charge for the year	18,737	1,579	20,316
Depreciation eliminated on disposal	(93,338)	(50,601)	(143,939)
Balance at 31 March 2023	44,971	24,191	69,162
Net book value			
At 31 March 2023	25,184	1,745	26,929
At 31 March 2022	26,098	3,324	29,422
Charity	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	Total
Cost			
Balance at 1 April 2022	128,404	51,638	180,042
Additions	17,823	-	17,823
Disposals	(82,146)	(49,617)	(131,763)
Balance at 31 March 2023	64,082	2,021	66,103
Accumulated depreciation			
Balance at 1 April 2022	105,544	51,132	156,676
Charge for the year	16,712	358	17,070
Depreciation eliminated on disposal	(82,146)	(49,617)	(131,763)
Balance at 31 March 2023	40,110	1,873	41,983
Net book value			
At 31 March 2023	23,971	148	24,119
At 31 March 2022	22,860	506	23,366

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

11. Investments

The consolidated financial statements include the results of Leep1 CIC, a company limited by guarantee (incorporated in England and Wales, registered number 07252221), its sole member being Advonet. The liability of the charity in the event of Leep1 CIC being wound up is limited by a sum not exceeding £1.

The principal activity of Leep1 CIC is that of providing independent advocacy and related/connected services.

Investment in the wholly owned subsidiary is carried at cost of £10 (2022: £10) in the balance sheet of the charity.

The trading results of the subsidiary company, as extracted from the unaudited financial statements, are summarised below:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover	223,045	245,560
Cost of sales	(20,238)	(15,606)
Gross profit	202,807	229,954
Administrative expenses	(224,236)	(220,629)
Profit before tax	(21,429)	9,325
Taxation on ordinary activities	-	(1,603)
Profit for the financial year	(21,429)	7,722
Retained earnings brought forward	41,951	34,229
Retained earnings carried forward	20,522	41,951

Income earned and expenditure incurred by Leep1 CIC have been recognised within the charitable activities of Advonet's consolidated accounts on the basis that these activities are deemed to have charitable intentions and purposes.

12. Debtors

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	281,164	365,730	261,496	347,697
Other debtors	10,245	10,245	9,445	9,445
Prepayments and accrued income	50,178	39,401	39,423	32,640
	341,587	415,376	310,364	389,782

13. Creditors – Amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	46,295	32,594	46,118	31,474
Accruals	77,791	94,290	62,540	81,990
Other creditors	11,983	12,734	1,473	1,189
Tax and social security	15,429	26,231	15,420	24,619
Deferred income	272,875	328,257	261,906	292,736
	424,373	494,106	387,457	432,008

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

13. Creditors – Amounts falling due within one year (continued)

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Deferred income	£	£	£	£
Brought forward	328,257	164,598	292,736	92,134
Released in the year	(328,257)	(164,598)	(292,736)	(92,134)
Deferred in the year	272,875	328,257	261,906	292,736
Carried forward	272,875	328,257	261,906	292,736

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

14. Funds summary

For the year ended 31 March 2023	Balance 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted:					
Charity core activities	526,600	1,003,847	(805,058)	(304,622)	420,767
Designated funds:					
RPR waiting list reduction	-	-	-	29,620	29,620
Easy Read & Training	-	-	-	25,000	25,000
Finance Officer and Business Development role	-	-	-	33,000	33,000
Advocacy development	-	-	-	45,000	45,000
ASC community	140,000	-	(140,000)	-	-
	140,000	-	(140,000)	132,620	132,620
Restricted:					
Advocacy Awareness	3,073	-	(3,073)	-	-
Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy	45,482	204,000	(216,093)	14,000	47,389
Leeds Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy	-	246,000	(372,345)	126,345	-
Autism – National Lottery	(198)	-	-	198	-
Leeds Independent Mental Health Advocacy	-	200,000	(190,901)	-	9,099
Leeds Care Act Advocacy	-	25,000	(56,452)	31,452	-
Autism North	1,346	66,936	(51,475)	(19,993)	(3,186)
Asking You!	33,273	64,602	(66,719)	-	31,156
Live Well Leeds	-	4,726	(4,726)	-	-
Safeguarding Project	408	3,021	(3,021)	-	408
Health Inequalities	-	52,158	(52,158)	-	-
ICB Funding - Autism Hubs in North Leeds	(168)	-	(18,861)	20,000	971
LGBTQ+	-	54,947	(51,140)	-	3,807
Changemakers	-	55,986	(51,455)	-	4,531
AIM Consultancy for YAAMHEP	25	-	-	-	25
Respite Review	-	20,821	(20,821)	-	-
Police Cards	-	575	(575)	-	-
Sensory Inpatient	-	59,661	(59,661)	-	-
Autism - AIM Mentoring & Peer Support	-	50,985	(50,985)	-	-
Respect Project	(124)	17,623	(17,623)	-	(124)
Heritage Project	-	5,173	(5,173)	-	-
	83,117	1,132,214	(1,293,257)	172,002	94,076
Total funds	749,717	2,136,061	(2,238,315)	-	647,463

Funds summary

Transfers from Autism North were made to CCG Funding – Autism Hubs in North Leeds as these are related contracts but split for the records of the charity.

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2022	Balance 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted:					
Charity core activities	511,582	1,077,671	(891,584)	(171,069)	526,600
Designated funds:					
ASC community	140,000	-	-	-	140,000
Restricted:					
Advocacy Awareness	6,684	-	(555)	(3,056)	3,073
Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy	36,538	204,965	(200,300)	4,279	45,482
Leeds Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy	-	246,000	(335,587)	89,587	-
Autism – National Lottery	-	32,693	(29,172)	(3,719)	(198)
Leeds Independent Mental Health Advocacy	-	200,000	(270,406)	70,406	-
Leeds Care Act Advocacy	-	25,000	(58,824)	33,824	-
Autism North	4,837	66,512	(52,633)	(17,370)	1,346
Asking You!	32,903	69,541	(60,717)	(8,454)	33,273
Live Well Leeds	(96)	3,886	(3,886)	96	-
Safeguarding Project	-	11,399	(10,715)	(276)	408
Health Inequalities	(72)	37,361	(39,085)	1,796	-
ICB Funding - Autism Hubs in North Leeds	-	-	(20,407)	20,239	(168)
LGBTQ+	-	54,078	(48,277)	(5,801)	-
Changemakers	-	34,841	(28,273)	(6,568)	-
AIM Consultancy for YAAMHEP	-	-	(6,605)	6,630	25
Respite Review	-	2,839	(52)	(2,787)	-
Police Cards	-	1,376	(1,137)	(239)	-
Sensory Inpatient	-	12,237	(7,473)	(4,764)	-
Autism - AIM Mentoring & Peer Support	-	3,094	(464)	(2,630)	-
Respect Project	-	-	-	(124)	(124)
	80,794	1,005,822	(1,174,568)	171,069	83,117
Total funds	732,376	2,083,493	(2,066,152)	-	749,717

Designated Funds:

ASC Community Funding from Leeds City Council: ASC received in respect of community advocacy and used to pay for the Turn to Us Project delivered in conjunction with Leeds City Council Family First team and Leeds Relational Practice Centre.

Over the year an Infrastructure fund was used to pay for a business development role in the Central Services Team and an additional Finance Officer in the Finance Team. This investment was decided upon to strengthen the organisation's back-office functions.

RPR waiting list reduction – funds set aside to reduce waiting times re RPR

Easy Read and Training – funds set aside for the Easy Read and Training Social Enterprise

Finance Officer and Business Development role funds for the finance officer in the Finance Team and the Business Development Role in Central Services

Advocacy development – funds designated to develop advocacy within Leeds.

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

14. Funds summary (continued)

Restricted Funds:

All restricted funds are income which has been given for a specific purpose. The funds are not available for use for anything other than the specific project the funding was issued for.

Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy: This is independent health complaints advocacy which is required to be commissioned by local authorities. This advocacy support is aimed at empowering anyone in the Leeds area to resolve a complaint about healthcare commissioned or provided by the NHS in England.

Leeds Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy: instructed and non-instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Mental Capacity Act.

Leeds Independent Mental Health Advocacy: provision of instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Mental Health Act 1983.

Autism - National Lottery: Funding by National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund for mentoring and support within the Autism Community.

Leeds Care Act Advocacy: provision of instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Care Act 2014.

Autism North: Leeds North Clinical Commissioning Group funding for Autism hubs in North Leeds.

Autism North provides funding for our autism hubs in different areas of Leeds. The hubs offer advocacy support and information and signposting services.

Asking You!: This is funding provided by Leeds City Council. This funding is used for a project to get people with learning disabilities involved in the services they use. This is through engagement in People's Parliament and also by being involved in the new strengths based approach by Adult Social Care.

LGBTQ+: National Lottery funded project to address exclusion experienced by LGBTQ +and people with a learning disability to enable them to connect more effectively with the wider LGBTQ+ Community, through self-advocacy workshops and peer support.

Changemakers: Funding awarded by Comic Relief to support autistic adults in West Yorkshire with their mental health via support groups and access to key resources.

Health Inequalities

AIM: pilot work supporting a Local Care Partnership (The Light Surgery and Leeds Student Medical Practice) to increase access to healthcare for autistic people: training to health professionals and peer support. This was initially applied for through WYHHCP and taken up by Leeds CCG.

Sensory Inpatient

AIM: pilot work supporting a Local Care Partnership (The Light Surgery and Leeds Student Medical Practice) to increase access to healthcare for autistic people: training to health professionals and peer support. This was initially applied for through WYHHCP and taken up by Leeds CCG.

Autism – AIM Mentoring & Peer Support

Funded by the National lottery 3 years from Jan 2022: to expand autism mentoring and one to one peer support provision locally (Leeds AIM).

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

For the year ended 31 March 2023	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	26,929	-	-	26,929
Net current assets	393,838	132,620	94,076	620,534
Total funds	420,767	132,620	94,076	647,463

For the year ended 31 March 2022	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	29,422	-	-	29,422
Net current assets	497,178	140,000	83,117	720,295
Total funds	526,600	140,000	83,117	749,717

16. Commitments – Group and Charity

Operating lease commitments

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Expiry date:		
Within one year	56,488	27,624
Between two and five years	18,659	25,444
	75,147	53,068

Capital commitments

At 31 March 2023 the charity had not approved any capital expenditure which has not been contracted for, nor entered any contracts for, capital expenditure which were not provided for (2022: £nil).

17. Related party transactions

During the year Advonet subcontracted to Age UK Leeds, Touchstone and Sign Health (2022: Age UK Leeds, Touchstone and Sign Health). Note 5 includes details of amounts paid to these parties for subcontracted advocacy work. Touchstone is a charity which has a director/trustee in common.

In October 2018, Advonet also entered into partnership with Touchstone in delivering advocacy work for the Kirklees Advocacy Hub. Total income received from Touchstone as part of this partnership is disclosed within this balance in Note 4 of the Financial Statements.

During the year, in addition to the recharge of expenses, Advonet charged Leep1 CIC (a subsidiary) management charges amounting to £32,322 (2022: £27,003). At the year end, Leep1 CIC owed Advonet £9,533 (2022: £7,084) which is included within trade debtors.

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Net movement in funds	(102,254)	17,341
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	20,316	17,700
Increase in stock	(6,477)	(934)
Decrease /(increase) in debtors	73,789	(163,082)
Decrease in creditors	(14,351)	(21,026)
Increase in deferred income	(55,382)	163,659
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	(84,359)	13,658

19. Analysis of net debt

Both during the current and previous year, and at the year end, the charitable group did not hold any borrowings or debt.

20. Comparative Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £
Income from:				
Donations and non-performance grants	4,282	-	-	4,282
Charitable activities	1,047,626	-	1,005,822	2,053,448
Gift of CHANGE's assets and activities	25,763	-	-	25,763
Total income	1,077,671	-	1,005,822	2,083,493
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	891,584	-	1,174,568	2,066,152
Total expenditure	891,584	-	1,174,568	2,066,152
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers	186,087	-	(168,746)	17,341
Transfers between funds	(171,069)	-	171,069	-
Net movement in funds	15,018	-	2,323	17,341
Total funds brought forward	511,582	140,000	80,794	732,376
Total funds carried forward	526,600	140,000	83,117	749,717

ADVONET

England & Wales - Charity number 1126132

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 1126132
Company Number: 04229975

Advonet
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report and
Consolidated Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Advonet

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Advonet

Charity Information

Trustees

M Ahmed

R Beck

P C Gleeson

P J Gruen

I Nip

R Porter

K Tandel

E V Williams

M M Yip

W Case

K S Thirkill

C Jarvis

(appointed 15 December 2021, resigned 17 February 2022)

Company Secretary

P S Bramson

(appointed 25 May 2021)

Key Management Personnel

P Bramson

Chief Executive

C L De Arostegui

Finance Director (until May 2021)

L Kelly

Finance Director (from May 2021)

L S Greenfield

Operations Director

W Cork

Partnership and Development Director

N Hussain

Advocacy Director

Registered charity number

1126132

Company number

04229975

Principal and registered office

Unity Business Centre

26 Roundhay Road

Leeds

LS7 1AB

Independent Auditors

Azets Audit Services Limited

Triune Court

Monks Cross Drive

York

YO32 9GZ

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc

Four Brindleyplace

Birmingham

B1 2JB

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the consolidated financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary, Leep1 CIC, for the year ending 31 March 2022, which are also prepared to meet the requirements of a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and Administrative details

The charity information on page 1 forms part of this report.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of Advonet are to relieve poverty and sickness and preserve and protect the health of the public irrespective of race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, age or disability in particular:

- Promoting awareness and understanding of advocacy practice
- Supporting the development of advocacy services
- The provision of a point of contact for people who need advocacy support or help
- The provision of advocacy services in the North of England
- The development, co-ordination and facilitation of training and education on advocacy and issues relevant to advocacy
- The development and promotion of good practice standards for advocacy

The Trustees review the aims and objectives of the organisation each year and in the current year they did this as part of the Strategic Review. The Trustees have referred to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives.

This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work over the year ended 31 March 2022.

The focus of our work: how our activities support our objectives

Advonet's future will involve providing advocacy and supporting other communities, individuals and organisations to do this; and finding creative ways of working with people who have been marginalised to ensure that their voices and experiences are used to help society become more inclusive.

Advonet recognises the importance of raising awareness within the wider community of the needs of people facing disadvantage and takes a key role in the development and innovation of advocacy services to meet those needs. It participates in bodies such as the Leeds Dementia Board, the Leeds Safeguarding Board, the Autism Partnership Board and the Leeds Learning Disabilities Partnership Board to ensure that the often-negative experiences of its clients can drive service improvement. The charity does this in consultation with clients of services and those who care for them.

In 21-22, the Advonet group sought to meet its objectives by:

- Continuing to fine tune the quality and performance of our advocacy services in Leeds (through our consortium with Age UK and Touchstone) and Kirklees (in partnership with Touchstone).
- Responding to the continuing pandemic by further developing a hybrid approach to supporting adults in disadvantaged situation to have their rights respected, voice heard at a time of additional challenge.
- Continuing to support our subsidiary Leep1's vital work on digital inclusion which has been hugely important in helping people with learning disabilities who otherwise would have faced even greater isolation as a result of the pandemic.
- Addressing health inequalities faced by LGBTQ+ adults with learning disabilities and/or Neuro-divergent with Outspoken, a new National Lottery funded project led by our CHANGE team with support from MESMAC.

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- Expanding the Leeds Autism AIM's post-diagnostic provision which help newly diagnosed autistic adults to learn more about themselves and their condition.
- Establishing the Yorkshire AIM, a Comic Relief funded project, working in West Yorkshire to improve how mental health services connect with autistic adults.
- Allocating £25k of our reserves to Leeds to a new fund to help small groups to develop advocacy offers for communities which are missing out on advocacy. The purpose of the fund is to widen access to advocacy.
- Reviewing our structure and working methods with the support of an external consultant with a long history of third sector management. He interviewed all our staff and identified with them new ways of working. This enabled us to find some greater efficiencies and to bring in more effective processes for example around case management.
- Achieved ISO 9001, an award given for the comprehensiveness of our Quality Management System. The assessor praised our commitment to continual improvement and learning from what could have gone better.

How our activities deliver public benefit

The main project areas we have worked in this year and who we try to help are outlined in the paragraphs below.

Statutory Advocacy

As part of our 1.3 M advocacy services contract with Leeds City Council we have delivered statutory and non-statutory advocacy services across a range of settings.

Our First Contact Team (FCT) receives referrals through our central contact number and via an online enquiry form, responding to enquiries and processing referrals prior to these being allocated to an advocate.

In the past 12 months, our advocacy services received 2,325 referrals and provided advocacy to 2,160 people across the five services between the start of April 2021 and end of March 2022. There was an increase of 39% in the number of clients provided with advocacy compared with 2020/21 as services picked up after pandemic restrictions. Advonet's response to Coronavirus is covered in more detail on page 9. Our Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) and Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA) teams received the most referrals. We have continued to embed the advocacy principles within our work and will be preparing to renew our existing Advocacy Quality Performance Mark in 2022.

We continue to invest in the development of our staff. At the end of March 2022, 8 advocates attained the Independent Advocacy Qualification (IAQ) certificate or diploma, with a further 5 working towards attaining it.

Health Complaints Services

Our Health Complaints Advocacy team help clients who live in the Leeds City Council area to make a complaint about any care they have received from a service run by the NHS. As part of our services, our advocates provide information about the NHS complaints procedure and help clients explore the options available to them so they can decide what to do.

We supported 134 new clients and 169 existing clients in 2021-22.

Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy

The Mental Capacity Act (MCA) is legislation about supporting and protecting vulnerable people who are unable to make their own decisions. As part of our advocacy in this area, the Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA) work on supporting clients to have maximum participation in all matters related to their life, ensuring that their life choices are respected, and their rights are upheld. Over the past year, one area of focus has been to develop more effective partnership working with external agencies/providers, to further promote the use of the Mental Capacity Act and the role of the IMCA.

During the year, we supported 248 new clients and 670 existing clients.

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Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022

Independent Mental Health Advocacy

The Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA) team continues to work with people who have been detained under the Mental Health Act and want their voice to be heard and their rights respected. New innovations include working in private hospitals and in Care Home settings. We continually develop effective relationships with Mental Health Operational Steering Groups to affect change through discussing systemic advocacy issues. We provided IMHA training and info to healthcare professionals in a range of settings.

During 2021-22, we supported 320 new clients and 199 existing clients.

Care Act Advocacy

Our Care Act Advocates work with individuals to help them make their own decisions. They support people to understand the care and support process they will be involved in. They also help people to communicate their wishes and feelings to inform discussions about their future care and support needs. We supported 59 new clients and 67 existing clients in 2021-22. We are looking to promote this service more, in the future, so that people get the advocacy they are entitled to.

Community Advocacy

Our Community Advocacy helps clients to uphold their rights. Advocates help our clients to understand and put forward their choices and to be involved and have a say in what they need. Our service is available for any adult in Leeds who needs advocacy support to have their voice heard dealing with organisations including Adult Social Care, healthcare professionals, Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), utility companies and housing services.

We supported 102 new clients and 127 existing clients in 2021-22.

Turn to Us Project

Over the year we developed a peer advocacy service for parents who are having to deal with social workers. Parents and carers with lived experience of the social care system are being trained to help others in similar situations to be more confident at using services to help their families. This development happened alongside the ongoing development of our wider self-advocacy offer.

Ask4Advocacy Kirklees

This service provides the statutory and non-statutory advocacy services for Kirklees and is delivered through a partnership between Advonet and Touchstone. Three Advonet staff are seconded into the project and provide both advocacy and advocacy management support. The service supported 1,835 clients and took 1,283 new referrals between April 2021-March 2022. We supported more people in Kirklees than in previous years, and we received more referrals.

In-house Advocacy

As well as providing advocacy to all eligible citizens in Leeds, (and as Touchstone's partners in Kirklees), The Advonet Group offers separately funded, in-house advocacy services to other settings.

These include LCH/LYPFT's young people's service at Red Kite View, within which we offer a service to voluntary patients under 18. We have continued to deliver advocacy services within the Exemplar Health Care Group and have provided an Independent Mental Health Advocacy service in Waterloo Manor Hospital and Active Pathways.

Asking You!

Asking You's People Parliament, the 'user' reference group for Leeds Partnership Board for People with Learning Disabilities, began meeting in person after the pandemic, whenever guidelines and risk assessments allowed. Asking You! also supported a number of user-led services reviews, including a review of the provision offered by Aspire and a review of Working Age Adults Accommodation Services. In addition, Asking You! coproduced quality standards for Day Opportunities Providers together with people who used the Providers services.

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CHANGE

CHANGE has continued to develop its easy read provision, updating its image bank and resources. It has aimed this year for more recurrent and larger pieces of work and ensuring that easy read is embedded into project work/ funding. They have produced resources for Macmillan, National Lottery and around the LPS among many other areas. Project work this year included:

- OutSpoken Project - providing self-advocacy courses and peer support for LGBTQ+ people that are autistic or have a learning disability and training for health and care professionals.
- Safeguarding Adults Board – facilitating Citizens Reference Group.
- Respect - end of life planning work - research and development of resources.
- Heritage project - learning disability history and celebration partnership work.
- Supporting development of peer advocacy and parents with learning disabilities.

The manager has led on development of training this year, with a planned focus on CHANGE training in year one and a longer-term plan to connect to wider Advonet training.

Leeds Autism AIM

Our Leeds Autism AIM service provides a range of services to autistic adults locally that have little other funded support. It has increasing demand and high engagement, supporting 684 people in the last year. The service has three main pots of funding: continuation funding from Leeds ICB for its core service, including increased funding for its post-diagnostic support. The mentoring and peer support areas have gained further £159k funding from The National Lottery Community Fund for continuation and development for a further 3 years. They have also gained additional ICB funding to expand their Health Access work with wider GP surgeries/ LCP. They continue to deliver autism mental health training to Live Well Leeds Community Based Mental Health service. They have expanded their partnership work, groups and resources. They are in discussion requesting additional funding for the core and post diagnostic service to meet increased demand and funding for development of pre-diagnostic support. They have also been approached about developing ADHD support maybe linked to the Health Access work. There is also the likely potential for increased autism regional work if the service has capacity.

Yorkshire Autism AIM:

Yorkshire AIM are one year into 4 years funding of £430k from Comic Relief Changemakers fund for the Mental Health Equity project, improving access to mental health services for autistic people across the West Yorkshire region. They have worked with Leeds Mind in developing adapted peer support models and training, developed training for advocacy and social prescribing services and delivered 2 stage training to our own advocates. They have started work on developing mental health consultation routes, linking to relevant partners/ stakeholders, with Leeds AIM support.

Sensory inpatient work: the £73k work on improving the sensory environment on inpatient wards has been extended to March of next year. The project has consulted with clients and staff on identified wards, developed sensory checking tools, report templates and training for sensory checkers. It is working closely with Bradford District Care Trust and the ICS in next stages of development. There is the potential for expanding this work post pilot stage.

Leep1 is our Community Interest Company ('CIC'). They promote self-advocacy for individuals with learning disabilities and run several projects and activities. Leep has had several changes of staffing over the last year and been impacted by sickness after re-opening after Covid. They were successful in obtaining Resilience Funding via Leeds Community Foundation for 2 years that will help them build back stronger after the Covid period. They have completed a self-assessment and a 2-year action plan. They have restarted their club nights and face to face delivery and started to improve identified quality areas. They are focusing in the next year on reviewing purpose eg self-advocacy focus working with the People First group, reviewing Director involvement and decision making of people with learning disabilities, staff development/training, more effective monitoring and reviews, volunteer processes and rebuilding link/partnership working both internally and externally. They have been successful in gaining Anchor funding and renewing Aspire work and at stage 2 of a large 3-year Lottery bid in partnership with CHANGE. Finalising this has been delayed due to capacity in the service. In the new year, they are aiming to re- start and further develop their Cooking and AND groups, increasing funded referrals and focus on increasing both café trainees and wider café income.

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Our Volunteers

Our volunteers remain a vital part of the organisation. In line with the national picture, we saw some drop in numbers over the pandemic but we are finding lots of new interest amongst volunteers. We have done work to improve our volunteer offer and run new multi-media promotional campaigns. We have worked hard to make sure that our recruitment and training and support offers are truly inclusive. We have two new coordinators, renewed mentoring funding and are in the process of preparing for IIV re- accreditation. Throughout our 20 plus year history we have seen volunteering as brilliant source of future employees and a good way of engaging with Leeds diverse communities.

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 6 June 2001 and a registered charity. The charity is established under a Memorandum of Association which outlines the objectives and aims of the organisation. Members are required to contribute £1 in the event of the Company winding up.

Details of the registered number and office are given on page 1.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Trustees serve on the Board in the capacity as both Company Director and Trustee. They receive no remuneration and any expenses are shown in Note 7 to the financial statements. Appointments to the Board are made by the Members of the Company at the Annual General Meeting or at a general meeting held during the year in accordance with the Articles of Association.

There are twelve places available on the Board. A third of the places on the Board are set aside for people from the organisation's client groups i.e. those with lived experience of mental health issues or autism. When a Director's vacancy arises the Board seek to maintain a broad skill mix to ensure that the composition of the Board can support the Senior Management team and the organisation in delivering its aims and objectives.

Under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, one third of the Board must retire by rotation at each Annual General Meeting. The Board members who retire are the longest serving directors. Retiring Trustees can offer themselves for re-election.

Trustee Induction and Training

It is Advonet's practice that potential trustees are encouraged to attend board meetings as an observer before joining the Board so that they are able to familiarise themselves with the policy, procedures and structures of the organisation. Additional ad-hoc training is also offered to all Trustees where further knowledge is requested.

All Trustees are issued with a Trustee handbook and attend a formal induction session when they join the Board. They are encouraged to engage with staff and attend meetings, if they wish, to gain a more in depth understanding of the organisation.

Organisational Structure

The Board meets at least 4 times a year. The Board is responsible for the strategic direction and governance of the organisation and determines the organisation's policies. During the financial year, the Resources, Quality and Development sub-groups were used to provide the Board further opportunity to scrutinise the operations in more detail.

The Resources sub-group covers Finance, Health & Safety, HR and data protection matters. The Quality sub-group focuses on the operations of the organisation and the Development sub-group focuses on new development opportunities. The Board delegates the operational running of the Company to the Senior Management Team ("SMT").

The Senior Management Team is headed by the Chief Executive, who is appointed by the Board to be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the organisation. The Senior Management Team also includes the Advocacy Director (also responsible for quality management), the Inclusion Projects Director (also responsible for communications) and the Finance Director (who is responsible for Finance, IT and Data Protection).

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Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022

Key management remuneration

During the financial year ending 31 March 2022, the Chief Executive, the Finance Director, the Advocacy Director and the Inclusion Project's Director formed the charity's key management personnel. The key management's pay award is set by the Board following a benchmarking exercise which compared the salaries of similar roles in comparable organisations. No employee earned more than £60,000 per annum in the current or previous financial year.

Risk Management

The Board conduct an annual review of the risks to which the organisation is exposed. This includes assessing the potential impact and likelihood, the controls that are in place, and those that could be put in place, to mitigate the risks identified.

A risk register is maintained under the headings: Governance, Operational, Financial; Compliance; and Environmental/Social/Political Factors. It is jointly compiled by the Board and the SMT

At the last review, the principal risks and uncertainties facing the charity identified were loss of funding and changes in health and social care policy. These risks are managed by developing strong working partnerships with our funders, seeking to diversify our funding sources and ensuring we engage with strategic bodies.

Financial Review

The financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the conditions in the company's memorandum and articles of association.

The movement in funds is shown on the Statement of Financial Activities on page 15.

Principal Funding Sources

Advonet, and its consortium partners (Touchstone, and Age UK), started to deliver the five-year contract for Advocacy in Leeds in April 2018 (with the potential to be extended for up to a further three years) following completion of a tender process. This contract with Leeds City Council remains the major source of funding for the organisation, consistent with prior year. (62% of income in 21/22; 66% of income in 20/21).

Advonet also has contract funding as part of the Ask4Advocacy contract in Kirklees. Additionally, the group has secured grant funding from several different sources including other departments of Leeds City Council, Leeds CCG, Comic Relief and the National Lottery Community Fund.

Fundraising

Advonet, at present, only undertakes some small scale informal fundraising activities e.g. sponsored events. All amounts raised by fund raising activities are included in donations. Advonet does not use professional fundraisers or third parties to fundraise on our behalf. There have been no complaints about fundraising activity this year.

Charity Reserves

Performance in year

During the year ended 31 March 2022 Advonet made a surplus of £17,341 (2020/21: £9,151). The unrestricted surplus was £15,018 (2020/21: £73,153).

Unrestricted reserves (excluding fixed assets and designated funds) were £497,178 at the end of the year. Information in relation to the charity's reserves policy is given below.

Designated funds

The trustees had designated £40,000 of unrestricted reserves for spending on Community Advocacy under the Leeds City Council Adult Social Care contract. During the year, after discussions with Commissioners we have now reallocated it to a Turn to Us project, a specialist self-advocacy/ peer advocacy project for parents with additional needs who are going through child protection processes. We are co-producing this pilot project with Leeds City Council Children and Families Protectorate, as well as well as with parents and carers.

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Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022

In addition to the reserves requirement detailed above, the Board designated £100,000 of further funds from free reserves at the end of 20/21. This was in respect of projects which will enable The Advonet Group to use advocacy approaches to equip people in minoritized groups to be better socially included. For example, through the Leeds Advocacy Fund, we will offer community groups packages of advocacy training, together with small grants to enable them to offer advocacy to groups of people which our generic advocacy offer is struggling to reach. We will support grant holders to monitor efficacy, capture outcomes and secure continuation funding. Another project will involve us to expanding our training provision, so that we can share our learning and enable others to benefit from the insights of the people who use our services. In the first phase in 20/21, people with lived experience of Learning Disabilities and Autism were employed to train local professionals in awareness of communication needs and awareness; as well as training their peers to be better to understand issues like using health and social care and decision making.

Restricted funds

The restricted funds at the end of March 2022 totalled £83,117 and principally represents amounts held for Advocacy Awareness, Autism North, Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy and Asking You! projects.

Advonet's Reserves Policy

In forming a reserves policy, the trustees have regard to the financial impact of the principal risks set out on page 7.

Advonet maintains an unrestricted cash reserve to provide a reasonable working balance between meeting existing commitments and recognising that there can sometimes be a delay in receiving grants or other income due. The Board has undertaken a more detailed review of reserves requirements rather than the previous target of 3 months' salary costs (equating to c. £448k) and has reviewed the level of reserves required to take account of known liabilities and possible contingencies. The Risk Register is reviewed on a regular basis and informs the Reserves Policy to ensure that we capture funds that enable us to deal with known risks in a sustainable way. For example, a short-term cash flow problem due to late payment of a significant contract, or the long term sickness of a key member of staff. The required reserves estimate at 31 March 2022 is £482,908 following a review this year to ensure that potential additional risks to our operations arising from the cost of living crisis are incorporated into this value.

Free reserves (excluding fixed assets and designated funds) of the organisation as at the end of March 2022 are £497,178 (2021: £482,701) and therefore in excess of the amount required under the reserves policy by £14,270. Given the uncertain environment presented by the cost of living crisis the Trustees consider this to be a prudent position.

As part of the review of the financial status of the organisation, the trustees reviewed the financial forecast of the organisation for the next 12 months. This has been updated for the preparation of the financial statements and the trustees are comfortable that the basis of going concern for the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Investment Policy

The board continues to review the investment policy to ensure that the maximum investment returns are achieved, while not compromising the operational requirements and having regard to the acceptable level of investment risk.

The board has considered the most appropriate policy for the investment of funds and has decided that, given the current low return on investment obtainable investment in the form of cash remains the most appropriate policy. A higher interest deposit account has been opened with Unity Trust Bank in order to obtain a return on surplus funds. The charity has no present ethical investment stance.

The powers to invest are governed by the company Memorandum and Articles of Association which give the trustees the power to manage, invest and expend all monies belonging to the Company.

Commitments

The Directors have not entered any commitments to future capital purchases at the balance sheet date (prior year: no commitments).

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Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022

Coronavirus: Our response

Commissioners report anecdotally that throughout the pandemic, we were always quick off the mark at maintaining and returning to face-to-face service delivery as soon as conditions and regulations allowed.

The Leep1 team maintained an online presence for over 300 members. Leep1 were integral to the learning-disabled community during the Covid period. They were able to utilise their strong engagement to respond flexibly very quickly to providing online support and connections and supporting local consultations. They played a key part in the ALaDDIN (Leeds Day Opportunities Providers) digital development group and together with Asking You! enabled us to keep services such as Healthwatch informed of particular barriers and themes in this community, explore solutions and ensure the voice and influence for this group during Covid.

Leeds Autism AIM continued to enjoy high levels of engagement with their online offer, created in response to the coronavirus.

Plans for Future Periods

The organisation plans on continuing to develop and build upon the activities outlined earlier in the Trustees' report.

In 2019 we created a strategic plan for the next five years which continues to develop our work. Our key objectives:

- Independence: To protect Advonet's independence by widening the range of ways in which we obtain our income;
- Pioneering: To be the most ground-breaking advocacy provider across Yorkshire and the Humber;
- Diversity: To be the most diverse advocacy organisation in our region in terms of volunteers, staff and clients;
- Influence: To be a highly influential Advocacy organisation in the Yorkshire and the Humber region;
- Partnership: To design, deliver, review and improve all of our services together with the people who will get the most benefit from them and other expert partners;
- Excellence: To be recognised by the people who use our services, and other key partners as a provider of outstanding services;
- Resourcefulness: To continually strive to use our resources as efficiently as possible.

In 2022/23 we will review our progress with our strategic business plan and use our learning from it to develop our 23-28 Strategic Plan.

Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

The Trustees (who are also directors of Advonet for the purpose of Company law) are responsible for preparing a Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of those resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those 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 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis.

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Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence 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 UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Board of Trustees

The Board, who are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out in page 1.

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

- So far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, or that income is not
- As the directors of the company we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

Azets Audit Services Limited were appointed auditor following their acquisition of Garbutt & Elliott Audit Limited. Azets Audit Services Limited have indicated their willingness to stand for reappointment at the Annual General Meeting.

The Trustees' Report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 14/12/2022 and signed on its behalf by:



P Gleeson
Trustee

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Advonet

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Advonet (the "parent charity") and its subsidiary (the "group") for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Charity Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Advonet

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charitable Company and Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charitable Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Advonet

Extent to which the audit was capable of identifying irregularities, including fraud

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience, through discussion with the trustees and other management, and from inspection of the charitable group's regulatory and legal correspondence. We discussed with the trustees and other management the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance during the audit.

The charitable group is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting legislation (including related companies and charities legislation), pensions legislation, taxation legislation and further laws and regulations that could indirectly affect the financial statements, including health and safety and employment legislation. We assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. These procedures did not identify any potentially material actual or suspected non-compliance.

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud we considered the opportunities and incentives and pressures that may exist within the charitable group to commit fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included enquiry of trustees and other management to understand the high level policies and procedures in place to prevent and detect fraud, reading Board minutes and considering performance targets and incentive schemes in place for management. We communicated identified fraud risks throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of fraud during the audit.

As a result of these procedures we identified the greatest potential for fraud in the following areas:

- income recognition and in particular the risk that income is recognised in the wrong reporting period, or that restricted income is incorrectly recognised within unrestricted income; and
- subjective accounting estimates.

These risks may arise due to a potential desire to present differing results in order to meet management objectives.

As required by auditing standards we also identified and addressed the risk of management override of controls.

We performed the following procedures to address the risks of fraud identified:

- identifying and testing high risk journal entries through vouching the entries to supporting documentation;
- assessing significant accounting estimates for bias; and
- testing the recognition of income and in particular that it was appropriately recognised or deferred.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it.

In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of fraud, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. Our audit procedures are designed to detect material misstatement. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance or fraud and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

Advonet

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Advonet

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Azets Audit Services Ltd.

Alan Sidebottom
Senior Statutory Auditor

14/12/2022

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For and on behalf of Azets Audit Services Limited
Statutory Auditor

Triune Court
Monks Cross Drive
York
YO32 9GZ

Advonet

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

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Income from:						
Donations and non-performance grants	3	4,282	-	-	4,282	910
Charitable activities	4	1,047,626	-	1,005,822	2,053,448	1,946,501
Gift of CHANGE's assets and activities		-	-	-	-	449
Other		25,763	-	-	25,763	-
Total income		1,077,671	-	1,005,822	2,083,493	1,947,860
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	5	891,584	-	1,174,568	2,066,152	1,938,709
Total expenditure		891,584	-	1,174,568	2,066,152	1,938,709
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers	6	186,087	-	(168,746)	17,341	9,151
Transfers between funds	14	(171,069)	-	171,069	-	-
Net movement in funds		15,018	-	2,323	17,341	9,151
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	14,15	511,582	140,000	80,794	732,376	723,225
Total funds carried forward	14,15	526,600	140,000	83,117	749,717	732,376

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the current period and the previous year and all relates to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 18 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

A fully detailed Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2021 is shown in note 20 to the financial statements.

The Statement of Financial Activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

Advonet

Balance Sheets as at 31 March 2022

	Notes	Group 2022 £	2021 £	Charity 2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	10	29,422	28,881	23,366	22,636
Investments	11	-	-	10	10
Current assets					
Debtors	12	415,376	252,294	389,782	246,653
Cash at bank and in hand		789,925	794,508	717,526	673,948
Stock		9,100	8,166	9,100	8,156
		1,214,401	1,054,968	1,116,408	928,757
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(494,106)	(351,473)	(432,008)	(253,256)
Net current assets		720,295	703,495	684,399	675,501
Total net assets	15	749,717	732,376	707,776	698,147
Represented by:					
Unrestricted charity funds:					
- General		526,600	511,582	484,659	477,353
- Designated		140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000
Restricted charity funds		83,117	80,794	83,117	80,794
Total funds	14,15	749,717	732,376	749,776	698,147

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies.

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

14/12/2022

The financial statements were approved by the board of Trustees on and signed on its behalf by:



P Gleeson
Trustee

Company registration number: 04229975

Advonet

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated by/(used by) operations	18	13,658	391,807
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(18,241)	(18,606)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		(18,241)	(18,606)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year			
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2021		794,508	421,307
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2022		789,925	794,508

Advonet

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

1. Accounting policies

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

Charitable company information

The charitable company is limited by guarantee, with the liability of members limited to £1 per member. The charitable company is registered in England and Wales with the Charity Commission. The registered office is Unity Business Centre, 26 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS7 1AB.

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charitable company there remain any assets, after satisfying all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having objectives similar to the Charity.

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) ("Charities SORP (FRS102)"), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

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

On the grounds that the charitable company's results are consolidated into the charitable company's group accounts the charitable company has taken advantage of certain exemptions conferred by section 1.11 of FRS102 as follows:

- Exemption from presenting a charitable company statement of cash flows as a primary statement to the financial statements.

Going concern

The Trustees have at the time of approving the financial statements a reasonable expectation that the charitable company and group have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charitable company and group have cash reserves sufficient to meet immediate requirements. The Trustees have no intention to wind the charitable company up in the foreseeable future. It is considered that there are currently no material uncertainties which impact on the charitable company being able to continue in its current form. Thus, the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly owned subsidiary, Leep1 CIC, on a line by line basis. A separate Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure Account for the charitable company has not been presented as the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemption afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

The income of the charitable company for the year was £1,837,933 (2021 - £1,709,389). There was no Gift Aid asset transfer (2021 - £nil) from the subsidiary. Expenditure amounted to £1,800,313 (2021 - £1,710,182). The net surplus of the charitable company for the year was £9,620 (2021 - £793 deficit).

Advonet

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

Income

All income is included in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities when the charitable company is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- **Donations and non-performance grants** are received by way of grants and donations. These amounts are included in full in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant. Where grants are received during the year which contain performance conditions to be met in future periods, the amount of the grant which relates to the future periods is shown as deferred grants and is included within creditors.
- **Grants** where the income is related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.
- **Donated services:** The value of the services provided by volunteers has not been included. Further details of the contribution made by volunteers can be found in the annual report.

Income arising from grants and similar contracts specifically for the provision of activities or services which are provided as part of the charitable activities of the charity is recorded under the heading of income from charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees;
- Designated funds - these are funds allocated from the general fund or received from third parties which have no restrictions on their uses but which are designated for a particular purpose according to the Trustees; or
- Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes, as specified by the donors, within the objects of the charity.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes related value added tax which cannot be recovered. Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise all costs relating to public accountability of the charity. The costs include statutory audit fees.

Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Staff costs

The costs of short term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense where settlement of obligations does not fall within the same period.

Employee severance and redundancy pay is recognised within the accounts, on an accruals basis in the year in which the employee either left, or agreed to leave, the organisation.

Pension costs

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities represents the contributions payable for the year.

Advonet

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

Fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are included on a historical cost basis. It is a policy of the trustees that individual items with a cost below £500 are not capitalised.

Depreciation is provided at the following rates and bases to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives:

Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	33% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line

Financial instruments

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

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 held for working capital. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Debtors

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

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit and loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset. Impairment losses are recognised in the income and expenditure account.

Creditors, loans and provisions

Creditors, loans and provisions are recognised where the group 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, loans and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Financial liabilities are only derecognised when, and only when, the group's obligations are discharged, cancelled or they expire.

Amounts recognised as provisions are best estimates of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

The Trustees consider that there are no critical accounting estimates and judgements that have a material impact on these financial statements.

Advonet

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

3. Donations and non-performance grants

	2022 £	2021 £
Donations	4,282	910

£nil of donations (2021: £500) in the year were restricted.

4. Income from charitable activities

For the year ended 31 March 2022	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 £
Local authority contracts:			
Leeds City Council-Department of Adult Social Care	613,208	688,627	1,301,835
Other contracts:			
Kirklees Advocacy Hub	97,100	-	97,100
Other service income:			
Ad-hoc advocacy	22,754	-	22,754
Additional service user income	20,391	1,350	21,741
Easy Read	56,214	-	56,214
Other grants:			
Asking You	-	68,192	68,192
Autism North CCG	-	66,512	66,512
Autism - Big Lottery	-	32,692	32,692
Live Well Leeds	-	3,886	3,886
Safeguarding Project	-	1,399	1,399
Change	3,254	-	3,254
Health Inequalities - Autism	-	37,361	37,361
LBGTQ+	-	54,078	54,078
Changemakers	-	34,841	34,841
Respite Review (LCC) Start 01092021	-	2,839	2,839
Police Cards	-	(1,286)	(1,286)
Sensory Inpatient Project	-	12,237	12,237
Autism - AIM Mentoring and Peer Support - TNL	-	3,094	3,094
Leep1 grants	134,338	-	134,338
Café income:			
Café daily takings	10,181	-	10,181
Café events catering	330	-	330
Café trainee income	35,620	-	35,620
Other Leep1 income:			
Income from activities	7,484	-	7,484
Training fee income	1,882	-	1,882
Member income	44,870	-	44,870
	1,047,626	1,005,822	2,053,448

Advonet

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

4. Income from charitable activities

For the year ended 31 March 2021	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 £
Local authority contracts:			
Leeds City Council-Department of Adult Social Care	605,890	678,339	1,284,229
Other contracts:			
Kirklees Advocacy Hub	97,100	-	97,100
Other service income:			
Ad-hoc advocacy	27,902	-	27,902
Additional service user income	51,974	-	51,974
Easy Read	52,427	-	52,427
Other grants:			
Autism North	-	58,723	58,723
Asking You!	-	71,780	71,780
Big Lottery – Autism Community	-	72,082	72,082
Live Well Leeds	-	2,351	2,351
Safeguarding project	-	5,837	5,837
CQC	-	1,931	1,931
Keeping Connected	-	7,500	7,500
Change	21,314	-	21,314
Community Advocacy	275	-	275
Spot Purchase	689	-	689
Leep1 grants	151,674	-	151,674
Café income:			
Café trainee income	36,282	-	36,282
Other Leep1 income:			
Income from activities	2,231	-	2,231
Room rental income	200	-	200
	1,047,958	898,543	1,946,501

Advonet

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

5. Expenditure on charitable activities

For the year ended 31 March 2022	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £
Direct costs:			
Salaries, social security and pension (Note 8)	586,262	768,818	1,355,080
Age UK Leeds	-	42,993	42,993
Touchstone	-	26,424	26,424
Other subcontractors	2,732	20,321	23,053
Volunteer expenses	1,065	803	1,868
Project evaluation costs	-	9,080	9,080
Training	14,696	325	15,021
Recruitment	5,367	586	5,953
Travel	3,673	7,011	10,684
Subscriptions	7,154	261	7,415
Insurances	9,584	-	9,584
Activity costs	4,743	2,280	7,023
Café provision	4,823	-	4,823
	640,099	878,902	1,519,001
Support costs:			
Salaries, social security and pension (Note 8)	284,143	-	284,143
Computer costs	50,206	576	50,782
Premises costs	77,301	-	77,301
Corporation tax	1,603	-	1,603
Communications	19,591	9,053	28,644
Printing, postage and stationery	9,506	1,150	10,656
Repairs and maintenance	19,536	-	19,536
Legal and professional	(6,571)	31,911	25,340
Bad debts	597	-	597
Depreciation	17,530	170	17,700
Irrecoverable VAT	5,199	-	5,199
Other	10,922	1,181	12,103
Bank charges	783	-	783
Allocation of shared resources	(251,423)	251,423	-
	238,923	295,464	534,387
Governance costs:			
Trustee and management meetings	380	202	582
Auditor remuneration	12,182	-	12,182
	12,562	202	12,764
Total expenditure on charitable activities	891,584	1,174,568	2,066,152

Advonet

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

5. Expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2021	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Direct costs:			
Salaries, social security and pension (Note 8)	603,958	682,487	1,286,445
Age UK Leeds	60,000	-	60,000
Sign Health	531	30,316	30,847
Touchstone	2,497	6,755	9,252
Other subcontractors	14,547	(815)	13,732
Volunteer expenses	1,328	89	1,417
Project evaluation costs	655	9,864	10,519
Training	19,844	-	19,844
Recruitment	2,159	72	2,231
Travel	681	2,176	2,857
Subscriptions	6,434	181	6,615
Insurances	7,524	-	7,524
Activity costs	1,289	2,275	3,564
Café provision	159	-	159
	721,606	733,400	1,455,006
Support costs:			
Salaries, social security and pension (Note 8)	238,606	-	238,606
Computer costs	48,884	335	49,219
Premises costs	76,913	199	77,112
Corporation tax	1,862	-	1,862
Communications	21,416	7,139	28,555
Printing, postage and stationery	8,788	2,416	11,204
Repairs and maintenance	20,950	33	20,983
Legal and professional	(3,593)	21,934	18,341
Bad debts	1,354	89	1,443
Depreciation	9,668	-	9,668
Irrecoverable VAT	5,941	-	5,941
Other	12,278	785	13,063
Bank charges	521	-	521
Allocation of shared resources	(240,771)	240,771	-
	202,817	273,701	476,518
Governance costs:			
Trustee and management meetings	167	368	535
Auditor remuneration	6,650	-	6,650
	6,817	368	7,185
Total expenditure on charitable activities	931,240	1,007,469	1,938,709

Advonet

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

6. Net income for the year

	2022	2021
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation – owned assets	17,700	9,668
Operating lease charges	43,028	19,183
Auditor’s remuneration - audit services	8,650	6,650
- other services	3,232	3,400

7. Trustees’ remuneration, benefits and expenses

No trustees’ remuneration or other benefits were paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 (2021: £nil).

Trustees’ expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 amounted to £432 (2021: £nil).

8. Staff costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,457,164	1,350,565
Sessional workers	4,714	7,977
National insurance	108,520	99,523
Pension costs	71,647	66,986
	1,642,045	1,525,051

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise the Trustees, Chief Executive, Finance Director, Advocacy and Operations Director, and Partnership and Development Director. The total remuneration of the key management personnel was £162,908 (2021: £151,908).

Reimbursed expenses, which are all subject to the charity’s processes of internal controls, do not form part of remuneration and are not included above.

No employee earned more than £60,000 per annum in the current or previous year.

The average number of employees (full and part time) was:	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Administration and advocacy (excluding volunteers)	85	80

9. Taxation

The charitable activities of Advonet are potentially exempt from taxation under Chapter 3 of part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

Leep1 CIC is not exempt to corporation tax and so surpluses are subject to a taxation charge – see Note 5.

Advonet

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

10. Tangible fixed assets

Group	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	Total
Cost			
Balance at 1 April 2021	131,024	72,942	203,966
Additions	14,646	3,595	18,241
Balance at 31 March 2022	145,670	76,537	222,207
Accumulated depreciation			
Balance at 1 April 2021	103,307	71,778	175,085
Charge for the year	16,265	1,435	17,700
Balance at 31 March 2022	119,572	73,213	192,785
Net book value			
At 31 March 2022	26,098	3,324	29,422
At 31 March 2021	27,717	1,164	28,881
Charity			
	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	Total
Cost			
Balance at 1 April 2021	113,758	51,638	165,396
Additions	14,646	-	14,646
Balance at 31 March 2022	128,404	51,638	180,042
Accumulated depreciation			
Balance at 1 April 2021	92,064	50,696	142,760
Charge for the year	13,480	436	13,916
Balance at 31 March 2022	105,544	51,132	156,676
Net book value			
At 31 March 2022	22,860	506	23,366
At 31 March 2021	21,694	942	22,636

Advonet

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

11. Investments

The consolidated financial statements include the results of Leep1 CIC, a company limited by guarantee (incorporated in England and Wales, registered number 07252221), its sole member being Advonet. The liability of the charity in the event of Leep1 CIC being wound up is limited by a sum not exceeding £1.

The principal activity of Leep1 CIC is that of providing independent advocacy and related/connected services.

Investment in the wholly owned subsidiary is carried at cost of £10 (2021: £10) in the balance sheet of the charity.

The trading results of the subsidiary company, as extracted from the unaudited financial statements, are summarised below:

	2022 £	2021 £
Turnover	245,560	238,270
Cost of sales	(15,606)	(15,609)
Gross profit	229,954	222,661
Administrative expenses	(220,629)	(211,055)
Other operating income	-	200
Profit before tax	9,325	11,806
Taxation on ordinary activities	(1,603)	(1,862)
Profit for the financial year	7,722	9,944
Retained earnings brought forward	34,229	24,285
Retained earnings carried forward	41,951	34,229

Income earned and expenditure incurred by Leep1 CIC have been recognised within the charitable activities of Advonet's consolidated accounts on the basis that these activities are deemed to have charitable intentions and purposes.

12. Debtors

	Group		Charity	
	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	365,730	223,621	347,697	222,756
Other debtors	10,245	10,721	9,445	9,930
Prepayments and accrued income	39,401	17,952	32,640	13,967
	415,376	252,294	389,782	246,653

13. Creditors – Amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	32,594	56,593	31,474	56,343
Accruals	94,290	58,609	81,990	45,537
Other creditors	12,734	30,272	1,189	19,712
Tax and social security	26,231	41,401	24,619	39,530
Deferred income	328,257	164,598	292,736	92,134
	494,106	351,473	432,008	253,256

Advonet

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

13. Creditors – Amounts falling due within one year (continued)

	Group		Charity	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
Deferred income	£	£	£	£
Brought forward	164,598	112,295	92,134	74,900
Released in the year	(164,598)	(96,927)	(92,134)	(60,532)
Deferred in the year	328,257	149,230	292,736	77,766
Carried forward	328,257	164,598	292,736	92,134

14. Funds summary

For the year ended 31 March 2022	Balance 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted:					
Charity core activities	511,582	1,077,671	(891,584)	(171,069)	526,600
Designated funds:					
ASC community	140,000	-	-	-	140,000
Restricted:					
Advocacy Awareness	6,684	-	(555)	(3,056)	3,073
Leeds Independent Health	36,538	204,965	(200,300)	4,279	45,482
Complaints Advocacy	-	246,000	(335,587)	89,587	-
Leeds Independent Mental	-	32,693	(29,172)	(3,719)	(198)
Capacity Advocacy	-	200,000	(270,406)	70,406	-
Autism – National Lottery	-	25,000	(58,824)	33,824	-
Leeds Independent Mental Health	-	4,837	(52,633)	(17,370)	1,346
Advocacy	32,903	69,541	(60,717)	(8,454)	33,273
Leeds Care Act Advocacy	(96)	3,886	(3,886)	96	-
Autism North	-	11,399	(10,715)	(276)	408
Asking You!	(72)	37,361	(39,085)	1,796	-
Live Well Leeds	-	-	(20,407)	20,239	(168)
Safeguarding Project	-	54,078	(48,277)	(5,801)	-
Health Inequalities	-	34,841	(28,273)	(6,568)	-
CCG Funding - Autism Hubs in	-	-	(6,605)	6,630	25
North Leeds	-	2,839	(52)	(2,787)	-
LGBTQ+	-	1,376	(1,137)	(239)	-
Changemakers	-	12,237	(7,473)	(4,764)	-
AIM Consultancy for YAAMHEP	-	3,094	(464)	(2,630)	-
Respite Review	-	-	-	(124)	(124)
Police Cards	80,794	1,005,822	(1,174,568)	171,069	83,117
Sensory Inpatient	-	-	-	-	-
Autism - AIM Mentoring & Peer	-	-	-	-	-
Support	-	-	-	-	-
Respect Project	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds	732,376	2,083,493	(2,066,152)	-	749,717

Advonet

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

14. Funds summary

For the year ended 31 March 2021	Balance 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted:					
Charity core activities	538,429	1,048,817	(931,240)	(144,424)	511,582
Designated funds:					
ASC community	40,000	-	-	100,000	140,000
Restricted:					
Advocacy Awareness	7,563	-	(879)	-	6,684
Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy	91,119	204,000	(258,581)	-	36,538
Leeds Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy	-	246,000	(276,421)	30,421	-
Autism – National Lottery	-	72,582	(72,582)	-	-
Leeds Independent Mental Health Advocacy	-	200,000	(211,541)	11,541	-
Leeds Care Act Advocacy	3,458	25,000	(30,920)	2,462	-
Autism North	2,921	58,722	(56,806)	-	4,837
Asking You!	39,735	71,780	(78,612)	-	32,903
Live Well Leeds	-	4,701	(4,797)	-	(96)
Safeguarding Project	-	6,826	(6,826)	-	-
Care Quality Commission	-	1,932	(1,932)	-	-
Keeping Connected	-	7,500	(7,500)	-	-
Health Inequalities	-	-	(72)	-	(72)
	144,796	899,043	(1,007,469)	44,424	80,794
Total funds	723,225	1,947,860	(1,938,709)	-	732,376

Designated Fund:

ASC Community Funding from Leeds City Council: ASC received in respect of community advocacy designated in 2019/20.

Restricted Funds:

All restricted funds are income which has been given for a specific purpose. The funds are not available for use for anything other than the specific project the funding was issued for.

Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy: This is independent health complaints advocacy which is required to be commissioned by local authorities. This advocacy support is aimed at empowering anyone in the Leeds area to resolve a complaint about healthcare commissioned or provided by the NHS in England.

Leeds Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy: instructed and non-instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Mental Capacity Act.

Leeds Independent Mental Health Advocacy: provision of instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Mental Health Act 1983.

Independent Mental Health Advocacy - LD: provision of instructed advocacy support for people with learning disabilities who qualify for IMHA as required by the Mental Health Act (amendment 2007).

Autism - National Lottery: Funding by National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund for mentoring and support within the Autism Community.

Advonet

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

14. Funds summary (continued)

Leeds Care Act Advocacy: provision of instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Care Act 2014.

LGBTQ Health Inclusion Project: Funding from Dept of Health to develop, deliver and evaluate self-advocacy models and training for LGBT individuals who are on the autistic spectrum, have learning disabilities or have mental health issues.

Autism North: Leeds North Clinical Commissioning Group funding for Autism hubs in North Leeds.

Autism North and Autism South both provide funding for our autism hubs in different areas of Leeds. The hubs offer advocacy support and information and signposting services.

Asking You!: This is funding provided by Leeds City Council. This funding is used for a project to get people with learning disabilities involved in the services they use. This is through engagement in People's Parliament and also by being involved in the new strengths based approach by Adult Social Care.

LGBTQ+: National Lottery funded project to address exclusion experienced by LBGTQ +and people with a learning disability to enable them to connect more effectively with the wider LGBTQ+ Community, through self-advocacy workshops and peer support.

Changemakers: Funding awarded by Comic Relief to support autistic adults in West Yorkshire with their mental health via support groups and access to key resources.

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

For the year ended 31 March 2022	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	29,422	-	-	29,422
Net current assets	497,178	140,000	83,117	720,295
Total funds	526,600	140,000	83,117	749,717

For the year ended 31 March 2021	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	28,881	-	-	28,881
Net current assets	482,701	140,000	80,794	703,495
Total funds	511,582	140,000	80,794	732,376

Advonet

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

16. Commitments – Group and Charity

Operating lease commitments

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Expiry date:		
Within one year	27,624	45,466
Between two and five years	25,444	-
	53,068	45,466

Capital commitments

At 31 March 2022 the charity had not approved any capital expenditure which has not been contracted for, nor entered any contracts for, capital expenditure which were not provided for (2021: £nil).

17. Related party transactions

During the year Advonet subcontracted to Age UK Leeds, Touchstone and Sign Health (2021: Age UK Leeds, Touchstone and Sign Health). Note 5 includes details of amounts paid to these parties for subcontracted advocacy work. Touchstone is a charity which has a director/trustee in common.

In October 2018, Advonet also entered into partnership with Touchstone in delivering advocacy work for the Kirklees Advocacy Hub. Total income received from Touchstone as part of this partnership is disclosed within Note 4 of the Financial Statements.

During the year, in addition to the recharge of expenses, Advonet charged Leep1 CIC (a subsidiary) management charges amounting to £27,003 (2021: £28,451). At the year end, Leep1 CIC owed Advonet £7,084 (2021: £11,904) which is included within trade debtors.

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Net movement in funds	17,341	9,151
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	17,700	9,668
Increase in stock	(934)	(6,827)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(163,082)	328,324
Decrease in creditors	(21,026)	(812)
Increase in deferred income	163,659	52,303
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	13,658	391,807

Advonet

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

19. Analysis of net debt

Both during the current and previous year, and at the year end, the charitable group did not hold any borrowings or debt.

20. Comparative Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £
Income from:				
Donations and non-performance grants	410	-	500	910
Charitable activities	1,047,958	-	898,543	1,946,501
Gift of CHANGE's assets and activities	449	-	-	449
Total income	1,048,817	-	899,043	1,947,860
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	931,240	-	1,007,469	1,938,709
Total expenditure	931,240	-	1,007,469	1,938,709
Net income/expenditure before transfers	117,577	-	(108,426)	9,151
Transfers between funds	(144,424)	100,000	44,424	-
Net movement in funds	(26,847)	100,000	(64,002)	9,151
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	538,429	40,000	144,796	723,225
Total funds carried forward	511,582	140,000	80,794	732,376

ADVONET

England & Wales - Charity number 1126132

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 1126132
Company Number: 04229975

Advonet
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees Annual Report and
Consolidated Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2021

Advonet

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Advonet

Charity Information

Trustees

M Ahmed
R Beck
P C Gleeson
P J Gruen
I Nip
R Porter
K Tandel
E V Williams
H J Woodcock (resigned 26 October 2020)
M M Yip
W Case
K S Thirkill (appointed 16 March 2021)

Company Secretary

P S Bramson (appointed 25 May 2021)

Key Management Personnel

P Bramson Chief Executive
C L De Arostegui Finance Director (until May 2021)
L Kelly Finance Director (from May 2021)
L S Greenfield Advocacy and Operations Director
W Cork Partnership and Development Director

Registered charity number

1126132

Company number

04229975

Principal and registered office

Unity Business Centre
26 Roundhay Road
Leeds
LS7 1AB

Independent Auditors

Azets Audit Services Limited
Triune Court
York
YO32 9GZ

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc
Four Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2JB

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2021

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the consolidated financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary, Leep1 CIC, for the year ending 31 March 2021, which are also prepared to meet the requirements of a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and Administrative details

The charity information on page 1 forms part of this report.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of Advonet are to relieve poverty and sickness and preserve and protect the health of the public irrespective of race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, age or disability in particular:

- Promoting awareness and understanding of advocacy practice
- Supporting the development of advocacy services
- The provision of a point of contact for people who need advocacy support or help
- The provision of advocacy services in the North of England
- The development, co-ordination and facilitation of training and education on advocacy and issues relevant to advocacy
- The development and promotion of good practice standards for advocacy

The Trustees review the aims and objectives of the organisation each year and in the current year they did this as part of the Strategic Review. The Trustees have referred to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives.

This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work over the year ended 31 March 2021.

The focus of our work: how our activities support our objectives

Advonet's future will involve providing advocacy and supporting other communities, individuals and organisations to do this; and finding creative ways of working with people who have been marginalised to ensure that their voices and experiences are used to help society become more inclusive.

Advonet recognises the importance of raising awareness within the wider community of the needs of people facing disadvantage and takes a key role in the development and innovation of advocacy services to meet those needs. It participates in bodies such as the Leeds Dementia Board, the Leeds Safeguarding Board, the Autism Partnership Board and the Leeds Learning Disabilities Partnership Board to ensure that the often-negative experiences of its clients can drive service improvement. The charity does this in consultation with clients of services and those who care for them.

In September 2020, Advonet re-branded itself as the Advonet Group. This is to reflect that we are about much more than just our core advocacy services – Care Act, Community, Health Complaints, IMCA and IMHA. We also have four projects which are part of our wider group: Leep1 (including Café Leep), Asking You!, Leeds Autism AIM and CHANGE. The core of our activity is our contract for advocacy services in Leeds however we also put lots of energy into other projects.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2021

In 20-21, the Advonet group sought to meet its objectives by:

- Continuing our existing advocacy services in Leeds (through our consortium with Age UK and Touchstone) and Kirklees (through our partnership with Touchstone) to help peoples voices to be heard and rights respected
- Working with CHANGE and Yorkshire MESMAC on the LGBTQI+ Health Inclusion Project to help to address health inequalities faced by LGBTQI+ adults in Leeds from other disadvantaged groups
- Continuing Leep1's work on digital inclusion which has been hugely important in helping people with learning disabilities
- Leeds Autism AIM's post-diagnostic support sessions which help newly diagnosed autistic adults to learn more about themselves and their condition
- Welcoming CHANGE to the Advonet group with their immense experience of fighting for disabled people's human rights and producing accessible information
- Developing the Leeds Advocacy Network ('LAN')
- Investing in and using our volunteers

How our activities deliver public benefit

The main project areas we have worked in this year and who we try to help are outlined in the paragraphs below.

Statutory Advocacy

As part of our main advocacy services contract with Leeds City Council we have delivered statutory and non-statutory advocacy services across a range of settings. Our First Contact Team (FCT) receives referrals through our central contact number and via an online enquiry form, responding to enquiries and processing referrals prior to these being allocated to an advocate.

In the past 12 months, our advocacy services received 2,250 referrals and provided advocacy to 1,552 people across the five services between the start of April 2020 and end of March 2021. This was a decrease of 3% compared with 2019/20 but understandable in light of the pandemic restrictions in place for much of the year. Advonet's response to Coronavirus is covered in more detail on page 9. Our Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) and Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA) teams received the most referrals. We have continued to embed the advocacy principles within our work and will be preparing to renew our existing Advocacy Quality Performance Mark in 2022.

We continue to invest in the development of our staff. At the end of March 2021, 27 advocates attained the Independent Advocacy Qualification (IAQ) certificate or diploma, with a further 8 working towards attaining it. Some of our advocacy managers were also working towards attaining the specialist Management unit as part of their continuing professional development.

Health Complaints Services

Our Health Complaints Advocacy team help clients who live in the Leeds City Council area to make a complaint about any care they have received from a service run by the NHS. As part of our services, our advocates provide information about the NHS complaints procedure and help clients explore the options available to them so they can decide what to do.

We supported 84 new clients and 120 existing clients in 2020-21.

Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy

The Mental Capacity Act (MCA) is legislation about supporting and protecting vulnerable people who are unable to make their own decisions. As part of our advocacy in this area, the Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA) work on supporting clients to have maximum participation in all matters related to their life, ensuring that their life choices are respected, and their rights are upheld. Over the past year, one area of focus has been to develop more effective partnership working with external agencies/providers, to further promote the use of the Mental Capacity Act and the role of the IMCA.

During the year, we supported 270 new clients and 525 existing clients in 2020-21.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2021

Independent Mental Health Advocacy

The Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA) team continues to work with people who have been detained under the Mental Health Act and want their voice to be heard and their rights respected. New innovations include working in private hospitals and in Care Home settings. We developed effective relationships with Mental Health Operational Steering Groups to affect change through discussing systemic advocacy issues. We provided IMHA training and info to healthcare professionals in a range of settings. During 2020-21, we supported 298 new clients and 204 existing clients.

Care Act Advocacy

Our Care Act Advocates work with individuals to help them make their own decisions. They support people to understand the care and support process they will be involved in. They also help people to communicate their wishes and feelings to inform discussions about their future care and support needs. We supported 51 new clients and 64 existing clients in 2020-21. We are looking to promote this service more, in the future, so that people get the advocacy they are entitled to.

Community Advocacy

Our Community Advocacy is here to help our clients uphold their rights. Our Community advocates help our clients to understand and put forward their choices and to be involved and have a say in what they need. Our service is available for any adult in Leeds who needs advocacy support to have their voice heard dealing with organisations including Adult Social Care, healthcare professionals, Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and Utility companies and housing services.

We supported 206 new clients and 212 existing clients in 2020-21.

Ask4Advocacy Kirklees

This service provides the statutory and non-statutory advocacy services for Kirklees and is delivered through a partnership between Advonet and Touchstone. Three Advonet staff are seconded into the project and provide both advocacy and advocacy management support. The service supported 1,757 clients and took 1,267 referrals between April 2020-March 2021. In spite of COVID19, we supported more people in Kirklees than in previous years, and we received more referrals.

In the last year, we focused on developing the Universal Advocate role; introducing and implementing the new Charity Log data-base; preparing for the Advocacy Quality Performance Mark Assessment and being as innovative and flexible as possible in maintaining service delivery and client contact during the COVID19 pandemic.

Outreach Surgeries

In 2020/21 due to the pandemic, national lockdown, local restrictions and the closing or restriction in some local venues our community and outreach services have not been delivered.

Self-Advocacy

This year, we have continued to develop our self-advocacy offer. We have received 188 referrals for Self-advocacy support and 3,196 self-advocacy resources and factsheets have been downloaded from our website. Whilst we have been unable to deliver group or peer self-advocacy this year we have continued to progress the framework within which they will be delivered in the future and will be running a pilot self-advocacy group in 2021/22.

In-house advocacy

As well as providing advocacy to all eligible citizens in Leeds, (and as Touchstone's partners in Kirklees), The Advonet Group offers separately funded, in-house advocacy services to other settings.

These include LYPFT's young people's service at Little Woodhouse Hall, within which we offer a service to voluntary patients under 18. We have continued to deliver advocacy services within the Exemplar Health Care Group and have provided an Independent Mental Health Advocacy service in Waterloo Manor and Mill Garth Hospitals.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2021

Asking You!

Asking You! Is our project which supports people with learning disabilities to ensure their voice is heard. The past year saw much more achievement than we dared to hope for, given the pandemic. We equipped volunteers with IT so they could keep meeting weekly. Our Citizen Advocacy service adapted so people without other independent support continued to receive long-term advocacy support. Our range of stakeholders expanded. One example was our work with the Kings Fund and Association Directors of Social Services. The People's Parliament increased its reach by going online. We delivered learning disability awareness training to Health and Social Care commissioners. A Supported Decision-Making training pilot was developed and delivered by/to learning disabled adults. We employed someone with lived experience of a learning disability as a Team Member for the first time

Leeds Autism AIM

Our Leeds Autism AIM service provides a range of services to autistic adults locally that have little other funded support. The service has three main pots of funding: continuation funding from Leeds CCG, including increased additional funding for its post-diagnostic support, and The National Lottery Community Fund which ended this month with an independent evaluation expected. They have additional one-year funding this year with the CCG for pilot work with a Local Care Partnership in improving access to GP surgeries for autistic adults. They also have small funding to deliver autism mental health training to Live Well Leeds Community Based Mental Health service and for joint work with the West Yorkshire police on an alert card. Funding will be sought to extend the GP, Alert Card pilot work and to request additional funding to meet increased demand for the Post Diagnostic service.

AIM has a further application to the Lottery at the final stages for the development of their mentoring and one-to-one peer support provision for £159K.

AIM has continued strong engagement during the pandemic, developing its autism Covid- 19 Toolkit and other resources that have been widely used. The team has responded well given the uncertainty caused by the pandemic and have come out stronger in terms of improving resources, systems, and monitoring. They have continued to develop work with LTHT, LMWBS, Engage Leeds, DWP and many other local services in improving autism provision this year, providing training and co-developing resources and involvement is building regionally.

Changemakers/ Yorkshire AIM: new project/ team

We were successful in applying for 4 years funding of £430k this year from Comic Relief Changemakers fund in its mental health strand. The fund is focused on innovative approaches to transforming and improving services. We will be working with West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership in developing strong regional mental health consultation and involvement for autistic people, supporting the development of autistic led peer support regionally with Leeds Mind and training of advocacy and social prescribing services.

This project will start in September 2021 with its own manager, initially using AIM consultation support in development and will be guided by the AIM steering group.

We were also successful in £73k funding from NHS England for improving the sensory environment on mental health inpatient wards. This is one year pilot work focused on inclusion and developing an autistic led sensory checkers model and resources . It is in partnership with wider regional services/ mental health trusts who have additional funding for developing sensory training ,sensory champions and resources.

Talk to Me Hear My Safeguarding Story

This project is ending in October after 2 years. It has met its project targets and has provided Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) and Adult Health and Social Care (ASC) with some insight into the problems of how safeguarding services are delivered and recorded in Leeds. The learning from this project will go onto shaping the LSAB's aim of becoming citizen-led, and ASC's feedback processes. As part of the project, it established a citizens panel which is now going to be separately funded by LSAB.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2021

Leep1 and Café Leep

Leep1 is our Community Interest Company ('CIC'). They promote self-advocacy for individuals with learning disabilities. Leep1 seeks to develop innovative ways to engage with the wider community and ensure their members' voices are heard.

We set up an online group on Facebook on March 17th 2020 due to the first lockdown to continue the delivery of our services which grew rapidly to 350 members. Part of the team focused on the members who were not online by delivering tablets and programmes, so they were able to join the group.

We are now delivering our projects physically to the majority of members, however a small minority of members are nervous about returning in person. There is also a waiting list of people wanting to attend the Leep1 service.

We have recently lost two key members of Leep1 staff so staffing levels are difficult at the moment but we are currently recruiting for a new deputy manager and sessional support workers.

We will be commencing our club nights in October which has been shut for nearly two years for Halloween.

We were selected as one of the Digital Enterprise TOP 100 and we are now listed as one of the SMEs that have made the list of the Leeds City Region's most innovative, digitally transformational and resilient businesses for our work around digital inclusion.

CHANGE

CHANGE has continued to produce easy-read information throughout the pandemic, including building a permanent relationship with the National Lottery to make their funding application process accessible. It continues to be the main provider for Macmillan as well as increasing its customer base in the areas of Criminal Justice and Law as in their strategic plan. The majority of CHANGE's project team was furloughed for most of 2020, despite this they managed to diversify their whole training package so that it could be delivered online. The Easy-Read training has been delivered bi-monthly throughout 2021 and has sold out, every event. The CHANGE team has grown with the LGBTQI+ project.

LGBTQI+

This is a 3-year project funded by the National Lottery Community Fund. The project has seen two new staff members who are both LGBTQI+ and Autistic join the team. It is performing according to project aims and in line with activity planning. The aim of the project is to improve outcomes for these intersected communities in the areas of health and social care.

Our Volunteers

Our volunteers are at the heart of what we do and they work across many of our projects. Due to the pandemic, in the past 12 months, many of our volunteering roles went online, particularly our Citizen Advocacy and Autism Mentor services. Although volunteer numbers and hours contributed are less during the pandemic, the volunteers were able to continue to support staff, clients and members creatively online. We provided autism awareness and learning disability awareness training via Zoom for new volunteers, as well as inductions. Leep1 recruited some very enthusiastic student volunteers, while we also published videos on our YouTube channel, promoting the various volunteer roles we have on offer throughout the year.

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 6 June 2001 and a registered charity. The charity is established under a Memorandum of Association which outlines the objectives and aims of the organisation. Members are required to contribute £1 in the event of the Company winding up.

Details of the registered number and office are given on page 1.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2021

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Trustees serve on the Board in the capacity as both Company Director and Trustee. They receive no remuneration and any expenses are shown in Note x to the financial statements. Appointments to the Board are made by the Members of the Company at the Annual General Meeting or at a general meeting held during the year in accordance with the Articles of Association.

There are twelve places available on the Board. A third of the places on the Board are set aside for people from the organisation's client groups i.e. those with lived experience of mental health issues or autism. When a Director's vacancy arises the Board seek to maintain a broad skill mix to ensure that the composition of the Board can support the Senior Management team and the organisation in delivering its aims and objectives.

Under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, one third of the Board must retire by rotation at each Annual General Meeting. The Board members who retire are the longest serving directors. Retiring Trustees can offer themselves for re-election.

Trustee Induction and Training

It is Advonet's practice that potential trustees are encouraged to attend board meetings as an observer before joining the Board so that they are able to familiarise themselves with the policy, procedures and structures of the organisation. Additional ad-hoc training is also offered to all Trustees where further knowledge is requested.

All Trustees are issued with a Trustee handbook and attend a formal induction session when they join the Board. They are encouraged to engage with staff and attend meetings, if they wish, to gain a more in depth understanding of the organisation.

Organisational Structure

The Board meets at least 4 times a year. The Board is responsible for the strategic direction and governance of the organisation and determines the organisation's policies. During the financial year, the Resources, Quality and Development sub-groups were used to provide the Board further opportunity to scrutinise the operations in more detail.

The Resources sub-group covers Finance, Health & Safety, HR and data protection matters. The Quality sub-group focuses on the operations of the organisation and the Development sub-group focuses on new development opportunities. The Board delegates the operational running of the Company to the Senior Management Team ("SMT").

The Senior Management Team is headed by the Chief Executive, who is appointed by the Board to be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the organisation. The Senior Management Team also includes the Advocacy Director (also responsible for quality management) , the Inclusion Projects Director (also responsible for communications) and the Finance (who is responsible for Finance, IT and Data Protection).

Key management remuneration

During the financial year ending 31 March 2021, the Chief Executive, the Finance Director, the Advocacy Director and the Inclusion Project's Director formed the charity's key management personnel. The key management's pay award is set by the Board following a benchmarking exercise which compared the salaries of similar roles in comparable organisations. No employee earned more than £60,000 per annum in the current or previous financial year.

Risk Management

The Board conduct an annual review of the risks to which the organisation is exposed. This includes assessing the potential impact and likelihood, the controls that are in place, and those that could be put in place, to mitigate the risks identified.

A risk register is maintained under the headings: Governance, Operational, Financial; Compliance; and Environmental/Social/Political Factors. It is jointly compiled by the Board and the SMT

At the last review, the principal risks and uncertainties facing the charity identified were loss of funding and changes in health and social care policy. These risks are managed by developing strong working partnerships with our funders, seeking to diversify our funding sources and ensuring we engage with strategic bodies.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2021

Financial Review

The financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985, the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the conditions in the company's memorandum and articles of association.

The movement in funds is shown on the Statement of Financial Activities on page 16.

Principal Funding Sources

Advonet, and its consortium partners (Touchstone, and AgeUK), started to deliver the five-year contract for Advocacy in Leeds in April 2018 (with the potential to be extended for up to a further three years) to following completion of a tender process. This contract with Leeds City Council remains the major source of funding for the organisation, consistent with prior year. (66% of income in 20/21; 62% of income in 19/20).

Advonet also has contract funding as part of the Ask4Advocacy contract in Kirklees. Additionally, the group has secured grant funding from several different sources including other departments of Leeds City Council, Leeds CCG and the National Lottery Community Fund .

Fundraising

Advonet, at present, only undertakes some small scale informal fundraising activities e.g. sponsored events. All amounts raised by fund raising activities are included in donations. Advonet does not use professional fundraisers or third parties to fundraise on our behalf. There have been no complaints about fundraising activity this year.

Charity Reserves

Performance in year

During the year ended 31 March 2021 Advonet made a surplus of £9,151 (2019/20: £95,404). The unrestricted surplus was £73,153 (2019/20: £95,413).

Unrestricted reserves (excluding fixed assets and designated funds) were £482,701 at the end of the year. Information in relation to the charity's reserves policy is given below.

Designated funds

The trustees had designated £40,000 of unrestricted reserves for spending on Community Advocacy under the Leeds City Council Adult Social Care contract. During the year, none of these funds were used to facilitate development of outreach surgeries to drive advocacy to a wider group of people, due to the Pandemic . After discussions with Commissioners we have now reallocated it to a specialist self-advocacy/ peer advocacy project for parents with additional needs who are going through child protection processes. We are co-producing this pilot project with Leeds City Council Children and Families Protectorate. It is due to launch in January 2022. As detailed in the reserves policy below, an additional £100,000 has been designated in the year.

Restricted funds

The restricted funds at the end of March 2021 totalled £80,794 and principally represents amounts held for Advocacy Awareness, Autism North, Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy and Asking You! projects.

Advonet's Reserves Policy

In forming a reserves policy, the trustees have regard to the financial impact of the principal risks set out on page 7.

Advonet maintains an unrestricted cash reserve to provide a reasonable working balance between meeting existing commitments and recognising that there can sometimes be a delay in receiving grants or other income due. The Board has undertaken a more detailed review of reserves requirements rather than the previous target of 3 months' salary costs (equating to c. £420k) and has reviewed the level of reserves required to take account of known liabilities and possible contingencies. The Risk Register is reviewed on a regular basis and informs the Reserves Policy. For example, a short term cash flow problem due to late payment of a significant contract, or the long term sickness of a key member of staff. The required reserves estimate at 31 March 2021 is £480,000 following a review this year to ensure that potential additional risks to our operations arising from the pandemic are incorporated into this value.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2021

In addition to the reserves requirement detailed above, the Board has made the decision to designate £100,000 of further funds from free reserves for projects which will enable The Advonet Group to use advocacy approaches to equip people in minoritized groups to be better socially included. For example, through the Leeds Advocacy Network which we host, we will offer community groups packages of advocacy training, together with small grants to enable them to offer advocacy to groups of people which our generic advocacy offer is struggling to reach. We will support grant holders to monitor efficacy, capture outcomes and secure continuation funding. Another project will involve us expanding our expansion of employing people with lived experience of Learning Disabilities and Autism to train local professionals in awareness of communication needs and awareness; as well as training their peers to be better to understand issues like using health and social care and decision making.

Free reserves (excluding fixed assets and designated funds) of the organisation as at the end of March 2021 are £482,701 (2020: £518,486) and therefore in excess of the amount required under the reserves policy by £2,701. Given the uncertain environment presented by Covid-19 the Trustees consider this to be a prudent position.

As part of the review of the financial status of the organisation following the continuation of the Covid pandemic, the trustees reviewed the financial forecast of the organisation for the next 12 months. This has been updated for the preparation of the financial statements and the trustees are comfortable that the basis of going concern for the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

The balance of designated funds can be used for investment, subject to Board approval.

Investment Policy

In accordance with the Trustee Act 2000, the board continues to review the investment policy to ensure that the maximum investment returns are achieved, while not compromising the operational requirements and having regard to the acceptable level of investment risk.

The board has considered the most appropriate policy for the investment of funds and has decided that, given the current low return on investment obtainable investment in the form of cash remains the most appropriate policy. A higher interest deposit account has been opened with Unity Trust Bank in order to obtain a small return on surplus funds. The charity has no present ethical investment stance.

The powers to invest are governed by the company Memorandum and Articles of Association which give the trustees the power to manage, invest and expend all monies belonging to the Company.

Commitments

The Directors have not entered any commitments to future capital purchases at the balance sheet date (prior year: no commitments).

Coronavirus: Our response

In March 2020, Advonet had to change the way it worked in response to the growing Coronavirus outbreak. This involved closing much of the office short-term and most of our staff working from home. This was a big challenge for us, but we were able to rise to it. To ensure that Advonet could still provide advocacy and other services, we offered remote support to our clients. This was offered (and still is) in the following ways: email; phone call, text chat or video call.

In addition to that, our Independent Mental Capacity (IMCA) and Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA) teams were able to resume seeing clients face to face safely. They were given access to appropriate PPE and abided by social distancing guidance throughout. At such a challenging time, we were determined to make sure few clients as possible were left behind, that those people most at risk of being marginalised still had a voice

The Leep1 team quickly set up a Facebook group for their members, where they hosted regular sessions on Zoom. In the summer of 2020, their group had over 300 members and has helped to reduce isolation. Leeds Autism AIM put together an online COVID-19 toolkit on their website, including planners and guides to help autistic adults during a difficult time. This was widely used by and shared by organisations such as Public Health England and NHS Ability.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2021

CHANGE's Easy Read team worked on producing accessible documents on staying safe during the pandemic for several clients in the third and public sectors. We would like to thank all our staff, volunteers, clients, partners and funders for their patience and understanding.

As we come out of the pandemic, we hope to be stronger and well-equipped to provide more online support in future. We will continue to adjust to the fast evolving 'new normal' as quickly and thoroughly as possible, all while ensuring that our work is COVID-safe.

Plans for Future Periods

The organisation plans on continuing to develop and build upon the activities outlined earlier in the Trustees' report.

In 2019 we created a strategic plan for the next five which continues to develop our work. Our key objectives:

- Independence: To protect Advonet's independence by widening the range of ways in which we obtain our income;
- Pioneering: To be the most ground-breaking advocacy provider across Yorkshire and the Humber;
- Diversity: To be the most diverse advocacy organisation in our region in terms of volunteers, staff and clients;
- Influence: To be a highly influential Advocacy organisation in the Yorkshire and the Humber region;
- Partnership: To design, deliver, review and improve all of our services together with the people who will get the most benefit from them and other expert partners;
- Excellence: To be recognised by the people who use our services, and other key partners as a provider of outstanding services;
- Resourcefulness: To continually strive to use our resources as efficiently as possible.

Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

The Trustees (who are also directors of Advonet for the purpose of Company law) are responsible for preparing a Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of those resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those 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 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence 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 UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Advonet

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2021

Board of Trustees

The Board, who are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out in page 1.

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

- So far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, or that income is not
- As the directors of the company we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

Azets Audit Services Limited were appointed auditor to the charitable group following their acquisition of Garbutt & Elliott Audit Limited. Azets Audit Services Limited have indicated their willingness to stand for reappointment at the Annual General Meeting.

The Trustees' Report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 15 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



P Gleeson
Trustee

Advonet

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Advonet

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Advonet (the "parent charity") and its subsidiary (the "group") for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise of the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Charity Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related Notes to the Financial Statements including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Advonet

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charitable Company and Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charitable Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Advonet

Extent to which the audit was capable of identifying irregularities, including fraud

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience, through discussion with the directors and other management, and from inspection of the charitable group's regulatory and legal correspondence. We discussed with the trustees and other management the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance during the audit.

The charitable group is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting legislation (including related companies and charities legislation), pensions legislation, taxation legislation and further laws and regulations that could indirectly affect the financial statements, comprising environmental, health and safety and employment legislation, and, in the current climate, Covid regulations. We assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. These procedures did not identify any potentially material actual or suspected non-compliance.

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud we considered the opportunities and incentives and pressures that may exist within the charitable group to commit fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included: enquiry of trustees and other management to understand the high level policies and procedures in place to prevent and detect fraud, reading Board minutes and considering performance targets and incentive schemes in place for management. We communicated identified fraud risks throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of fraud during the audit.

As a result of these procedures we identified the greatest potential for fraud in the following areas:

- income recognition and in particular the risk that income is recognised in the wrong reporting period, or that restricted income is incorrectly recognised within unrestricted income; and
- subjective accounting estimates.

These risks may arise due to a potential desire to present differing results in order to meet management objectives.

As required by auditing standards we also identified and addressed the risk of management override of controls.

We performed the following procedures to address the risks of fraud identified:

- identifying and testing high risk journal entries through vouching the entries to supporting documentation;
- assessing significant accounting estimates for bias; and
- testing the recognition of income and in particular that it was appropriately recognised or deferred.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it.

In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of fraud, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. Our audit procedures are designed to detect material misstatement. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance or fraud and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Advonet

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Azets Audit Services Limited

Laura Masheder
Senior Statutory Auditor

16 December 2021

For and on behalf of Azets Audit Services Limited
Statutory Auditor

Triune Court
York
YO32 9GZ

Advonet

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Income from:						
Donations and non-performance grants	3	410	-	500	910	8,194
Charitable activities	4	1,047,958	-	898,543	1,946,501	1,975,013
Gift of CHANGE's assets and activities	3	449	-	-	449	37,374
Total income		1,048,817	-	899,043	1,947,860	2,020,581
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	5	931,240	-	1,007,469	1,938,709	1,925,177
Total expenditure		931,240	-	1,007,469	1,938,709	1,925,177
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers	6	117,577	-	(108,426)	9,151	95,404
Transfers between funds	14	(144,424)	100,000	44,424	-	-
Net movement in funds		(26,847)	100,000	(64,002)	9,151	95,404
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	14,15	538,429	40,000	144,796	723,225	627,821
Total funds carried forward	14,15	511,582	140,000	80,794	732,376	723,225

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the current period and the previous year and all relates to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 19 to 35 form part of these financial statements.

A fully detailed Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2020 is shown in note 20 to the financial statements.

The Statement of Financial Activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

Advonet

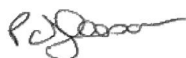
Balance Sheets as at 31 March 2021

		Group		Charity	
	Notes	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	10	28,881	19,943	22,636	15,704
Current assets					
Debtors	12	252,294	580,618	246,653	549,074
Cash at bank and in hand		794,508	421,307	673,948	372,040
Stock		8,166	1,339	8,166	1,339
		1,054,968	1,003,264	928,767	922,453
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(351,473)	(299,982)	(253,256)	(239,217)
Net current assets		703,495	703,282	675,511	683,236
Total net assets	15	732,376	723,225	698,147	698,940
Represented by:					
Unrestricted charity funds:					
- General		511,582	538,429	477,353	514,144
- Designated		140,000	40,000	140,000	40,000
Restricted charity funds		80,794	144,796	80,794	144,796
Total funds	14,15	732,376	723,225	698,147	698,940

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies.

The notes on pages 19 to 35 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the board of Trustees on 15 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



P Gleeson
Trustee

Company registration number: 04229975

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Consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated by/(used by) operations	18	391,807	(156,154)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(18,606)	(20,457)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		(18,606)	(20,457)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		373,201	(176,611)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2020		421,307	597,918
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2021		794,508	421,307

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

1. Accounting policies

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

Charitable company information

The charitable company is limited by guarantee, with the liability of members limited to £1 per member. The charitable company is registered in England and Wales with the Charity Commission. The registered office is Unity Business Centre, 26 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS7 1AB.

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charitable company there remain any assets, after satisfying all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having objectives similar to the Charity.

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) ("Charities SORP (FRS102)"), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

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

On the grounds that the charitable company's results are consolidated into the charitable company's group accounts the charitable company has taken advantage of certain exemptions conferred by section 1.11 of FRS102 as follows:

- Exemption from presenting a charitable company statement of cash flows as a primary statement to the financial statements.

Going concern

The Trustees have at the time of approving the financial statements a reasonable expectation that the charitable company and group have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Whilst the global economy has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 virus, the charitable company and group still has cash reserves sufficient to meet its immediate requirements. The Trustees have no intention to wind the charitable company up in the foreseeable future. It is considered that there are currently no material uncertainties which impact on the charitable company being able to continue in its current form. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly owned subsidiary, Leep1 CIC, on a line by line basis. A separate Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure Account for the charitable company has not been presented as the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemption afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

The income of the charitable company for the year was £1,709,389 (2020 - £1,797,867). There was no Gift Aid asset transfer (2020 - £nil) from the subsidiary. Expenditure amounted to £1,710,182 (2020 - £1,714,686). The net deficit of the charitable company for the year was £793 (2020 - £83,181 surplus).

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

Income

All income is included in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities when the charitable company is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- **Donations and non-performance grants** are received by way of grants and donations. These amounts are included in full in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant. Where grants are received during the year which contain performance conditions to be met in future periods, the amount of the grant which relates to the future periods is shown as deferred grants and is included within creditors.
- **Grants** where the income is related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.
- **Donated services:** The value of the services provided by volunteers has not been included. Further details of the contribution made by volunteers can be found in the annual report.

Income arising from grants and similar contracts specifically for the provision of activities or services which are provided as part of the charitable activities of the charity is recorded under the heading of income from charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees;
- Designated funds - these are funds allocated from the general fund or received from third parties which have no restrictions on their uses but which are designated for a particular purpose according to the Trustees; or
- Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes, as specified by the donors, within the objects of the charity.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes related value added tax which cannot be recovered. Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise all costs relating to public accountability of the charity. The costs include statutory audit fees.

Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Staff costs

The costs of short term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense where settlement of obligations does not fall within the same period.

Employee severance and redundancy pay is recognised within the accounts, on an accruals basis in the year in which the employee either left, or agreed to leave, the organisation.

Pension costs

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities represents the contributions payable for the year.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

Fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are included on a historical cost basis. It is a policy of the trustees that individual items with a cost below £500 are not capitalised.

Depreciation is provided at the following rates and bases to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives:

Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	33% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line

Financial instruments

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

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 held for working capital. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Debtors

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

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit and loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset. Impairment losses are recognised in the income and expenditure account.

Creditors, loans and provisions

Creditors, loans and provisions are recognised where the group 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, loans and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Financial liabilities are only derecognised when, and only when, the group's obligations are discharged, cancelled or they expire.

Amounts recognised as provisions are best estimates of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

The Trustees consider that there are no critical accounting estimates and judgements that have a material impact on these financial statements.

3. Donations and non-performance grants

	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations	910	8,194

£500 of donations (2020 - £nil) in the year were restricted.

Gift of CHANGE's assets and activities

In September 2019, CHANGE became part of the Advonet Group. As part of the transfer agreement, the assets and the activities of CHANGE were transferred at book value, which is considered to be materially approximate to fair value. The transfer comprised cash of £13,121 and other net assets of £24,253. A final receipt was then received in the 2020/21 financial year.

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

4. Income from charitable activities

For the year ended 31 March 2021	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 £
Local Authority Contracts:			
Leeds City Council-Department of Adult Social Care	605,890	678,339	1,284,229
Other Contracts:			
Kirklees Advocacy Hub	97,100	-	97,100
Other Service Income:			
Adhoc advocacy	27,902	-	27,902
Additional service user income	51,974	-	51,974
Easy Read	52,427	-	52,427
Other grants:			
Autism North	-	58,723	58,723
Asking You!	-	71,780	71,780
Big Lottery – Autism Community	-	72,082	72,082
Live Well Leeds	-	2,351	2,351
Safeguarding project	-	5,837	5,837
CQC	-	1,931	1,931
Keeping Connected	-	7,500	7,500
Change	21,314	-	21,314
Community Advocacy	275	-	275
Spot Purchase	689	-	689
Leep1 grants	151,674	-	151,674
Café income:			
Café takings	-	-	-
Café catering	-	-	-
Café trainee income	36,282	-	36,282
Other Leep1 income:			
Income from activities	2,231	-	2,231
Room rental income	200	-	200
	1,047,958	898,543	1,946,501

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

4. Income from charitable activities

For the year ended 31 March 2020	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2020 £
Local Authority Contracts:			
Leeds City Council-Department of Adult Social Care	582,000	669,700	1,251,700
Other Contracts:			
Kirklees Advocacy Hub	93,705	-	93,705
IMCA (and similar) contract fees	13,852	-	13,852
Other Service Income:			
Adhoc advocacy	31,541	-	31,541
Additional service user income	49,772	-	49,772
Easy Read	44,515	-	44,515
Other grants:			
Autism North	-	53,785	53,785
Autism Health	(842)	-	(842)
LGBTQ Health Inclusion	-	97,386	97,386
Asking You!	-	71,780	71,780
Big Lottery - Kirklees	-	57,796	57,796
Safeguarding project	1,775	-	1,775
CQC	-	18,053	18,053
CHANGE	9,853	-	9,853
Leep1 grants	104,747	-	104,747
Café income:			
Café takings	19,408	-	19,408
Café catering	2,605	-	2,605
Café trainee income	33,460	-	33,460
Other Leep1 income:			
Income from activities	19,642	-	19,642
Room rental income	480	-	480
	1,006,513	968,500	1,975,013

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

5. Expenditure on charitable activities

For the year ended 31 March 2021	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Direct costs:			
Salaries, social security and pension (Note 8)	603,958	682,487	1,286,445
Age UK Leeds	60,000	-	60,000
Sign Health	531	30,316	30,847
Touchstone	2,497	6,755	9,252
Other subcontractors	14,547	(815)	13,732
Volunteer expenses	1,328	89	1,417
Project evaluation costs	655	9,864	10,519
Training costs	19,844	-	19,844
Recruitment costs	2,159	72	2,231
Travel	681	2,176	2,857
Subscriptions	6,434	181	6,615
Insurances	7,524	-	7,524
Activity costs	1,289	2,275	3,564
Café provision	159	-	159
	721,606	733,400	1,455,006
Support costs:			
Salaries, social security and pension (Note 8)	238,606	-	238,606
Computer costs	48,884	335	49,219
Premises costs	76,913	199	77,112
Corporation tax	1,862	-	1,862
Communications	21,416	7,139	28,555
Printing, postage and stationery	8,788	2,416	11,204
Repairs and maintenance	20,950	33	20,983
Legal and professional	(3,593)	21,934	18,341
Bad debts	1,354	89	1,443
Depreciation	9,668	-	9,668
Irrecoverable VAT	5,941	-	5,941
Other	12,278	785	13,063
Bank charges	521	-	521
Allocation of shared resources	(240,771)	240,771	-
	202,817	273,701	476,518
Governance costs:			
Trustee and management meetings	167	368	535
Auditor remuneration	6,650	-	6,650
	6,817	368	7,185
Total expenditure on charitable activities	931,240	1,007,469	1,938,709

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

5. Expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2020	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
Direct costs:			
Salaries, social security and pension (Note 8)	534,679	662,525	1,197,204
Age UK Leeds	60,000	-	60,000
Sign Health	7,923	12,468	20,391
Touchstone	-	30,158	30,158
Mesmac and CHANGE	-	12,730	12,730
Other subcontractors	10,810	8,741	19,551
Volunteer expenses	2,292	3,820	6,112
EANS cost	-	359	359
Project evaluation costs	2,163	8,750	10,913
Training costs	23,200	1,412	24,612
Recruitment costs	491	3,120	3,611
Travel	9,066	20,838	29,904
Subscriptions	1,849	831	2,680
Insurances	6,246	-	6,246
Activity costs	7,897	14,077	21,974
Café provision	7,364	527	7,891
	673,980	780,356	1,454,336
Support costs:			
Salaries, social security and pension (Note 8)	258,416	-	258,416
Computer costs	27,892	1,807	29,699
Premises costs	74,063	1,611	75,674
Corporation tax	2,400	-	2,400
Communications	27,475	13,132	40,607
Printing, postage and stationery	12,750	5,504	18,254
Repairs and maintenance	2,774	118	2,892
Publicity	946	172	1,118
Legal and professional	14,241	2,597	16,838
Bad debts	1,655	-	1,655
Depreciation	4,204	-	4,204
Other	8,620	635	9,255
Bank charges	456	-	456
Allocation of shared resources	(253,056)	253,056	-
	182,836	278,632	461,468
Governance costs:			
Trustee and management meetings	1,419	1,604	3,023
Auditor remuneration	6,350	-	6,350
	7,769	1,604	9,373
Total expenditure on charitable activities	864,585	1,060,592	1,925,177

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

6. Net income for the year

	2021	2020
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation – owned assets	9,668	4,204
Operating lease charges	19,183	61,406
Auditors’ remuneration: - audit services	6,650	6,350
- other services	3,400	3,250

7. Trustees’ remuneration and benefits

No trustees’ remuneration or other benefits were paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 (2020 - £nil).

Trustees’ expenses

Trustees’ expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 amounted to £nil (2020: £nil).

8. Staff costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,350,565	1,283,421
Sessional workers	7,977	19,961
National insurance	99,523	90,903
Pension costs	66,986	61,335
	1,525,051	1,455,620

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise the Trustees, Chief Executive, Finance Director, Advocacy and Operations Director, and Partnership and Development Director. The total remuneration of the key management personnel was £151,908 (2020: £150,773).

Reimbursed expenses, which are all subject to the charity’s processes of internal controls, do not form part of remuneration and are not included above.

No employee earned more than £60,000 per annum in the current or previous year.

The average number of employees (full and part time) was:	2021	2020
	No.	No.
Administration and advocacy (excluding volunteers)	80	80

9. Taxation

The charitable activities of Advonet are potentially exempt from taxation under Chapter 3 of part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

Leep1 CIC is not exempt to corporation tax and so surpluses are subject to a taxation charge.

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

10. Tangible fixed assets

Group	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	Total
Cost			
Balance at 1 April 2020	113,084	72,276	185,360
Additions	17,940	666	18,606
Balance at 31 March 2021	131,024	72,942	203,966
Accumulated depreciation			
Balance at 1 April 2020	94,814	70,603	165,417
Charge for the year	8,493	1,175	9,668
Balance at 31 March 2021	103,307	71,778	175,085
Net book value			
At 31 March 2021	27,717	1,164	28,881
At 31 March 2020	19,198	745	19,943
Charity			
	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	Total
Cost			
Balance at 1 April 2020	100,154	50,972	151,126
Additions	13,604	666	14,270
Balance at 31 March 2021	113,758	51,638	165,396
Accumulated depreciation			
Balance at 1 April 2020	85,252	50,170	135,422
Charge for the year	6,812	526	7,338
Balance at 31 March 2021	92,064	50,696	142,760
Net book value			
At 31 March 2021	21,694	942	22,636
At 31 March 2020	14,902	802	15,704

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

11. Investments

The consolidated financial statements include the results of Leep1 CIC, a company limited by guarantee (incorporated in England and Wales, registered number 07252221), its sole member being Advonet. The liability of the charity in the event of Leep1 CIC being wound up is limited by a sum not exceeding £1.

The principal activity of Leep1 CIC is that of providing independent advocacy and related/connected services.

The trading results of the subsidiary company, as extracted from the unaudited financial statements, are summarised below:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Turnover	238,270	224,990
Cost of sales	(15,609)	(21,518)
Gross profit	222,661	203,472
Administrative expenses	(211,055)	(189,329)
Other operating income	200	480
Profit before tax	11,806	14,623
Taxation on ordinary activities	(1,862)	(2,400)
Profit for the financial year	9,944	12,223
Transfer, via Gift Aid, of assets to specified asset locked body	-	-
Retained earnings for the year	9,944	12,223
Retained earnings brought forward	24,285	12,062
Retained earnings carried forward	34,229	24,285

Income earned and expenditure incurred by Leep1 CIC have been recognised within the charitable activities of Advonet's consolidated accounts on the basis that these activities are deemed to have charitable intentions and purposes.

12. Debtors

	Group		Charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	223,621	449,996	222,756	425,903
Other debtors	10,721	49,283	9,930	47,982
Prepayments and accrued income	17,952	81,339	13,967	75,189
	252,294	580,618	246,653	549,074

13. Creditors – Amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	56,593	32,122	56,343	31,953
Accruals	58,609	80,796	45,537	71,004
Other creditors	30,272	31,617	19,712	20,617
Tax and social security	41,401	43,152	39,530	40,743
Deferred income	164,598	112,295	92,134	74,900
	351,473	299,982	253,256	239,217

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

13. Creditors – Amounts falling due within one year (continued)

	Group		Charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Deferred income	£	£	£	£
Brought forward	112,295	81,224	74,900	46,969
Released in the year	(96,927)	(81,224)	(60,532)	(46,969)
Deferred in the year	149,230	112,295	77,766	74,900
Carried forward	164,598	112,295	92,134	74,900

14. Funds summary

For the year ended 31 March 2021	Balance 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted:					
Charity core activities	538,429	1,048,817	(931,240)	(144,424)	511,582
Designated funds:					
ASC community	40,000	-	-	100,000	140,000
Restricted:					
Advocacy Awareness	7,563	-	(879)	-	6,684
Leeds Independent Health	91,119	204,000	(258,581)	-	36,538
Complaints Advocacy	-	246,000	(276,421)	30,421	-
Capacity Advocacy	-	72,582	(72,582)	-	-
Autism – National Lottery	-	200,000	(211,541)	11,541	-
Leeds Independent Mental Health	-	25,000	(30,920)	2,462	-
Advocacy	3,458	58,722	(56,806)	-	4,837
Leeds Care Act Advocacy	2,921	71,780	(78,612)	-	32,903
Autism North	39,735	4,701	(4,797)	-	(96)
Asking You!	-	6,826	(6,826)	-	-
Live Well Leeds	-	1,932	(1,932)	-	-
Safeguarding Project	-	7,500	(7,500)	-	-
Care Quality Commission	-	-	(72)	-	(72)
Keeping Connected	-	-	-	-	-
Health Inequalities	-	-	-	-	-
	144,796	899,043	(1,007,469)	44,424	80,794
Total Funds	723,225	1,947,860	(1,938,709)	-	732,376

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

14. Funds summary

For the year ended 31 March 2020	Balance 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 March 2020 £
Unrestricted:					
Charity core activities	443,016	1,014,707	(864,585)	(54,709)	538,429
Designated funds:					
ASC community	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
Restricted:					
Advocacy Awareness	10,773	-	(3,210)	-	7,563
Leeds Independent Health	101,710	204,000	(214,591)	-	91,119
Complaints Advocacy					
Leeds Independent Mental	-	246,000	(281,633)	35,633	-
Capacity Advocacy					
Big Lottery	250	57,796	(58,046)	-	-
Leeds Independent Mental Health	2,884	190,000	(211,953)	19,069	-
Advocacy					
Leeds Care Act Advocacy	1,991	25,000	(23,533)	-	3,458
Autism Live Well Leeds	-	4,700	(4,700)	-	-
LGBTQ Health Inclusion Project	-	97,386	(97,393)	7	-
Care Quality Commission	-	18,053	(18,053)	-	-
Autism North	-	43,936	(41,015)	-	2,921
Asking You!	27,197	71,780	(59,242)	-	39,735
Autism GGC – Post Diagnostic	-	9,849	(9,849)	-	-
CHANGE	-	37,374	(37,374)	-	-
	144,805	1,005,874	(1,060,592)	54,709	144,796
Total Funds	627,821	2,020,581	(1,925,177)	-	723,225

Designated Fund:

ASC Community Funding from Leeds City Council: ASC received in respect of community advocacy designated to 2019/20 spend as not utilised in full in the current financial year.

Restricted Funds:

All restricted funds are income which has been given for a specific purpose. The funds are not available for use for anything other than the specific project the funding was issued for.

Advocacy Awareness: Training provided for Advocacy Awareness.

Leeds Independent Health Complaints Advocacy: This is independent health complaints advocacy which is required to be commissioned by local authorities. This advocacy support is aimed at empowering anyone in the Leeds area to resolve a complaint about healthcare commissioned or provided by the NHS in England.

Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy: instructed and non-instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Mental Capacity Act.

Independent Mental Health Advocacy: provision of instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Mental Health Act 1983.

Independent Mental Health Advocacy - LD: provision of instructed advocacy support for people with learning disabilities who qualify for IMHA as required by the Mental Health Act (amendment 2007).

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

14. Funds summary (continued)

Leeds Care Act Advocacy: provision of instructed advocacy support in accordance with the Care Act 2014.

Care Quality Commission: provision of public engagement for people with mental health problems, learning difficulties and/or autism.

Autism - National Lottery: Funding by National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund for mentoring and support within the Autism Community.

LGBTQ Health Inclusion Project: Funding from Dept of Health to develop, deliver and evaluate self-advocacy models and training for LGBT individuals who are on the autistic spectrum, have learning disabilities or have mental health issues.

Autism Health: This is funding provided by the Department of Health and Social Care Volunteering Fund to support our project mentoring people with Autism. Our mentoring service provides one-to-one support by matching individuals with a specialist trained mentor.

Autism North: Leeds North Clinical Commissioning Group funding for Autism hubs in North Leeds.

Autism North and Autism South both provide funding for our autism hubs in different areas of Leeds. The hubs offer advocacy support and information and signposting services.

Asking You!: This is funding provided by Leeds City Council. This funding is used for a project to get people with learning disabilities involved in the services they use. This is through engagement in People's Parliament and also by being involved in the new strengths based approach by Adult Social Care.

Live Well Leeds: AIM funding as part of the Live Well Leeds contract to deliver autism training and consultation to the 18 LWL providers.

Safeguarding Project / Talk to me Hear My Safeguarding Story Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board funded project, commissioned through Leeds City Council. The funding has been awarded to collect feedback from Citizens who have been through Safeguarding Processes.

Keeping Connected: short term small funding From West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership and Inclusion North in the Covid period: delivering signposting and support to neurodiverse communities in Leeds (as part of wider regional work from other providers).

Health Inequalities: AIM: pilot work supporting a Local Care Partnership (The Light Surgery and Leeds Student Medical Practice) to increase access to healthcare for autistic people: training to health professionals and peer support. This was initially applied for through WYHHCP and taken up by Leeds CCG.

CHANGE: All assets received from the CHANGE following the transfer of CHANGE's assets and activities to Advonet have been classified as restricted; therefore only allowing them to be spent on activities relating to CHANGE.

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

For the year ended 31 March 2021	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	28,881	-	-	28,881
Net current assets	482,701	140,000	80,794	703,495
Total funds	511,582	140,000	80,794	732,376

For the year ended 31 March 2020	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	19,943	-	-	19,943
Net current assets	518,486	40,000	144,796	703,282
Total funds	538,429	40,000	144,796	723,225

16. Commitments – Group and Charity

Operating lease commitments

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Expiry date:		
Within one year	45,466	47,923
Between two and five years	-	429
	45,466	48,352

Capital commitments

At 31 March 2021 the charity had not approved any capital expenditure which has not been contracted for, nor entered any contracts for, capital expenditure which were not provided for (2020 - £nil).

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

17. Related party transactions

During the year Advonet subcontracted to Age UK Leeds, Touchstone and Sign Health (2020: Age UK Leeds, Touchstone and Sign Health). Note 5 includes details of amounts paid to these parties for subcontracted advocacy work. Touchstone is a charity which has a director/trustee in common.

In October 2018, Advonet also entered into partnership with Touchstone in delivering advocacy work for the Kirklees Advocacy Hub. Total income received from Touchstone as part of this partnership is disclosed within Note 4 of the Financial Statements.

During the year, in addition to the recharge of expenses, Advonet has charged Leep1 CIC (a subsidiary of Advonet) management charges amounting to £28,451 (2020 - £16,128). At the year end, Leep1 CIC owed Advonet £11,904 (2020 - £nil) which is included within trade debtors.

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

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net movement in funds	9,151	95,404
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	9,668	4,204
(Increase) in stock	(6,827)	(1,339)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	328,324	(316,605)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(812)	31,111
Increase in deferred income	52,303	31,071
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	391,807	(156,154)

19. Analysis of net debt

Both during the current and previous year, and at the year end, the charitable group did not hold any borrowings or debt.

Advonet

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

20. Comparative Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2020

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total £
Income from:				
Donations and non-performance grants	8,194	-	-	8,194
Charitable activities	1,006,513	-	968,500	1,975,013
Gift of CHANGE's assets and activities	-	-	37,374	37,374
Total income	1,014,707	-	1,005,874	2,020,581
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	864,585	-	1,060,592	1,925,177
Total expenditure	864,585	-	1,060,592	1,925,177
Net income/expenditure before transfers	150,122	-	(54,718)	95,404
Transfers between funds	(54,709)	-	54,709	-
Net movement in funds	95,413	-	(9)	95,404
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	443,016	40,000	144,805	627,821
Total funds carried forward	538,429	40,000	144,796	723,225