

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

England & Wales · Charity number 1126484

Details

Other names LACVS

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [06402216](#)

Registered 2008-10-29

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

Contact

Address Community C V S
45 Railway Road
Blackburn
BB1 1EZ

Phone 01254583957

Activities

Objects: THE ASSOCIATION IS ESTABLISHED TO PROMOTE ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE LANCASHIRE SUB REGION, WHICH INCLUDES THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN UNITARY AUTHORITY, BLACKPOOL UNITARY AUTHORITY AND LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (HEREINAFTER CALLED THE 'AREA OF BENEFIT') AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION, THE PROTECTION OF HEALTH AND THE RELIEF OF POVERTY, DISTRESS AND SICKNESS, AND IN FUTHERANCE OF THE SAID PURPOSES, BUT NOT FURTHER OR OTHERWISE, TO PROMOTE AND ORGANISE CO-OPERATION IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SAME AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION IN THE AREA OF BENEFIT.

Activities: The charity promotes any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community across Lancashire (including Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool) and in particular focuses on delivering community action and volunteering projects. The charity helps the 7 members to work collabortively as an umbrella body improving effectiveness and co-ordination of support services to frontline VCFSE organisations.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Other Finance, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LANCASHIRE
- Blackburn With Darwen
- Blackpool
- Lancashire

Finances

| Period end | Income | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|------------|----------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| 2025-03-31 | £150,480 | £131,894 | - | - |
| 2024-03-31 | £69,418 | £57,918 | - | - |
| 2023-03-31 | £56,942 | £55,650 | - | - |
| 2022-03-31 | £224,284 | £195,219 | - | - |
| 2021-03-31 | £207,723 | £214,872 | - | - |

Trustees

| Name | Role | Appointed |
|--------------------------------|-------|------------|
| Jeremy Garth Hodgkinson | Chair | |
| Christine Blythe | | 2014-07-24 |
| Elaine Barker | | 2019-10-03 |
| Lynn Saggerson | | 2019-10-03 |
| Tracy Hopkins | | 2019-10-03 |
| Victor Thomas Citarella | | 2023-09-13 |
| YAKUB PATEL | | 2019-10-03 |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1126484

Accounts

Registered number: 6402216
Charity number: 1126484

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Trustees

Jeremy Garth Hodgkinson, (Chair)
Joyce Christine Blythe, (Treasurer)
Elaine Louise Barker
Tracy Ann Hopkins
Yakub Patel
Lynn Saggerson
Nasima Bahadur Zaman (resigned 07.10.25)
Victor Thomas Citarella

Company registered number

6402216

Charity registered number

1126484

Registered office

Boulevard Centre
45 Railway Road
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB1 1EZ

Company secretary

Jeremy Garth Hodgkinson

Accountants

CW Accountants Limited
30 Appleby Drive
Barrowford
Lancashire
BB9 6EX

Bankers

Virgin Money
25 Manchester Road
Burnley
BB11 1HX

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective 1 January 2015).

Since the Charity qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

Objectives and Activities

a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

LACVS was formed in 2007 as a charitable company by the sub-region's district-based Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS). It was established to foster closer collaboration including sharing resources, supporting local delivery and acting as a vehicle for a coordinated sub-regional voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector voice.

The Objects of the charity are:

"To promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community in the Lancashire Sub Region, which includes the local government areas of Blackburn with Darwen Unitary Authority, Blackpool Unitary Authority and Lancashire County Council (hereinafter called the "Area of Benefit") and in particular, the advancement of education, the protection of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness and in furtherance of the said purposes, but not further or otherwise, to promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the same among the members of the Association in the Area of Benefit."

LACVS's vision is of a vibrant, diverse and sustainable Lancashire sub-region with a strong, independent and effective VCFSE sector that improves people's quality of life and contributes to thriving communities. Its mission is to support voluntary action that empowers communities and changes lives.

LACVS, its members and associates have strong values and are committed to:

- helping to harness the skills, talent and energy that are at the heart of strong and healthy communities
- enabling citizens to be active in their communities both individually and collectively - particularly those whose full participation in society is limited by economic disadvantage, institutional discrimination and exclusion
- enabling the voices of local people to be heard through effective representation that links the VCFSE sector to decision makers across localities, districts and the sub-region
- a VCFSE sector that is vibrant, diverse and independent
- collaboration that improves support for the VCFSE sector with services that are responsive to local need and of a consistent and quality standard
- campaigning on issues that affect the VCFSE sector and local communities' quality of life and contributes towards equality and social justice
- the accountability of LACVS, its members and associates.

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

a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES - continued

The work of LACVS, its members and associates, is rooted in local communities and reaches out to 1,000s of VCFSE organisations. It is delivered by staff and volunteers from centres across the sub-region.

LACVS as a collaborative body seeks to work on joint projects that add value to the work of its members and their infrastructure support for the VCFSE sector. LACVS's Lancashire LOCAL project, as detailed in the next section, is a good example of this approach.

LACVS's members range in size, resources and geographical coverage from single district to county wide. They provide different elements and combinations of infrastructure services, including:

- support for Trustees, staff, and volunteers
- helping new groups to set up and existing ones to become stronger through information, guidance and training e.g. governance, business planning, quality and funding development
- specialisms that include equality, diversity and support for BAME communities
- developing collaborative projects at neighbourhood level which help economically inactive, unemployed, isolated or vulnerable residents
- brokering and supporting volunteering, so that individuals can volunteer in their communities and organisations can be effective in how they involve volunteers in their work
- running local forums and networks of VCFSE groups, facilitating representation, enabling information sharing and co-operation
- collaboration with public and private sectors, including strategic work at local and subregional level, ensuring that local communities' voice and concerns are heard
- campaigning and influencing policy and decisions on issues that matter to local people and their communities
- helping local people to connect to VCFSE services in their community, with information and signposting to access support or volunteering
- social prescribing project work that supports health and wellbeing community
- managing grant programmes that provide vital funding to local VCFSE groups
- offering bespoke services including accountancy, payroll and DBS checks.

Some LACVS members also run projects that fill gaps and meet need locally or sub-regionally.

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

The year saw LACVS's flagship LOCAL Lancashire Project make important strides in its first year of activities. LOCAL (Locally Organised Communities Across Lancashire)'s five-year programme is working with the VCFSE sector to support change across the nine priorities within the VCFSE Sector Manifesto for Lancashire:

- Equality and social justice for all: tackling poverty in Lancashire
- The VCFSE sector as an equal partner with public and private sectors to build a better Lancashire
- An economic model that works for Lancashire
- Community wellbeing and person and community-centred public service models
- Green communities
- Lancashire social prescribing model
- A safer Lancashire
- Helping people into employment
- Resources for the VCFSE sector to play a full part in the future of Lancashire.

The Project, funded by National Lottery Community Fund, is rooted in a collaborative approach across Lancashire's 14 districts, working alongside and complementing the core infrastructure work of LACVS members.

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

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES - continued

LOCAL's activities in YEAR 1 (which covered part of LACVS's financial year for 2024-25) was about laying the foundations for the Project over the next 5 years including reaching VCFSE sector organisations that may currently be "under the radar" in spite of the importance of their contribution to the life of their communities.

The Projects' activities in Year 1 included:

- increasing LACVS and members' engagement with the sector through extensive networking with nearly 2,000 "new" organisations reached
- initial work on mapping networks in the 14 districts, identifying existing fora and establishing baselines as a foundation for addressing gaps in network coverage in the subregion
- participating in 30 events, gathering evidence on Manifesto related themes and disseminating information to support action
- initial development work in improving VCFSE sector profiling at neighbourhood level
- supporting strategic conversations with partners and funders in support of improved investment in the VCFSE sector, arranging/ contributing to 13 workshops/ conferences across the sub-region (including the involvement of key organisations that resource the sector's work) – this included a successful, well-attended Project Launch
- gathering sector intelligence, from activities detailed in this summary, that will support efforts to influence policy change around Manifesto themes – with 21 sets of notes/ reports from workshops or activities across Lancashire.

LACVS trustees and member organisations maintained strong regional and national connections in 2024-25 with two LACVS trustees serving on the board of Voluntary Sector Northwest (namely the CEOs of Lancaster District CVS and Community CVS). In addition, the Chair and Treasurer of LACVS serve on National Association for Voluntary and Community Action's Board (namely, the CEOs of Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS and Community CVS).

LACVS and its members continued to engage in the work of Lancashire and South Cumbria VCFSE Alliance, with its focus on strategic working with the health and social care system. Working with the Alliance, LACVS played a supportive role in the development of the State of the Sector Research. Community CVS was commissioned to lead the research with LACVS and its members being important partners to aid the research process within Lancashire. The LACVS Board met with Professor Kate Leyshon, Quay Research, as academic partner for the research in March 2025. The meeting set out different strands of the work that would follow including survey work and exploration of the microbiome. It was hoped that the research would provide a vital evidence base to LACVS's work and the work of the VCFSE Sector more widely.

LACVS members also participated in a range of place-based partnerships on their respective patches. This ongoing work is key to ensuring the voice and role of the local VCFSE sector is recognised in policy and decision-making fora.

The year was one of change and uncertainty for public sector structures with the ongoing re-organisation of Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB), steps towards the creation of a combined authority for Lancashire and possible local government reorganisation following the election of a new national government. LACVS submitted a detailed response to the Combined Authority's Growth Plan emphasising the vital contribution the sector makes to Lancashire's economy.

Concerns remain that existing relationships and investment in the VCFSE sector may be disrupted or reduced with well-established and successful work being lost to the detriment of local communities' health and wellbeing. This has implications both for the work and funding of LACVS members and more broadly the VCFSE sector and its role supporting community solutions that improve health and wellbeing. LACVS will continue to advocate on behalf of the VCFSE Sector and take a leading role in creating a voice for the sector as a whole.

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

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES - continued

Social prescribing continued to be important, innovative work that some LACVS members played a major role in delivering in their local areas over the year. The programme benefits greatly on their reach into local communities, work with volunteers, provision of grant management and capacity building support. As the year drew to a close this work was about to be reviewed by funder and partner, Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB. LACVS and its members will continue to advocate for social prescribing to be based in the VCFSE Sector and for grants to be a crucial component of any social prescribing solution.

Members continued with their provision of infrastructure services in 2024-25 across districts and neighbourhoods in their respective areas supporting the VCFSE sector in its vital work meeting local need.

LACVS's collaborative development work around volunteering continued through the Volunteering for Health initiative. Lancashire and South Cumbria was one of 15 areas approved for funding in England in July 2024. The programme aims to improve volunteer infrastructure, building closer collaboration across the NHS, social care and the VCFSE sector. The lead body for this initiative within Lancashire and South Cumbria is Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity, with CVSs and Volunteer Centres being the named leads in each of the 4 health places. LACVS the named lead for the Lancashire County Council area (with BPRCVS leading on this for LACVS). Cumbria CVS is responsible for leading in South Cumbria whilst LACVS members Community CVS and Volunteer Centre Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde are responsible, respectively, for Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool. Spring North has responsibility for elements of the programme system wide across Lancashire and South Cumbria. During the year, the partnership developed and submitted a development plan, which was approved ready for the initiative to start on the 01st April 2025.

During the year, LACVS also carried out exploratory work around the possible development of a workforce development hub for the sector including reviewing arrangements in neighbouring areas.

Grant management remains an important role both for LACVS and a number of LACVS members' offer with additional funding streams secured for distribution in some districts over the year. LACVS submitted an expression of interest in the final quarter of 2024-25 to You Decide initiative, to develop its work in this area. If successful it will involve grant funding being distributed through a local participatory grant panels in a number of districts. During the year, important conversations were started with the Eric Wright Charitable Trust, another anonymous grant giving foundation and a local district council about distributing grants on behalf of those organisations within the Fylde coast area of Lancashire.

LACVS is committed to organisational improvement as it continues to develop its provision. Its planning session in the final quarter of 2024-25 included discussion of governance, trustee responsibilities and the need to be rigorous in its approach. A number of organisational action areas were subsequently identified within LACVS's Action Plan 2025-28.

c. MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

Trustees have complied with their responsibility to have due regard to the Commission's guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers and duties. Trustees are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities and in planning their activities for the year have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance at Trustee meetings.

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

c. MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT - continued

LACVS brings benefit to the public in line with its Objects through:

- collaborative working to support community and voluntary action that empowers local communities that meets need and improves quality of life;
- services that enable new frontline groups to form to meet unmet local need and existing ones to improve;
- direct support to volunteers and assistance to volunteer involving organisations that bring a range of positive impacts on individuals and their communities;
- supporting and providing frontline projects and services that help economically inactive, unemployed, isolated or vulnerable people.

d. VOLUNTEERS

LACVS is grateful for the contribution of volunteers to its members' work in areas such as supporting the running of local offices, administration and delivery of project services.

Financial review

a. GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

b. FINANCIAL REVIEW

LACVS's total incoming resources and expenditure for the year was £69,418 and £57,918 respectively. Income was primarily related to Lancashire LOCAL Project work (£65,473).

After transfers between funds the unrestricted deficit for the year was £410 which when deducted from reserves brought forward resulted in unrestricted reserves carried forward of £62,842. LACVS has a reserves policy to hold funds equivalent to at least 6 months' core running costs, approximately £59,300. Trustees are satisfied this is a prudent position. Trustees will be seeking to develop additional income streams over the year.

c. PRINCIPAL FUNDING

Principal funding was from National Lottery Community Fund for the Lancashire LOCAL Project.

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

Structure, governance and management

a. CONSTITUTION

Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 18 October 2007. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

Membership of the charity is open to authorised representatives from Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) and other VCFSE organisations whose primary role is delivery of infrastructure services in Lancashire sub-region as approved by the Trustees. The current membership is: Hyndburn and Ribble Valley CVS, Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS, Community CVS, Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde CVS, Lancashire BME Network, Lancaster District CVS, West Lancashire CVS and Volunteer Centre Blackpool Wyre and Fylde. The members each agree to contribute £1 in the event of the charity winding up.

b. METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

As set out in the Articles of Association the Chair and Treasurer of the Charity are appointed by the Trustees. The AGM's formal business includes the retirement of Trustees and the filling of vacancies. The current Trustees are Chief Officers and a Trustee of their nominating bodies and bring extensive experience of voluntary sector management, governance, business planning and have a good understanding of the contents of the Memorandum and Articles of Association and their legal obligations under charity and company law.

c. POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

Induction and training are available for new Trustees. All Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

d. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The Board meets at least 6 times per year. Trustees have the power to delegate functions to committees appointed by them provided at least one member is a Trustee or an authorised representative and there are robust reporting procedures back to the Board. The Board includes input from an associate member whose representative attends meetings in a non-voting capacity.

e. RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS

Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS received contributions of £2520 towards the costs of providing strategic support, HR and financial services to LACVS as part of the Local Lancashire project.

Community CVS received contributions of £2520 towards the costs of providing strategic support, premises and IT support to LACVS as part of the Local Lancashire project.

The above related party relationships were authorised by the Board, given the roles of the two trustees in their respective member organisations, in line with LACVS processes for managing conflicts of interest."

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

f. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises: review of the risks that the charity may face; the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks; and the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

The charity is continuing work on improving its policies and procedures and systems as its collaborative work programmes grows, including monitoring and project reporting. Trustees engage Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS in support of administration and financial controls and a consultant who assists the Board in its co-ordination and development. LACVS employs 4 part-time staff led by a Project Co-ordinator for delivery of its Lancashire LOCAL Project. A key element in the management of financial risk is the setting of a reserves policy which is kept under review by trustees (see Financial Review above).

Plans for future periods

a. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

LACVS LOCAL Project will work on refreshing the VCFSE Sector Manifesto for Lancashire's priorities in 2025-26 in consultation with partners and stakeholders. It will also focus on network development in areas where there is little or no VCFSE sector coverage. This includes launching new networks in Wyre and Fylde and continuing development work in Chorley and South Ribble.

Other activities will include pilot work in five neighbourhoods in Lancashire using different approaches to supporting change and improvement in health and wellbeing. This will start with explorations of the microbiome as part of the state of the sector research project.

LACVS and LOCAL Lancashire may also play a key role in the establishment and support of a Civil Society Board for Lancashire, subject to consultation on its development. If established, it is intended that the Civil Society Board will ensure that the VCFSE sector has a voice amidst ongoing moves towards devolution, as well as linking to the new Lancashire Combined Authority Board in a similar manner to the Business Board.

LOCAL will also be holding its annual conference on tackling poverty, one of the Manifesto's themes, with the possible development of an anti-poverty network to be discussed.

The State of the Sector Survey results will be launched in 2025-26. The Lancashire and South Cumbria VCFSE Sector Alliance commissioned Community CVS to lead the research project in partnership with LACVS and its members. The research is being supported by Quay Research, which has also carried out work for National Association for Voluntary and Community Action, including on the often unseen but vital "voluntary sector microbiome." State of the Sector survey work included a handful of microbiome/ neighbourhood pilots, reference to which will be included in the findings.

LACVS is awaiting a decision on its application to become part of the National Lottery You Decide initiative, which will include piloting a grants programme and local participatory funding panels. This represents a real opportunity for LACVS to build on members' already significant role in grant management.

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

a. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS - continued

During the initial months of 2025-26, work will start on implementing the development plan for Volunteering for Health. As mentioned previously, LACVS is leading for the Lancashire County Council area within the health system. The work will involve engaging volunteers, volunteer managers and the wider VCFSE Sector in the development of a vision and strategy for volunteering. LACVS will receive funding to employ a part time volunteering partnership co-ordinator who will work with Volunteer Centres in Lancashire and support them in their work. Potential future development areas to improved volunteer infrastructure will include developing volunteer management training, volunteer quality standards and making improvements to how Volunteer Centres use digital technology to deliver volunteer infrastructure in a more consistent way across Lancashire.

LACVS members will continue to engage actively in the work of Lancashire and South Cumbria VCFSE Alliance. This is at a time of major change for Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care ICB, which has implications for the VCFSE sector and the people it serves. LACVS members that deliver social prescribing programmes have had funding for their provision extended for a further two years following successful reviews of their work by the ICB.

LACVS members will support the ICB in the development of social prescribing across Lancashire including the potential for National Community Health and Wellbeing funding. This reflects LACVS's ongoing commitment to looking at initiatives being brought forward to support the sector and working with partners as they are developed.

LACVS members will maintain their respective engagements in local place-based partnerships on behalf of their local sectors, alongside members' involvement in sub-regional and national infrastructure bodies' work (see previous section for details).

LACVS members will also continue to offer core infrastructure support to a VCFSE sector dealing with issues such as the cost-of-living crisis and the major challenges it brings for sections of the community. One of the ongoing aims of LACVS, is to see infrastructure provision offered across all parts of Lancashire

LACVS and its members will also continue in 2025-26 with work on organisational improvement, including areas such as reviewing and improving its Policy Handbook and Staff Handbook and updating policies and procedures where appropriate.

MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The Members of the Charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting that Courtney Wright of CW Accountants be appointed as Independent Examiner for 2024-25.

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

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees (who are also directors of Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service 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 year. 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

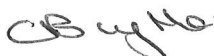
The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements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

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

This report was approved by the Trustees, on 9 December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Garth Hodgkinson
Trustee



Christine Blythe
Trustee

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE (the 'Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

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

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

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

Signed

Dated: 9 December 2025

Courtney Wright BA ACCA

CW ACCOUNTANTS LIMITED

30 Appleby Drive
Barrowford
BB2 4FJ

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

| | Note | Restricted funds 2025 £ | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2024 £ |
|--|------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| INCOME FROM: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 144,581 | - | 144,581 | 65,473 |
| Other trading activities | 3 | - | 200 | 200 | - |
| Investments | 4 | - | 4,739 | 4,739 | 3,945 |
| Funds held in previous years now written off | | - | 960 | 960 | - |
| TOTAL INCOME | | 144,581 | 5,899 | 150,480 | 69,418 |
| EXPENDITURE ON: | | | | | |
| Raising funds | | 200 | - | 200 | - |
| Charitable activities: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | | 130,944 | 499 | 131,443 | 57,750 |
| Governance costs | | 251 | - | 251 | 168 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | | 131,395 | 499 | 131,894 | 57,918 |
| NET INCOME BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES | | 13,186 | 5,400 | 18,586 | 11,500 |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | | 13,186 | 5,400 | 18,586 | 11,500 |
| RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS: | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 11,910 | 62,842 | 74,752 | 63,252 |
| TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD | | 25,096 | 68,242 | 93,338 | 74,752 |

The notes on pages 15 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 6402216

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

| | Note | £ | 2025 £ | £ | 2024 £ |
|---|------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 146,674 | | 128,955 | |
| CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year | 9 | <u>(53,336)</u> | | <u>(54,203)</u> | |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | | <u>93,338</u> | | <u>74,752</u> |
| NET ASSETS | | | <u>93,338</u> | | <u>74,752</u> |
| CHARITY FUNDS | | | | | |
| Restricted funds | 10 | | 25,096 | | 11,910 |
| Unrestricted funds | 10 | | <u>68,242</u> | | <u>62,842</u> |
| TOTAL FUNDS | | | <u>93,338</u> | | <u>74,752</u> |

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

The Trustees consider that the Charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the Charity to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 9 December 2025 and signed on their behalf, by:



Garth Hodgkinson
Trustee



Christine Blythe
Trustee

The notes on pages 15 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

| | Note | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|--|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 12 | <u>17,719</u> | <u>54,197</u> |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year | | 17,719 | 54,197 |
| Cash and cash equivalents brought forward | | <u>128,955</u> | <u>74,758</u> |
| Cash and cash equivalents carried forward | 13 | <u><u>146,674</u></u> | <u><u>128,955</u></u> |

The notes on pages 15 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service 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.

1.2 Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required.

No restatements were required.

1.3 Company status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page . In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

1.4 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.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.5 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.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the Charity's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Charity apportioned to charitable activities.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Interest receivable

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

1.7 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.

1.8 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 within interest payable and similar charges.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

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

1.10 Pensions

The Charity contributes to personal pension plans.

1.11 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 Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity 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.

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| | Restricted funds 2025 £ | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2025 £ | <i>Total funds 2024 £</i> |
|-------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Grants receivable | 144,581 | - | 144,581 | 65,473 |
| <i>Total 2024</i> | 65,473 | - | 65,473 | |

GRANTS RECEIVABLE

| | Restricted Funds 2025 £ | Unrestricted Funds 2025 £ | Total Funds 2025 £ | <i>Total Funds 2024 £</i> |
|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| National Lottery Community Fund - LOCAL project | 112,465 | - | 112,465 | 65,473 |
| Eric Wright - Small Grants Programme | 14,700 | - | 14,700 | - |
| Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust - Volunteering for Health Grant | 16,666 | - | 16,666 | - |
| The Soil Association | 750 | - | 750 | - |
| Total | 144,581 | - | 144,581 | 65,473 |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

3. FUNDRAISING INCOME

| | Restricted funds 2025 £ | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2024 £ |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Management fees | - | 200 | 200 | - |

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

| | Restricted funds 2025 £ | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2024 £ |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bank interest received | - | 4,739 | 4,739 | 3,945 |
| | - | 4,739 | 4,739 | 3,945 |
| <i>Total 2024</i> | - | 3,945 | 3,945 | |

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| | Total 2024 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Advertising and publicity costs | - | 3,297 |
| Subscriptions and sundry costs | 637 | 369 |
| Insurance | 390 | 193 |
| Office rent at Preston | 4,200 | 2,450 |
| Travel expenses | 331 | 369 |
| Consulting fees | 5,203 | 3,801 |
| IT costs | 2,472 | 1,608 |
| Project delivery costs | 40,518 | 6,638 |
| Telephone costs | 1,040 | 607 |
| Training and conference costs | 13 | 97 |
| Wages and salaries | 73,271 | 36,287 |
| Pension cost | 3,368 | 2,034 |
| | 131,443 | 57,750 |
| <i>Total 2024</i> | 57,750 | |

In 2025 of the total charitable activities, £499 (2024 - £4,187) was expenditure from unrestricted funds and £130,944 (2024 - £53,563) was expenditure from restricted funds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

6. GOVERNANCE COSTS

| | Restricted funds 2025 £ | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2025 £ | <i>Total funds 2024 £</i> |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Governance independent examiner's fees | 251 | - | 251 | <i>168</i> |

In 2025 of the total governance costs, £Nil (2024 - £168) was expenditure from unrestricted funds and £251 (2024 - £Nil) was expenditure from restricted funds.

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

This is stated after charging:

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Governance independent examiner's fees | 251 | <i>168</i> |
|--|------------|------------|

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration (2024 - £NIL).

During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2024 - £NIL).

During the year, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2024 - £NIL).

8. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

| | 2025 £ | <i>2024 £</i> |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Wages and salaries | 73,271 | <i>36,287</i> |
| Other pension costs | 3,368 | <i>2,034</i> |
| | 76,639 | <i>38,321</i> |

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

| | 2025 No. | <i>2024 No.</i> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Charitable activities | 4 | <i>2</i> |

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

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

9. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Other taxation and social security | 2,357 | 1,289 |
| Funds held | - | 960 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 50,979 | 51,954 |
| | <hr/> 53,336 <hr/> | <hr/> 54,203 <hr/> |
| | | £ |
| Deferred income | | |
| Deferred income at 1 April 2024 | | 47,517 |
| Resources deferred during the year | | 47,227 |
| Amounts released from previous years | | (47,517) |
| | | <hr/> 47,227 <hr/> |
| Deferred income at 31 March 2025 | | <hr/> 47,227 <hr/> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

10. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2024 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Balance at 31 March 2025 £ |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | |
| General Funds | 62,842 | 5,899 | (499) | 68,242 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| National Lottery Community Fund - LOCAL project | 11,910 | 112,465 | (99,279) | 25,096 |
| Eric Wright - Small Grants Programme | - | 14,700 | (14,700) | - |
| Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust - Volunteering for Health Grant | - | 16,666 | (16,666) | - |
| The Soil Association | - | 750 | (750) | - |
| | <u>11,910</u> | <u>144,581</u> | <u>(131,395)</u> | <u>25,096</u> |
| Total of funds | <u><u>74,752</u></u> | <u><u>150,480</u></u> | <u><u>(131,894)</u></u> | <u><u>93,338</u></u> |

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2023 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Balance at 31 March 2024 £ |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| General Funds | 63,252 | 3,945 | (4,355) | 62,842 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| National Lottery Community Fund - LOCAL project | - | 65,473 | (53,563) | 11,910 |
| Total of funds | <u><u>63,252</u></u> | <u><u>69,418</u></u> | <u><u>(57,918)</u></u> | <u><u>74,752</u></u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2024 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Balance at 31 March 2025 £ |
|------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| General funds | 62,842 | 5,899 | (499) | 68,242 |
| Restricted funds | 11,910 | 144,581 | (131,395) | 25,096 |
| | <u>74,752</u> | <u>150,480</u> | <u>(131,894)</u> | <u>93,338</u> |

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2023 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Balance at 31 March 2024 £ |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| General funds | 63,252 | 3,945 | (4,355) | 62,842 |
| Restricted funds | - | 65,473 | (53,563) | 11,910 |
| | <u>63,252</u> | <u>69,418</u> | <u>(57,918)</u> | <u>74,752</u> |

11. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Restricted funds 2025 £ | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2025 £ |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Current assets | 77,993 | 68,681 | 146,674 |
| Creditors due within one year | (52,897) | (439) | (53,336) |
| | <u>25,096</u> | <u>68,242</u> | <u>93,338</u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

11. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS (continued)

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | <i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i> | <i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i> | <i>Total funds 2024 £</i> |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Current assets | 62,401 | 66,554 | 128,955 |
| Creditors due within one year | (50,491) | (3,712) | (54,203) |
| | 11,910 | 62,842 | 74,752 |
| | 11,910 | 62,842 | 74,752 |

12. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities) | 18,586 | 11,500 |
| Adjustment for: (Decrease)/increase in creditors | (867) | 42,697 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 17,719 | 54,197 |

13. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

| | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cash in hand | 146,674 | 128,955 |
| Total | 146,674 | 128,955 |

14. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The Charity contributes to personal pension plans. Any outstanding amounts at 31 March 2025 are shown in creditors.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS received contributions of £2520 towards the costs of providing strategic support, HR and financial services to LACVS as part of the Local Lancashire project.

Community CVS received contributions of £2520 towards the costs of providing strategic support, premises and IT support to LACVS as part of the Local Lancashire project.

The above related party relationships were authorised by the Board, given the roles of the two trustees in their respective member organisations, in line with LACVS processes for managing conflicts of interest.”

16. CONTROLLING PARTY

The Charity is controlled by the Trustees.

Accounts

Registered number: 6402216
Charity number: 1126484

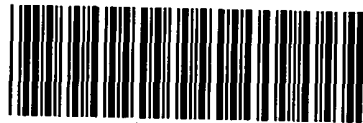
LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

THURSDAY



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COMPANIES HOUSE

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Trustees

Jeremy Garth Hodgkinson, (Chair)
Joyce Christine Blythe, (Treasurer)
Elaine Louise Barker
Tracy Ann Hopkins
Yakub Patel
Lynn Saggerson
Nasima Bahadur Zaman
Victor Thomas Citarella

Company registered number

6402216

Charity registered number

1126484

Registered office

Boulevard Centre
45 Railway Road
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB1 1EZ

Company secretary

Jeremy Garth Hodgkinson

Accountants

CW Accountants Limited
30 Brotherston Drive
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB 4EJ

Bankers

Virgin Money
25 Manchester Road
Burnley
BB11 1HX

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective 1 January 2015).

Since the Charity qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

Objectives and Activities

a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

LACVS was formed in 2007 as a charitable company by the sub-region's district-based Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS). It was established to foster closer collaboration including sharing resources, supporting local delivery and acting as a vehicle for a coordinated sub-regional voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector voice.

The Objects of the charity are:

"To promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community in the Lancashire Sub Region, which includes the local government areas of Blackburn with Darwen Unitary Authority, Blackpool Unitary Authority and Lancashire County Council (hereinafter called the "Area of Benefit") and in particular, the advancement of education, the protection of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness and in furtherance of the said purposes, but not further or otherwise, to promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the same among the members of the Association in the Area of Benefit."

LACVS's vision is of a vibrant, diverse and sustainable Lancashire sub-region with a strong, independent and effective VCFSE sector that improves people's quality of life and contributes to thriving communities. Its mission is to support voluntary action that empowers communities and changes lives.

LACVS, its members and associates have strong values and are committed to:

- helping to harness the skills, talent and energy that are at the heart of strong and healthy communities
- enabling citizens to be active in their communities both individually and collectively - particularly those whose full participation in society is limited by economic disadvantage, institutional discrimination and exclusion
- enabling the voices of local people to be heard through effective representation that links the VCFSE sector to decision makers across localities, districts and the sub-region
- a VCFSE sector that is vibrant, diverse and independent
- collaboration that improves support for the VCFSE sector with services that are responsive to local need and of a consistent and quality standard
- campaigning on issues that affect the VCFSE sector and local communities' quality of life and contributes towards equality and social justice
- the accountability of LACVS, its members and associates.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES - continued

The work of LACVS, its members and associates, is rooted in local communities and reaches out to 1,000s of VCFSE organisations. It is delivered by staff and volunteers from centres across the sub-region.

LACVS as a collaborative body seeks to work on joint projects that add value to the work of its members and their infrastructure support for the VCFSE sector. LACVS's Lancashire LOCAL project, as detailed in the next section, is a good example of this approach.

LACVS's members range in size, resources and geographical coverage from single district to county wide. They provide different elements and combinations of infrastructure services, including:

- support for Trustees, staff, and volunteers
- helping new groups to set up and existing ones to become stronger through information, guidance and training e.g. governance, business planning, quality and funding development
- specialisms that include equality, diversity and support for BAME communities
- developing collaborative projects at neighbourhood level which help economically inactive, unemployed, isolated or vulnerable residents
- brokering and supporting volunteering, so that individuals can volunteer in their communities and organisations can be effective in how they involve volunteers in their work
- running local forums and networks of VCFSE groups, facilitating representation, enabling information sharing and co-operation
- collaboration with public and private sectors, including strategic work at local and subregional level, ensuring that local communities' voice and concerns are heard
- campaigning and influencing policy and decisions on issues that matter to local people and their communities
- helping local people to connect to VCFSE services in their community, with information and signposting to access support or volunteering
- social prescribing project work that supports health and wellbeing community
- managing grant programmes that provide vital funding to local VCFSE groups
- offering bespoke services including accountancy, payroll and DBS checks.

Some LACVS members also run projects that fill gaps and meet need locally or sub-regionally.

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

LACVS was pleased to welcome Preston Community Network onto its board as an associate member in 2023-24.

The year marked a major development in LACVS's collaborative work, with the launch in March 2024 of its 5-year LACVS Lancashire LOCAL Project and the Manifesto for Change, which the Project is seeking to implement.

The Project, funded by National Lottery Community Fund, is rooted in a collaborative approach across Lancashire's 14 districts to

- promote the role and voice of the wider VCFSE sector including those vital "under the radar" groups – often overlooked if not undervalued
- help initiate change in areas that will benefit communities including those excluded and bearing the effects of exclusion and inequalities.

The launch event, the culmination of much preparatory work and networking by the Project team, was attended by 70+ VCFSE sector organisations' representatives, a Lancashire County Council Cabinet Member and Director and Partnership Manager from Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES - continued

The launch provided an opportunity to move forward in addressing the Manifesto's nine priority action areas for change, identified after extensive consultation with the sector in Lancashire. Workshops, facilitated by LACVS members and Project staff focused on the following Manifesto themes:

- Green Communities
- Economic Models that work / Skills and Employment
- Community Wellbeing, Health, and Social Prescribing
- Fairer Funding
- Equality and Social Justice for All.

The launch generated a range of action areas that will be followed up alongside Project priorities for year one (which runs to September 2024) including:

- gathering intelligence on the VCFSE sector and establishing a baseline in the sub-region's 14 districts from which to extend reach with the sector across Lancashire for engagement - with early tasks around helping to fill in gaps in networks in districts where there is no provision
- developing collaborative events with LACVS members and other partners that enable work to proceed on addressing change around the Manifesto themes.

Early Project work has been very positive with extensive activity, building contacts and events including around the development of a fair funding protocol between the sector and a range of funders.

LACVS was also a strategic partner in 2023-24, in a Community CVS led £1.2million ESF project, Action for Jobs: Strengthening Communities Passport to Health and Employment. The project was aimed at addressing economic inactivity and worklessness within Blackpool, Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle and Preston – which feature amongst the most deprived local authorities in the country. LACVS members provided support to those furthest away from the labour market.

The project ended on the 31st December 2023 and through its lifetime achieved the following:

- Supported 859 people who were unemployed or economically inactive residents (108% of the target)
- 285 participants (33%) achieved a positive outcome in terms of gaining employment, moving into education or training or job search (for the economically inactive)

The majority of participants reported health and well-being improvements.

The characteristics of the participants were as follows:

- 83% lived in a jobless household
- 55% were males and 45% females
- 54% had a level 1 qualification or lower (with 24% having no qualifications and 45% not having an English qualification)
- 49% Had a physical or mental impairment or condition that had a long-term negative impact on their ability to do normal activities
- 45% considered that they had a disability that limited their ability to work
- 34% were in recovery from alcohol or substance misuse
- 31% were from an ethnic minority community
- 26% had dependent children
- 23% were ex-offenders
- 19% were aged 50 or over
- 15% were lone parents.

LACVS was also a strategic partner in a second Community CVS led ESF project, Upskilling the Health and Social Care Workforce Across Lancashire. It was resourced at +£2million with a focus on upskilling small to medium sized enterprises in the VCFSE or private sectors that contribute towards improved health and well-being in its widest sense (i.e. the wider or social determinants of health).

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES - continued

The project was delivered by LACVS members across Lancashire with participating organisations supported through an organisational diagnostic to help identify their business needs and priorities. From the diagnostic the project management team developed a training plan and then delivered training that met the priorities of the organisation.

Through the lifetime of the project, which completed on 31 December 2023, it:

- Recruited and trained 2064 employees
- 76% were female and 24% were male
- 50% achieved a full qualification or a unit of a qualification
- 04% completed an entry level English qualification
- 74% completed a vocational topic at level 2 or below
- 22% completed a vocational topic at level 3 or higher
- 50% participated in non-accredited training
- 35% were aged 50 or over
- 33% did not have basic skills (1 in 3)
- 18% were from an ethnic minority background.

LACVS's members worked in their own right over the year in their respective neighbourhoods, districts and/or across Lancashire supporting the VCFSE sector.

The year has been challenging for the sector, dealing with the effects of the cost-of-living crisis both for service users and organisational financial resilience. Members' work ranged from practical support for 1,000s of VCFSE sector organisations including funding advice and training, to running local networks, partnership working with other sectors and, for some, delivering projects including ESF (see above).

LACVS members also continued to offer support to volunteer involving organisations over the year, helping to ensure that active citizens are able to engage in vital community action at local level.

Members also offered assistance in acting as a channel for the distribution of £1,000,000s of funding from charitable trusts and public sector funders. This role is increasingly important, drawing on members' support for the VCFSE sector and enabling organisations including small and grass-roots group based to secure resources for their work.

Members were also active over the year working in neighbourhood, district, sub-regional and thematic networks and partnerships. This included VCFSE networks and place-based partnerships working with health, local authorities and other agencies.

They also contributed to the work of Lancashire and South Cumbria VCFSE Alliance, including LACVS Trustee, Tracy Hopkins, acting as co-chair. The Alliance primarily comprises representatives from VCFSE sector partnerships and seeks to strengthen the role of the sector and collaborative working within the health and social care system.

LACVS Trustees also had strong regional and national connections. This included working closely with Voluntary Sector Northwest, whilst Christine Blythe, Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS, served on the board of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA). Naz Zaman, Inclusive North, played an active role with a range of agencies and funders on a new national funding initiative for the Phoenix Fund, to help address structural inequalities that black and racially minoritised communities and community-led organisations face.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES - continued

The NHS underwent major change in 2023-24 with the introduction of the Integrated Care Board for Lancashire and South Cumbria and reshaped place-based partnerships. This change has brought uncertainty for LACVS members and the wider VCFSE sector with many organisations having developed strong relationships including funding under the "old" structure.

Some LACVS members also played a major role over the year supporting health and wellbeing through delivery of social prescribing work in the sub-region. This included providing local support through link workers, grants that support the work of the local sector (as part of the funding channels referred to above). Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS was active on behalf of LACVS over the year promoting the importance of this work, Christine Blythe serving as North West Regional Lead for National Academy for Social Prescribing until 30 September 2023.

c. MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

Trustees have complied with their responsibility to have due regard to the Commission's guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers and duties. Trustees are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities and in planning their activities for the year have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance at Trustee meetings.

LACVS brings benefit to the public in line with its Objects through:

- collaborative working to support community and voluntary action that empowers local communities that meets need and improves quality of life;
- services that enable new frontline groups to form to meet unmet local need and existing ones to improve;
- direct support to volunteers and assistance to volunteer involving organisations that bring a range of positive impacts on individuals and their communities;
- supporting and providing frontline projects and services that help economically inactive, unemployed, isolated or vulnerable people.

d. VOLUNTEERS

LACVS is grateful for the contribution of volunteers to its members' work in areas such as supporting the running of local offices, administration and delivery of project services.

Financial review

a. GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

b. FINANCIAL REVIEW

LACVS's total incoming resources and expenditure for the year was £69,418 and £57,918 respectively. Income was primarily related to Lancashire LOCAL Project work (£65,473).

After transfers between funds the unrestricted deficit for the year was £410 which when deducted from reserves brought forward resulted in unrestricted reserves carried forward of £62,842. LACVS has a reserves policy to hold funds equivalent to at least 6 months' core running costs, approximately £59,300. Trustees are satisfied this is a prudent position. Trustees will be seeking to develop additional income streams over the year.

c. PRINCIPAL FUNDING

Principal funding was from National Lottery Community Fund for the Lancashire LOCAL Project.

Structure, governance and management

a. CONSTITUTION

Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 18 October 2007. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

Membership of the charity is open to authorised representatives from Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) and other VCFSE organisations whose primary role is delivery of infrastructure services in Lancashire sub-region as approved by the Trustees. The current membership is: Hyndburn and Ribble Valley CVS, Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS, Community CVS, Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde CVS, Lancashire BME Network, Lancaster District CVS, West Lancashire CVS and Volunteer Centre Blackpool Wyre and Fylde. The members each agree to contribute £1 in the event of the charity winding up.

b. METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

As set out in the Articles of Association the Chair and Treasurer of the Charity are appointed by the Trustees. The AGM's formal business includes the retirement of Trustees and the filling of vacancies. The current Trustees are Chief Officers and a Trustee of their nominating bodies and bring extensive experience of voluntary sector management, governance, business planning and have a good understanding of the contents of the Memorandum and Articles of Association and their legal obligations under charity and company law.

c. POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

Induction and training are available for new Trustees. All Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

d. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The Board meets at least 6 times per year. Trustees have the power to delegate functions to committees appointed by them provided at least one member is a Trustee or an authorised representative and there are robust reporting procedures back to the Board. The Board includes input from an associate member whose representative attends meetings in a non-voting capacity.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

e. RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS

Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS received contributions towards the cost of providing HR and financial services to LACVS including for Lancashire LOCAL Project.

Community CVS received contributions to the costs of Lancashire LOCAL project premises provision and co-ordination.

The above related party relationships were authorised by the Board, given the roles of the two Trustees in their respective member organisations, in line with LACVS's processes for managing conflicts of interest.

f. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises: review of the risks that the charity may face; the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks; and the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

The charity is continuing work on improving its policies and procedures and systems as its collaborative work programmes grows, including monitoring and project reporting. Trustees engage Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS in support of administration and financial controls and a consultant who assists the Board in its co-ordination and development. LACVS employs 4 part-time staff led by a Project Co-ordinator for delivery of its Lancashire LOCAL Project. A key element in the management of financial risk is the setting of a reserves policy which is kept under review by trustees (see Financial Review above).

Plans for future periods

a. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

2024-25 will see a number of key pieces of work delivered through LACVS's collaborative structure.

LACVS Lancashire LOCAL Project will build on its initial activities from the Project's first year, alongside LACVS member, to consolidate work on reach across the 14 Districts with a focus on areas where there is little or no VCFSE sector network coverage, particularly Wyre, Fylde, Chorley and South Ribble, Lancashire.

Other work to come will include:

- The Project Team working with LACVS members in practical areas such as disseminating information and communication across the 14 Districts
- Pilot work in five neighbourhoods in Lancashire using different approaches to support change and improvement in health and wellbeing.

LACVS will also be an active partner in 2024-25 in the Volunteering for Health initiative. It aims to improve volunteer infrastructure, building closer collaboration across the NHS, social care and the VCFSE sector around volunteering and improve volunteer infrastructure. This includes accredited volunteer management training, volunteer quality standards, volunteer passports and better use of digital technology.

The lead body for the funding in Lancashire County Council area is Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity, with LACVS the named partner. Cumbria CVS is responsible for the initiative in South Cumbria whilst LACVS members Community CVS are responsible for Blackburn with Darwen and Volunteer Centre Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde for Blackpool. Spring North has responsibility for elements of the programme system wide across Lancashire and South Cumbria.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

a. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS - continued

LACVS will receive funding for 3 years to employ a part time volunteering partnership co-ordinator and will work across all the Volunteer Centres in Lancashire and help them improve what they offer.

LACVS will also be exploring scope for developing a VCFSE sector workforce development hub including information, training and collaborative working that supports the sector and its workforce. This work will align with both LOCAL Project's programme and Volunteering for Health work.

LACVS members will be looking closely at developments in NHS Integrated Care System and possible changes to local authorities through the creation of a combined authority for Lancashire. Concerns remain that existing relationships and investment in the VCFSE sector may be disrupted or reduced. This may result in well-established and successful work being lost to the detriment of local communities' health and wellbeing.

This has implications both for the work and funding of LACVS members and more broadly the VCFSE sector and its role supporting community solutions that improve health and wellbeing. LACVS is hopeful that current investment in members' work around social prescribing will be continued, given its major contribution to communities' health and wellbeing.

The change of national government in July also means it is likely that there will be significant change in the policy and fiscal environment in 2024-25 that will impact on LACVS, members and the wider VCFSE sector.

LACVS members, in the context of this changing landscape, will continue to engage in the work of Lancashire and South Cumbria VCFSE Alliance, with its focus on strategic working with health and social care system. It seems likely that LACVS will play an increased role in work with the Alliance over the year, in liaison with LOCAL Project, including the hosting of periodic Assembly meetings.

There is also the possibility of LACVS developing, on the Alliance's behalf, a State of the Sector intelligence gathering dashboard to demonstrate the reach and work of the VCFSE sector.

LACVS Trustees will be building on good regional and national connections with Yak Patel, Lancaster District CVS, and Garth Hodgkinson, Community CVS, joining the board of Voluntary Sector North West. Garth will also be joining National Association for Voluntary and Community Action's board alongside existing member Christine Blythe, Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS).

Naz Zaman, Inclusive North, will also be taking on a lead role for the North West in the national funding initiative, the Phoenix Fund, whose development she has helped support for some time.

LACVS members will continue, in their own right to offer infrastructure support to a VCFSE sector dealing with challenges such as the cost-of-living crisis. This ranges from practical support to the passing on funds from charitable trusts and public bodies. Members will also work on developing volunteering infrastructure and standards including in Preston, where there has been no such provision recent years.

One of the themes that underpins work in 2024-25 is LACVS's commitment through its eight members, associate and Lancashire LOCAL Project Team to supporting voluntary action through strengthening infrastructure coverage and provision across the sub-region.

MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The Members of the Charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up.

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting that Courtney Wright of CW Accountants be appointed as Independent Examiner for 2024-25.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees (who are also directors of Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service 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 year. 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

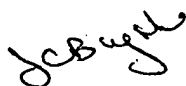
The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements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

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

This report was approved by the Trustees, on 10 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Garth Hodgkinson
Trustee



Christine Blythe
Trustee

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE (the 'Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

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

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

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

Signed



Dated: 11 December 2024

Courtney Wright BA ACCA

CW ACCOUNTANTS LIMITED

30 Brotherston Drive
Blackburn
BB2 4FJ

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

| | Note | Restricted funds 2024 £ | Unrestricted funds 2024 £ | Total funds 2024 £ | Total funds 2023 £ |
|--|------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| INCOME FROM: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 65,473 | - | 65,473 | 55,943 |
| Investments | 3 | - | 3,945 | 3,945 | 999 |
| TOTAL INCOME | | 65,473 | 3,945 | 69,418 | 56,942 |
| EXPENDITURE ON: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | | 53,563 | 4,187 | 57,750 | 55,481 |
| Governance costs | | - | 168 | 168 | 169 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | | 53,563 | 4,355 | 57,918 | 55,650 |
| NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES | | 11,910 | (410) | 11,500 | 1,292 |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | | 11,910 | (410) | 11,500 | 1,292 |
| RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS: | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | - | 63,252 | 63,252 | 61,960 |
| TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD | | 11,910 | 62,842 | 74,752 | 63,252 |

The notes on pages 15 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 6402216

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

| | Note | £ | 2024 £ | £ | 2023 £ |
|---|------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 128,955 | | 74,758 | |
| CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year | 8 | <u>(54,203)</u> | | <u>(11,506)</u> | |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | | <u>74,752</u> | | <u>63,252</u> |
| NET ASSETS | | | <u>74,752</u> | | <u>63,252</u> |
| CHARITY FUNDS | | | | | |
| Restricted funds | 9 | | 11,910 | | - |
| Unrestricted funds | 9 | | 62,842 | | 63,252 |
| TOTAL FUNDS | | | <u>74,752</u> | | <u>63,252</u> |

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

The Trustees consider that the Charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the Charity to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 10 December 2024 and signed on their behalf, by:


Garth Hodgkinson
Trustee


Christine Blythe
Trustee

The notes on pages 15 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

| | Note | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|--|------|----------------|----------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities | 11 | 54,197 | (3,618) |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year | | 54,197 | (3,618) |
| Cash and cash equivalents brought forward | | 74,758 | 78,376 |
| Cash and cash equivalents carried forward | 12 | 128,955 | 74,758 |

The notes on pages 15 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service 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.

1.2 Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required.

No restatements were required.

1.3 Company status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page . In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

1.4 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.

1.5 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.

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

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the Charity's educational operations; including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Charity apportioned to charitable activities.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.6 Interest receivable

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

1.7 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.

1.8 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 within interest payable and similar charges.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

1.10 Pensions

The Charity contributes to personal pension plans.

1.11 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 Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity 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.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| | Restricted funds 2024 £ | Unrestricted funds 2024 £ | Total funds 2024 £ | Total funds 2023 £ |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Grants receivable | 65,473 | - | 65,473 | 55,943 |
| <i>Total 2023</i> | <i>55,943</i> | <i>-</i> | <i>55,943</i> | |

GRANTS RECEIVABLE

| | Restricted Funds 2024 £ | Unrestricted Funds 2024 £ | Total Funds 2024 £ | Total Funds 2023 £ |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| National Lottery Community Fund - LOCAL project | 65,473 | - | 65,473 | - |
| Lancashire County Council - ESOL provision | - | - | - | - |
| DWP Kickstart | - | - | - | 39,263 |
| NHS England - 1000 Voices project | - | - | - | 16,680 |
| Total | 65,473 | - | 65,473 | 55,943 |

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

| | Restricted funds 2024 £ | Unrestricted funds 2024 £ | Total funds 2024 £ | Total funds 2023 £ |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bank interest received | - | 3,945 | 3,945 | 999 |
| <i>Total 2023</i> | <i>-</i> | <i>999</i> | <i>999</i> | |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| | Total 2024 | Total 2023 |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Advertising and publicity costs | 3,297 | - |
| Subscriptions and sundry costs | 369 | 107 |
| Insurance | 193 | 294 |
| Office rent at Preston | 2,450 | - |
| Travel expenses | 369 | - |
| Consulting fees | 3,801 | 3,783 |
| IT costs | 1,608 | - |
| Project delivery costs | 6,638 | 51,297 |
| Telephone costs | 607 | - |
| Training and conference costs | 97 | - |
| Wages and salaries | 36,287 | - |
| Pension cost | 2,034 | - |
| | 57,750 | 55,481 |
| | 57,750 | 55,481 |
| <i>Total 2023</i> | <i>55,481</i> | |
| | <i>55,481</i> | |

In 2024 of the total charitable activities, £4,187 (2023 - £4,184) was expenditure from unrestricted funds and £53,563 (2023 - £51,297) was expenditure from restricted funds.

5. GOVERNANCE COSTS

| | Restricted funds | Unrestricted funds | Total funds | Total funds |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2024 | 2024 | 2024 | 2023 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Governance independent examiner's fees | - | 168 | 168 | 169 |
| | - | 168 | 168 | 169 |
| | - | 168 | 168 | 169 |

In 2024 of the total governance costs, £168 (2023 - £169) was expenditure from unrestricted funds and £Nil (2023 - £Nil) was expenditure from restricted funds.

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

This is stated after charging:

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Governance independent examiner's fees | 168 | 169 |
| | 168 | 169 |

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration (2023 - ENIL).

During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2023 - ENIL).

During the year, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2023 - ENIL).

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

7. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|---------------------|---------------|----------|
| | £ | £ |
| Wages and salaries | 36,287 | - |
| Other pension costs | 2,034 | - |
| | 38,321 | - |
| | 38,321 | - |

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

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|-----------------------|------|------|
| | No. | No. |
| Charitable activities | 2 | - |

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

8. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Other taxation and social security | 1,289 | - |
| Funds held | 960 | 960 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 51,954 | 10,546 |
| | 54,203 | 11,506 |
| | 54,203 | 11,506 |
| | | £ |
| Deferred income | | |
| Resources deferred during the year | | 47,517 |
| Deferred income at 31 March 2024 | | 47,517 |
| | | 47,517 |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

9. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2023 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Balance at 31 March 2024 £ |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | |
| General Funds | 63,252 | 3,945 | (4,355) | 62,842 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| National Lottery Community Fund - LOCAL project | - | 65,473 | (53,563) | 11,910 |
| Total of funds | 63,252 | 69,418 | (57,918) | 74,752 |

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2022 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2023 £ |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| General Funds | 36,148 | 999 | (4,352) | 30,457 | 63,252 |
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| Department of Work and Pensions - Kickstart project | 21,280 | 39,263 | (37,543) | (23,000) | - |
| NHS England - 1,000 Voices project | 4,532 | 16,680 | (13,755) | (7,457) | - |
| | 25,812 | 55,943 | (51,298) | (30,457) | - |

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2023 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Balance at 31 March 2024 £ |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| General funds | 63,252 | 3,945 | (4,355) | 62,842 |
| Restricted funds | - | 65,473 | (53,563) | 11,910 |
| | 63,252 | 69,418 | (57,918) | 74,752 |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

9. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | <i>Balance at 1 April 2022</i> | <i>Income</i> | <i>Expenditure</i> | <i>Transfers</i> | <i>Balance at 31 March 2023</i> |
|------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|------------------|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| General funds | 36,148 | 999 | (4,352) | 30,457 | 63,252 |
| Restricted funds | 25,812 | 55,943 | (51,298) | (30,457) | - |
| | <u>61,960</u> | <u>56,942</u> | <u>(55,650)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>63,252</u> |

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | <i>Restricted funds 2024</i> | <i>Unrestricted funds 2024</i> | <i>Total funds 2024</i> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Current assets | 62,401 | 66,554 | 128,955 |
| Creditors due within one year | (50,491) | (3,712) | (54,203) |
| | <u>11,910</u> | <u>62,842</u> | <u>74,752</u> |

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | <i>Restricted funds 2023</i> | <i>Unrestricted funds 2023</i> | <i>Total funds 2023</i> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Current assets | 9,252 | 65,506 | 74,758 |
| Creditors due within one year | (9,252) | (2,254) | (11,506) |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>63,252</u> | <u>63,252</u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

11. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities) | 11,500 | 1,292 |
| Adjustment for: | | |
| Increase/(decrease) in creditors | 42,697 | (4,910) |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities | <u>54,197</u> | <u>(3,618)</u> |

12. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

| | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Cash in hand | 128,955 | 74,758 |
| Total | <u>128,955</u> | <u>74,758</u> |

13. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The Charity contributes to personal pension plans. Any outstanding amounts at 31 March 2024 are shown in creditors.

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS received contributions of £2,520 towards the costs of HR and financial services to LACVS including for LOCAL Project.

Community CVS also received contributions of £2,520 towards the costs of HR and financial services to LACVS including for LOCAL Project.

15. CONTROLLING PARTY

The Charity is controlled by the Trustees.

Accounts

Registered number: 6402216
Charity number: 1126484

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023



LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Trustees

Jeremy Garth Hodgkinson, (Chair)
Gregory Mitten (resigned 25.07.23)
Joyce Christine Blythe, (Treasurer)
Elaine Louise Barker
Tracy Ann Hopkins
Yakub Patel
Lynn Saggerson
Nasima Bahadur Zaman
Vic Citarella (appointed 04.10.23)

Company registered number

6402216

Charity registered number

1126484

Registered office

Boulevard Centre
45 Railway Road
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB1 1EZ

Company secretary

Jeremy Garth Hodgkinson

Accountants

CW Accountants Limited
30 Brotherston Drive
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB 4EJ

Bankers

Virgin Money
25 Manchester Road
Burnley
BB11 1HX

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective 1 January 2015).

Since the Charity qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

Objectives and Activities

a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

LACVS was formed in 2007 as a charitable company by the sub-region's district-based Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS). It was established to foster closer collaboration including sharing resources, supporting local delivery and acting as a vehicle for a coordinated sub-regional voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector voice.

The Objects of the charity are:

"To promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community in the Lancashire Sub Region, which includes the local government areas of Blackburn with Darwen Unitary Authority, Blackpool Unitary Authority and Lancashire County Council (hereinafter called the "Area of Benefit") and in particular, the advancement of education, the protection of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness and in furtherance of the said purposes, but not further or otherwise, to promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the same among the members of the Association in the Area of Benefit."

LACVS's vision is of a vibrant, diverse and sustainable Lancashire sub-region with a strong, independent and effective VCFSE sector that improves people's quality of life and contributes to thriving communities. Its mission is to support voluntary action that empowers communities and changes lives.

LACVS, its members and associates have strong values and are committed to:

- helping to harness the skills, talent and energy that are at the heart of strong and healthy communities
- enabling citizens to be active in their communities both individually and collectively - particularly those whose full participation in society is limited by economic disadvantage, institutional discrimination and exclusion
- enabling the voices of local people to be heard through effective representation that links the VCFSE sector to decision makers across localities, districts and the sub-region
- a VCFSE sector that is vibrant, diverse and independent
- collaboration that improves support for the VCFSE sector with services that are responsive to local need and of a consistent and quality standard
- campaigning on issues that affect the VCFSE sector and local communities' quality of life and contributes towards equality and social justice
- the accountability of LACVS, its members and associates.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES - continued

The work of LACVS, its members and associates, is rooted in local communities and reaches out to 1,000s of VCFSE organisations. It is delivered by staff and volunteers from centres across the sub-region.

LACVS's members range in size, resources and geographical coverage from single district to county wide. They provide different elements and combinations of infrastructure services, including:

- support for Trustees, staff, and volunteers
- helping new groups to set up and existing ones to become stronger through information, guidance and training e.g. governance, business planning, quality and funding development
- specialisms that include equality, diversity and support for BAME communities
- developing collaborative projects at neighbourhood level which help economically inactive, unemployed, isolated or vulnerable residents
- brokering and supporting volunteering, so that individuals can volunteer in their communities and organisations can be effective in how they involve volunteers in their work
- running local forums and networks of VCFSE groups, facilitating representation, enabling information sharing and co-operation
- collaboration with public and private sectors, including strategic work at local and subregional level, ensuring that local communities' voice and concerns are heard
- campaigning and influencing policy and decisions on issues that matter to local people and their communities
- helping local people to connect to VCFSE services in their community, with information and signposting to access support or volunteering
- social prescribing project work that supports health and wellbeing community
- managing grant programmes that provide vital funding to local VCFSE groups
- offering bespoke services including accountancy, payroll and DBS checks.

LACVS's members also run a range of projects and services that fill gaps and offer local solutions to need.

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

LACVS members were active over the year working in neighbourhood, district, sub-regional and thematic networks and partnerships. This included VCFSE networks and place-based partnerships working with health, local authorities and other agencies.

Members contributed to the work of Lancashire and South Cumbria VCFSE Alliance, including an LACVS Director (and Trustee of Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde CVS) acting as co-chair. The Alliance primarily comprises representatives from VCFSE partnerships and seeks to strengthen the role of the sector and collaborative working within the health and social care system.

The NHS was continuing to undergo major change in 2022-23 with the overhauling of its structures and the introduction of the Integrated Care Board and reshaped place-based partnerships. This change brought ongoing uncertainty for LACVS members and the wider VCFSE sector, from the potential loss of well-developed relationships with health representatives to changes in funding arrangements.

LACVS, with member and Lancashire BME Network CEO as lead, helped facilitate a Workshop - Developing the Vision and Strategic Objectives for the Integrated Health Care Board and Health and Care Partnership Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Strategy in May 2022.

LACVS submitted a proposal to the National Lottery to drive forward the Lancashire Local manifesto. This was the result of a number of forums and workshops working with partners across Lancashire and Voluntary Sector Northwest (VSNW). LACVS was advised towards the end of the financial year that the fundraising application was successful and they will deliver the Project over the next 5 years.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES - continued

Its nine priorities were informed by four key areas for change identified through extensive consultation with the VCFSE sector across the Northwest:

- an equal and fair Lancashire
- community wellbeing
- a thriving local economy
- adequate resourcing for the VCFSE sector to achieve its goals.

LACVS also welcomed National Association for Community and Voluntary Action (NAVCA)'s work promoting the importance of VCFSE infrastructure services in 2022. LACVS members were actively involved in discussions around this development work

and its identification of four core pillars of services:

- leadership and advocacy
- partnerships and collaborations
- capacity building
- volunteering.

LACVS was also a partner with members in the production of "1000 Voices Lancashire and Cumbria". VSNW's report presented findings and recommendations from one-to-one interviews conducted by partners with people from communities most impacted by the pandemic in Lancashire and Cumbria. This included people from:

- BAME communities
- aged under 25 (originally NEET but changed to reflect the impact of Kickstart programme during the period of the survey)
- living in rural areas
- living in deprived areas
- and who are on the autistic spectrum or otherwise disabled.

Key issues that emerged included difficulties accessing GP and other health services, particularly face-to-face; the impacts of COVID-19 and restriction on mental health; communication and accessibility difficulties for those with English as a second language and disabled communities.

Recommendations included the need for further research into the impact of access issues, for expansion of social prescribing services and for closer working with and investment into the VCFSE sector as a key partner in reducing inequalities.

These involvements reflect LACVS's ongoing commitment to supporting the role of the VCFSE sector in its diversity and seeking to connect it to sub-regional and regional agendas.

LACVS's members primary work over the year was in their respective neighbourhoods, districts and across Lancashire. This work ranged from practical support of 1,000s of local VCFSE sector organisations to running local networks and partnership working with other sectors (as referred to above).

The VCFSE sector was in part re-setting itself after the unprecedented challenges of the pandemic. Many organisations played essential roles in supporting people during the crisis and were now adjusting to a post COVID environment and the impact of the rising cost of living. Challenges such as funding and reduced volunteer numbers from the effects of the pandemic were amongst the issues faced by organisations.

LACVS members continued to offer support to volunteer involving organisations over the year and worked on developments such as widening access to volunteering quality standards. They also offered support in areas such as acting as a channel for the distribution of £1,000,000s of funding from charitable trust and public bodies.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES - continued

They also continued to play a major role over the year supporting health and wellbeing through delivery of social prescribing work in the sub-region. This included some members' providing local support through link workers, grants that support the work of the local sector (as part of the funding channels referred to above) and BPR CVS's CEO leading on work with the National Academy for Social Prescribing's Thriving Communities Programme network.

LACVS members also contributed to final phase of the Community CVS led Kickstart programme, a national initiative providing young people with a gateway into employment. This funding enabled employers to create job placements for 16-to-24-year olds on Universal Credit and included members both hosting placements and facilitating the involvement of VCFSE bodies in their local areas

One of the messages from LACVS both collectively and through its individual members from its work in 2022-23 is that infrastructure work in support of a VCFSE sector doing vital work remains crucial for voluntary action. This in turn is essential for thriving communities.

c. MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

Trustees have complied with their responsibility to have due regard to the Commission's guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers and duties. Trustees are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities and in planning their activities for the year have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance at Trustee meetings.

LACVS brings benefit to the public in line with its Objects through:

- collaborative working to support community and voluntary action that empowers local communities that meets need and improves quality of life;
- services that enable new frontline groups to form to meet unmet local need and existing ones to improve;
- direct support to volunteers and assistance to volunteer involving organisations that bring a range of positive impacts on individuals and their communities;
- supporting and providing frontline projects and services that help economically inactive, unemployed, isolated or vulnerable people.

d. VOLUNTEERS

LACVS is grateful for the contribution of volunteers to its members' work in areas such as supporting the running of local offices, administration and delivery of project services.

Financial review

a. GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

b. FINANCIAL REVIEW

LACVS's total incoming resources and expenditure for the year was £56,942 and £55,650 respectively. Income was primarily related to Kickstart project work (£39,263).

After transfers between funds the unrestricted surplus for the year was £27,104 which when added to reserves brought forward resulted in unrestricted reserves carried forward of £63,252. LACVS has a reserves policy to hold funds equivalent to at least 6 months' core running costs, approximately £2,500. Trustees are satisfied this is a prudent position. Trustees will be seeking to develop additional income streams over the year.

c. PRINCIPAL FUNDING

Principal funding was from DWP for the Kickstart programme.

Structure, governance and management

a. CONSTITUTION

Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 18 October 2007. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

Membership of the charity is open to authorised representatives from Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) and other VCFSE organisations whose primary role is delivery of infrastructure services in Lancashire sub-region as approved by the Trustees. The current membership is: Hyndburn and Ribble Valley CVS, Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS, Community CVS, Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde CVS, Lancashire BME Network, Lancaster District CVS, West Lancashire CVS and Volunteer Centre Blackpool Wyre and Fylde. The members each agree to contribute £1 in the event of the charity winding up.

b. METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

As set out in the Articles of Association the Chair and Treasurer of the Charity are appointed by the Trustees. The AGM's formal business includes the retirement of Trustees and the filling of vacancies. The current Trustees are Chief Officers and a Trustee of their nominating bodies and bring extensive experience of voluntary sector management, governance, business planning and have a good understanding of the contents of the Memorandum and Articles of Association and their legal obligations under charity and company law.

c. POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

Induction and training are available for new Trustees. All Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

d. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The Board meets at least 6 times per year. Trustees have the power to delegate functions to committees appointed by them provided at least one member is a Trustee or an authorised representative and there are robust reporting procedures back to the Board. The Board includes input from an associate member whose representative attends meetings in a non-voting capacity.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

e. RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS

There were no related party transactions in the year ended 31 March 2023.

f. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises: review of the risks that the charity may face; the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks; and the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

The charity is continuing work on improving its policies and procedures and systems as its collaborative work programmes grows, including monitoring and project reporting. Trustees engage Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS in support of administration and financial controls and a consultant who assists the Board in its co-ordination and development. A key element in the management of financial risk is the setting of a reserves policy which is kept under review by trustees (see Financial Review above).

Plans for future periods

a. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

LACVS will build on its key role in the development of the VCFSE Sector Manifesto for Lancashire, through LOCAL, a new National Lottery funded project. LOCAL will focus on the implementation of the Manifesto's nine priority areas in the sub-region. They include equality and social justice for all; tackling poverty; the VCFSE sector as an equal partner; pioneering a Lancashire social prescribing model; and adequate resources for the VCFSE sector.

This will be a major project for LACVS in its support of the VCFSE sector's vital role. It will enable LACVS to:

- refresh its collaborative work programme
- complement the work of members
- develop work with other partners
- promote the role and voice of the wider VCFSE sector including those "vital" under the radar" groups – often overlooked if not undervalued
- and crucially, help initiate change in areas that will benefit communities including those excluded and bearing the effects of exclusion and inequalities.

This is at a time of continuing uncertainty with changes to the NHS Integrated Care System and possible changes to local authorities through the creation of a combined authority for Lancashire. Concerns remain that existing relationships and investment in the VCFSE sector may be disrupted or reduced. This may result in well-established and successful work being lost to the detriment of local communities' health and wellbeing.

This has implications both for the work and funding of LACVS members and more broadly the VCFSE sector and its role supporting community solutions that improve health and wellbeing. The importance of the sector's contribution to health defined broadly has been evidenced in the sector's engagement in initiatives such as Population Health Management Investment Fund.

LACVS Directors, including a Trustee from West Lancs CVS and CEO of Lancaster District CVS will, in the context of this changing landscape, continue to engage in the work of Lancashire and South Cumbria VCFSE Alliance, with its focus on strategic working with health and social care system.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

a. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS - continued

Collaborative working is a central part of the role of LACVS and its members. In 2023-24 this will include:

- LACVS Director and CEO of VC Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde playing a key role in the development of a new Community Action Network in Blackpool with Blackpool Citizen Advice and Social Enterprise Solutions
- CEO of Hyndburn and Ribble CVS being a partner in the Hyndburn Way initiative.

Other involvements by LACVS Directors will include:

- CEOs of Lancaster District CVS and Community CVS joining the Board of Voluntary Sector Northwest and helping to strengthen connections to sub-regional agendas.
- LACVS Treasurer and CEO of Burnley Pendle and Rossendale CVS, becoming a member of the NAVCA Board.
- The CEO of Lancashire BME Network will be acting as the Northwest region lead for The Phoenix Way, a national collaborative movement which will be supporting the work of BAME VCFSE organisations.

LACVS members will continue to offer infrastructure support to a VCFSE sector dealing with challenges such as the cost-of-living crisis. This ranges from practical support to the passing on funds from charitable trusts and public bodies. Members will also work on developing volunteering infrastructure and standards including in Preston, where there has been no such provision recent years.

LACVS will be welcoming Preston Community Network as an associate member in 2023-24 and looks forward to working with it.

MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The Members of the Charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting that Courtney Wright of CW Accountants be appointed as Independent Examiner for 2023-24.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees (who are also directors of Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service 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 year. 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

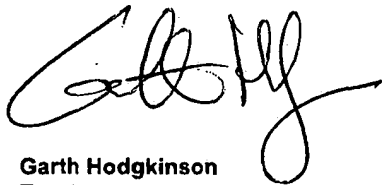
LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

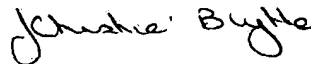
The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements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

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

This report was approved by the Trustees, on 11 December 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Garth Hodgkinson
Trustee



Christine Blythe
Trustee

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE (the 'Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

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

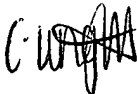
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

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

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

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

Signed



Dated: 12 December 2023

Courtney Wright BA ACCA

CW ACCOUNTANTS LIMITED

30 Brotherston Drive
Blackburn
BB2 4FJ

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

| | Note | Restricted funds 2023 £ | Unrestricted funds 2023 £ | Total funds 2023 £ | Total funds 2022 £ |
|--|------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| INCOME FROM: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 55,943 | - | 55,943 | 224,284 |
| Investments | 3 | - | 999 | 999 | - |
| TOTAL INCOME | | 55,943 | 999 | 56,942 | 224,284 |
| EXPENDITURE ON: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 5 | 51,298 | 4,352 | 55,650 | 195,219 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | | 51,298 | 4,352 | 55,650 | 195,219 |
| NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS | | | | | |
| Transfers between Funds | 8 | 4,645 (30,457) | (3,353) 30,457 | 1,292 - | 29,065 - |
| NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES | | | | | |
| | | (25,812) | 27,104 | 1,292 | 29,065 |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | | (25,812) | 27,104 | 1,292 | 29,065 |
| RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS: | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 25,812 | 36,148 | 61,960 | 32,895 |
| TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD | | - | 63,252 | 63,252 | 61,960 |

The notes on pages 14 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 6402216

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

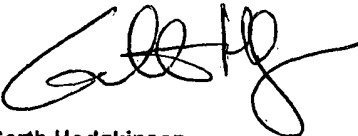
| | Note | £ | 2023 £ | £ | 2022 £ |
|---|------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 74,758 | | 78,376 | |
| CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year | 7 | <u>(11,506)</u> | | <u>(16,416)</u> | |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | | <u>63,252</u> | | <u>61,960</u> |
| NET ASSETS | | | <u>63,252</u> | | <u>61,960</u> |
| CHARITY FUNDS | | | | | |
| Restricted funds | 8 | | - | | 25,812 |
| Unrestricted funds | 8 | | <u>63,252</u> | | <u>36,148</u> |
| TOTAL FUNDS | | | <u>63,252</u> | | <u>61,960</u> |

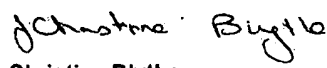
The Charity's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The Trustees consider that the Charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the Charity to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 11 December 2023 and signed on their behalf, by:


Garth Hodgkinson
Trustee


Christine Blythe
Trustee

The notes on pages 14 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

| | Note | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|--|------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | |
| Net cash used in operating activities | 10 | <u>(3,618)</u> | <u>(15,283)</u> |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year | | (3,618) | (15,283) |
| Cash and cash equivalents brought forward | | <u>78,376</u> | <u>93,659</u> |
| Cash and cash equivalents carried forward | 11 | <u><u>74,758</u></u> | <u><u>78,376</u></u> |

The notes on pages 14 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service 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.

1.2 Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required.

No restatements were required.

1.3 Company status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page . In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

1.4 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.

1.5 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.

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

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the Charity's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Charity apportioned to charitable activities.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.6 Interest receivable

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

1.7 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.

1.8 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 within interest payable and similar charges.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

1.10 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 Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity 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.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| | Restricted funds 2023 £ | Unrestricted funds 2023 £ | Total funds 2023 £ | Total funds 2022 £ |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Grants receivable | 55,943 | - | 55,943 | 224,284 |
| <i>Total 2022</i> | 153,322 | 70,962 | 224,284 | |

GRANTS RECEIVABLE

| | Restricted Funds 2023 £ | Unrestricted Funds 2023 £ | Total Funds 2023 £ | Total Funds 2022 £ |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ONE Lancashire | - | - | - | 21,628 |
| Lancashire County Council - ESOL provision | - | - | - | 49,334 |
| DWP Kickstart | 39,263 | - | 39,263 | 145,322 |
| NHS England - 1000 Voices project | 16,680 | - | 16,680 | 8,000 |
| Total | 55,943 | - | 55,943 | 224,284 |

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

| | Restricted funds 2023 £ | Unrestricted funds 2023 £ | Total funds 2023 £ | Total funds 2022 £ |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bank interest received | - | 999 | 999 | - |
| | - | 999 | 999 | - |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| | Total 2022 | <i>Total</i> 2022 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Subscriptions and sundry costs | 107 | 41 |
| Insurance | 294 | 294 |
| Consulting fees | 3,783 | 7,412 |
| Project delivery costs | 51,297 | 187,307 |
| | 55,481 | 195,054 |
| <i>Total 2022</i> | <i>195,054</i> | |

In 2023 of the total charitable activities, £4,184 (2022 - £46,783) was expenditure from unrestricted funds and £51,297 (2022 - £148,271) was expenditure from restricted funds.

5. GOVERNANCE COSTS

| | Restricted funds 2023 £ | Unrestricted funds 2023 £ | Total funds 2023 £ | Total funds 2022 £ |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Governance independent examiner's fees | - | 169 | 169 | 165 |
| | - | 169 | 169 | 165 |

In 2023 of the total governance costs, £169 (2022 - £165) was expenditure from unrestricted funds and £Nil (2022 - £Nil) was expenditure from restricted funds.

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

This is stated after charging:

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Governance independent examiner's fees | 169 | 165 |
|--|------------|------------|

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration (2022 - £NIL).
During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2022 - £NIL).
During the year, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2022 - £NIL).

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

7. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Funds held | 960 | 760 |
| Accruals | 10,546 | 15,656 |
| | 11,506 | 16,416 |

8. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2022 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2023 £ |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| General Funds | 36,148 | 999 | (4,352) | 30,457 | 63,252 |
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| Department of Work and Pensions - Kickstart project | 21,280 | 39,263 | (37,543) | (23,000) | - |
| NHS England - 1,000 Voices project | 4,532 | 16,680 | (13,755) | (7,457) | - |
| | 25,812 | 55,943 | (51,298) | (30,457) | - |
| Total of funds | 61,960 | 56,942 | (55,650) | - | 63,252 |

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2021 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2022 £ |
|---------------|---------------------------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| General Funds | 34,443 | 70,962 | (60,269) | (8,988) | 36,148 |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

8. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

Restricted funds

| | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Selnet Ltd - Building Better Opportunities Funding - AOP/IIY/CF | (8,988) | - | - | 8,988 | - |
| Department of Work and Pensions - Kickstart project | 7,440 | 145,322 | (131,482) | - | 21,280 |
| NHS England - 1,000 Voices project | - | 8,000 | (3,468) | - | 4,532 |
| | <u>(1,548)</u> | <u>153,322</u> | <u>(134,950)</u> | <u>8,988</u> | <u>25,812</u> |

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2022 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2023 £ |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| General funds | 36,148 | 999 | (4,352) | 30,457 | 63,252 |
| Restricted funds | 25,812 | 55,943 | (51,298) | (30,457) | - |
| | <u>61,960</u> | <u>56,942</u> | <u>(55,650)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>63,252</u> |

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2021 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2022 £ |
|------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| General funds | 34,443 | 70,962 | (60,269) | (8,988) | 36,148 |
| Restricted funds | (1,548) | 153,322 | (134,950) | 8,988 | 25,812 |
| | <u>32,895</u> | <u>224,284</u> | <u>(195,219)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>61,960</u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Restricted funds 2023 £ | Unrestricted funds 2023 £ | Total funds 2023 £ |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Current assets | 9,252 | 65,506 | 74,758 |
| Creditors due within one year | (9,252) | (2,254) | (11,506) |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>63,252</u> | <u>63,252</u> |

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | <i>Restricted funds 2022 £</i> | <i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i> | <i>Total funds 2022 £</i> |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Current assets | 40,039 | 38,337 | 78,376 |
| Creditors due within one year | (14,227) | (2,189) | (16,416) |
| | <u>25,812</u> | <u>36,148</u> | <u>61,960</u> |

10. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities) | 1,292 | 29,065 |
| Adjustment for: | | |
| Decrease in creditors | (4,910) | (44,348) |
| Net cash used in operating activities | <u>(3,618)</u> | <u>(15,283)</u> |

11. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cash in hand | 74,758 | 78,376 |
| Total | <u>74,758</u> | <u>78,376</u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

12. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No related party transactions occurred during the year to 31 March 2023..

13. CONTROLLING PARTY

The Charity is controlled by the Trustees.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1126484

Accounts

Registered number: 6402216
Charity number: 1126484

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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| Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisers | 1 |
| Trustees' report | 2 - 9 |
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| Statement of financial activities | 11 |
| Balance sheet | 12 |
| Statement of cash flows | 13 |
| Notes to the financial statements | 14 - 21 |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Trustees

Jeremy Garth Hodgkinson, (Chair)
Gregory Mitten
Joyce Christine Blythe, (Treasurer)
Elaine Louise Barker
Tracy Ann Hopkins
Yakub Patel
Lynn Saggerson
Nasima Bahadur Zaman

Company registered number

6402216

Charity registered number

1126484

Registered office

Boulevard Centre
45 Railway Road
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB1 1EZ

Company secretary

Jeremy Garth Hodgkinson

Accountants

CW Accountants Limited
30 Brotherston Drive
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB 4EJ

Bankers

Virgin Money
25 Manchester Road
Burnley
BB11 1HX

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective 1 January 2015).

Since the Charity qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

Objectives and Activities

a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

LACVS was formed in 2007 as a charitable company by the sub-region's district-based Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS). It was established to foster closer collaboration including sharing resources, supporting local delivery and acting as a vehicle for a coordinated sub-regional voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector voice.

The Objects of the charity are:

"To promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community in the Lancashire Sub Region, which includes the local government areas of Blackburn with Darwen Unitary Authority, Blackpool Unitary Authority and Lancashire County Council (hereinafter called the "Area of Benefit") and in particular, the advancement of education, the protection of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness and in furtherance of the said purposes, but not further or otherwise, to promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the same among the members of the Association in the Area of Benefit."

LACVS's vision is of a vibrant, diverse and sustainable Lancashire sub-region with a strong, independent and effective VCFSE sector that improves people's quality of life and contributes to thriving communities.

LACVS, its members and associates have strong values and are committed to:

- supporting voluntary action that empowers local communities and changes lives, helping to harness the skills, talent and energy that are at the heart of strong and healthy communities
- enabling citizens to be active in their communities both individually and collectively - particularly those whose full participation in society is limited by economic disadvantage, institutional discrimination and exclusion
- a VCFSE sector that is vibrant, diverse and independent
- collaboration that improves support for the sector with services that are responsive to local need and of a consistent and quality standard
- enabling the voices of local people to be heard through effective representation that links the VCFSE sector to decision makers across localities, districts and the sub-region
- campaigning on issues that affect the VCFSE sector and local communities' quality of life and contributes towards equality and social justice
- the accountability of LACVS, its members and associates.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES - continued

The work of LACVS, its members and associates, is rooted in local communities and reaches out to 1,000s of VCFSE organisations. It is delivered by staff and volunteers from centres across the sub-region.

LACVS's members range in size, resources and geographical coverage from single district to county wide. They provide different elements and combinations of infrastructure services, including:

- support for Trustees, staff, and volunteers
- helping new groups to set up and existing ones to become stronger through information, guidance and training e.g. governance, business planning, quality and funding development
- specialisms that include equality, diversity and support for BAME communities
- developing collaborative projects at neighbourhood level which help economically inactive, unemployed, isolated or vulnerable residents
- brokering and supporting volunteering, so that individuals can volunteer in their communities and organisations can be effective in how they involve volunteers in their work
- running local forums and networks of VCFSE groups, facilitating representation, enabling information sharing and co-operation
- collaboration with public and private sectors, including strategic work at local and subregional level, ensuring that local communities' voice and concerns are heard
- campaigning and influencing policy and decisions on issues that matter to local people and their communities
- helping local people to connect to VCFSE services in their community, with information and signposting to access support or volunteering
- social prescribing project work that supports health and wellbeing community
- managing grant programmes that provide vital funding to local VCFSE groups
- offering bespoke services including accountancy, payroll and DBS checks.

LACVS's members also run a range of projects and services that fill gaps and offer local solutions to need.

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

LACVS and its members played a crucial role in 2021-22 supporting a VCFSE sector emerging from the restrictions and challenges posed by COVID-19. LACVS began work on drawing together examples and stories of the vital contributions of both infrastructure and frontline VCFSE organisations during the pandemic. This included the sector responding swiftly to crises and reaching into communities, from helping to co-ordinate and recruit volunteers to supporting directly those affected most by the pandemic.

The role infrastructure bodies played was vital, from involvement in local hubs to assisting frontline groups including practical support and acting as channels for a range of funding streams that resourced direct help to people in need. LACVS members passed on more than £1.5 million funding in 2021-22 from charitable trusts and public bodies to the sector and individuals, to meet need and support those facing crises.

This formed part of LACVS members' ongoing support for local voluntary action over the year, from work with local groups that meet frontline need to supporting volunteering. The success of this work is rooted in being able to reach into local communities and connect with those that other agencies struggle to engage with.

Two of LACVS's members continued to be involved as Lancashire Liaison Leads in the national VCS Emergencies Partnership, in the final phase of its pandemic related co-ordination work. LACVS members also played a key role in research commissioned by NHS England and Improvement Northwest Region, seeking individual feedback from members of communities most impacted by the pandemic in Lancashire and Cumbria.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES - continued

Those most impacted were: people from BAME communities; under 25s; people on the autistic spectrum or otherwise disabled; and those living on rural and deprived areas (as measured by the Index of Multiple Deprivation). In total, 400 people were interviewed using a variety of methods with responses collected by various VCFSE sector bodies across Lancashire and South Cumbria.

Key issues that emerged included: difficulties accessing GP and other health services, particularly face-to-face; the impacts of COVID-19 and national restrictions on mental health; and communication and accessibility difficulties for those with English as a second language.

LACVS also continued to contribute to the work of Lancashire and South Cumbria VCFSE Alliance. The Alliance, which developed against the backdrop of continuing change to health structures in the sub-region, was reviewing its role. This was in the context of further change to plans for the new Integrated Care System and geographical footprints for place based partnership arrangements.

LACVS has also been an active partner in Lancashire Local, a network being developed through Voluntary Sector Northwest which has been co-ordinating work on the production of a VCFSE sector manifesto for the sub-region.

These involvements sit alongside members' local partnership working and strategic work. This reflects LACVS's ongoing commitment to connecting the voice of the VCFSE sector in its diversity, including at local level, to policy and decision-making structures in the sub-region.

LACVS members also played a major role over the year in supporting health and wellbeing through its role in the delivery of social prescribing work in the sub-region. This includes local support through link workers, grants that support the work of the local sector plus the development of Lancashire and South Cumbria Collaborative Group, working with the National Academy for Social Prescribing to develop a Thriving Communities Programme across regions. LACVS Director and BPR CVS CEO, Christine Blythe, is the northwest regional co-ordinator lead for this network.

LACVS, led by Community CVS, also began work as part of Kickstart, a national initiative providing young people with a gateway into employment. This funding to employers to create job placements for 16-to-24-year olds on Universal Credit and included members both hosting placements and facilitating the involvement of VCFSE bodies in their local areas. 31 placements were supported in 2021-22 through LACVS members, the majority of whom went on to employment or training.

LACVS also began work, again with CCVS as lead, in Upskilling the Health and Social Care Workforce across Lancashire Project, offering organisations access fully funded staff training and development. The Project aims to upskill small to medium sized enterprises in the VCFSE or private sectors that contribute towards improved health and well-being in its widest sense (i.e. the social determinants of health). The upskilling is to prepare the organisations for a potential growth within the health economy. All organisations supported undertook an organisational diagnostic to understand their business needs and priorities, from which a training plan was developed and delivered. During the initial year of the Project it:

- engaged with 62 VCFSE organisations or SMEs across Lancashire
- recruited 434 employees from those organisations to the project (26% male and 74% female – helping females to improve their labour market status is a priority)
- 37% were aged 50+; 22% are from BME backgrounds; 9% disabled; 7% single parents with dependent children; and 12% employed without basic skills.
- 52 employees achieved a unit or full qualification at level 2 or below
- 12 employees achieved a unit or full qualification at level 3 or above.

One of the messages from the year is that VCFSE infrastructure work in support of a vibrant sector, often easily missed, remains crucial for voluntary action, which in turn is essential for thriving communities.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

c. MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

Trustees have complied with their responsibility to have due regard to the Commission's guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers and duties. Trustees are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities and in planning their activities for the year have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance at Trustee meetings.

LACVS brings benefit to the public in line with its Objects through:

- collaborative working to support community and voluntary action that empowers local communities that meets need and improves quality of life;
- services that enable new frontline groups to form to meet unmet local need and existing ones to improve;
- direct support to volunteers and assistance to volunteer involving organisations that bring a range of positive impacts on individuals and their communities;
- supporting and providing frontline projects and services that help economically inactive, unemployed, isolated or vulnerable people.

d. VOLUNTEERS

LACVS is grateful for the contribution of volunteers to its members' work in areas such as supporting the running of local offices, administration and delivery of project services.

Financial review

a. GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

b. FINANCIAL REVIEW

LACVS's total incoming resources and expenditure for the year was £224,284 and £195,219 respectively. Income was primarily related to Kickstart project work (£145,322).

After transfers between funds the unrestricted surplus for the year was £1,705 which when added to reserves brought forward resulted in reserves carried forward of £36,148. LACVS has a reserves policy to hold funds equivalent to at least 6 months' core running costs, approximately £15,000. Trustees are satisfied this is a prudent position. Trustees will be seeking to develop additional income streams over the year.

c. PRINCIPAL FUNDING

Principal funding was from DWP for the Kickstart programme.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Structure, governance and management

a. CONSTITUTION

Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 18 October 2007. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

Membership of the charity is open to authorised representatives from Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) and other VCFSE organisations whose primary role is delivery of infrastructure services in Lancashire sub-region as approved by the Trustees. The current membership is: Hyndburn and Ribble Valley CVS, Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS, Community CVS, Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde CVS, Lancashire BME Network, Lancaster District CVS, West Lancashire CVS and Volunteer Centre Blackpool Wyre and Fylde. The members each agree to contribute £1 in the event of the charity winding up.

b. METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

As set out in the Articles of Association the Chair and Treasurer of the Charity are appointed by the Trustees. The AGM's formal business includes the retirement of Trustees and the filling of vacancies. The current Trustees are Chief Officers and a Trustee of their nominating bodies and bring extensive experience of voluntary sector management, governance, business planning and have a good understanding of the contents of the Memorandum and Articles of Association and their legal obligations under charity and company law.

c. POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

Induction and training are available for new Trustees. All Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

d. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The Board meets at least 6 times per year. Trustees have the power to delegate functions to committees appointed by them provided at least one member is a Trustee or an authorised representative and there are robust reporting procedures back to the Board.

The Board includes input from an Associate Member, Chorley Voluntary Community and Faith Sector Network, whose representative attends meetings in a non-voting capacity (this place is currently vacant).

e. RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS

There were no related party transactions in the year ended 31 March 2022.

f. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises: review of the risks that the charity may face; the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks; and the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

f. RISK MANAGEMENT - continued

The charity is continuing work on improving its policies and procedures and systems as its collaborative work programmes grows, including monitoring and project reporting. It also, during the year, prepared for compliance with the requirements of General Data Protection Regulation covering citizen' rights and data privacy regulation.

Trustees engage Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS in support of administration and financial controls and a consultant who assists the Board in its co-ordination and development.

A key element in the management of financial risk is the setting of a reserves policy which is kept under review by trustees (see Financial Review above).

Plans for future periods

a. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Despite a challenging funding environment, LACVS members are committed to building on their strengths as local infrastructure bodies in 2022-23. These strengths are rooted in strong values and align with National Association for Voluntary and Community Action's Pillars of Thriving Local Infrastructure organised around four areas: leaders and advocates; partnerships and collaboration; community development and practical support: and volunteering.

LACVS welcomed LOCAL's VCFSE Sector Manifesto for Lancashire and its identification of 9 themes/ priorities for action: Equality and Social Justice for All: Tackling Poverty in Lancashire; The VCFSE Sector as an Equal Partner; An Economic Model That Works For Lancashire; Community wellbeing and person and community-centred Public Service Models; Green Communities; Pioneer a Lancashire Social Prescribing Model; A Safer Lancashire; Helping People into Employment; Adequate VCFSE Resources to play our full part in the future of Lancashire.

LACVS is committed to action in 2022-23 that will support these aspirations. This includes seeking funding to establish an "art of connecting communities hub" to support the engagement of LACVS's VCFSE sector membership, networks and communities across Lancashire. This will help enhance partnerships and relationships that improve spaces and places that matter to local communities. LACVS's members aim to use art of hosting tools to connect grassroots organisations and communities to systems including the new health structure, in support of community solutions that improve health and wellbeing.

This development is being prioritised given continuing changes to NHS Integrated Care Board structure including place based partnerships, with the voice of the VCFSE sector vital to supporting the health and wellbeing of local communities. One of the concerns around continuing changes to health systems is that existing relationships and investment in the VCFSE sector will be disrupted or reduced and that well established and successful work may be lost.

LACVS is also committed to supporting the strengthening of volunteering in the sub-region including quality standards, with a number of its members already taking a lead in this area. This is another area that LACVS is seeking funding for collaborative development work in 2022-23.

LACVS and its members will continue their provision of infrastructure support across the sub-region and engagement in partnership structures both locally and sub-regionally. It will also respond to the Lancashire and Cumbria Health Equity Commission's work to improve health inequalities and make a step change in people's health.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

a. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS - continued

LACVS will continue its work on projects such as Kickstart and Upskilling the Health and Social Care Workforce across Lancashire and be open to other opportunities to work collaboratively to support the crucial contribution that the VCFSE sector makes to the quality of life of communities. Communities in Lancashire will face many challenges in 2022-23 including cost of living pressures and the VCFSE sector has never been more vital in its role meeting need.

MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The Members of the Charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting that Gillian Davies of CW Accountants be appointed as Independent Examiner for 2022-23.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees (who are also directors of Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service 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 year. 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

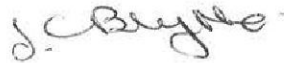
TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT - continued

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

This report was approved by the Trustees, on 13/12/22 and signed on their behalf by:



Garth Hodgkinson
Trustee



Christine Blythe
Trustee

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE (the 'Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

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

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

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

Signed: *G Davies*

Dated: *13/12/2022*

Gillian Davies AAT Qualified

CW ACCOUNTANTS LIMITED

30 Brotherston Drive
Blackburn
BB2 4FJ

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

| | Note | Restricted funds 2022 £ | Unrestricted funds 2022 £ | Total funds 2022 £ | Total funds 2021 £ |
|--|------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| INCOME FROM: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 153,322 | 70,962 | 224,284 | 207,723 |
| TOTAL INCOME | | <u>153,322</u> | <u>70,962</u> | <u>224,284</u> | <u>207,723</u> |
| EXPENDITURE ON: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 134,950 | 60,269 | 195,219 | 214,872 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | | <u>134,950</u> | <u>60,269</u> | <u>195,219</u> | <u>214,872</u> |
| NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS | | | | | |
| Transfers between Funds | 7 | 18,372 | 10,693 | 29,065 | (7,149) |
| | | 8,988 | (8,988) | - | - |
| NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES | | | | | |
| | | 27,360 | 1,705 | 29,065 | (7,149) |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | | 27,360 | 1,705 | 29,065 | (7,149) |
| RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS: | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | (1,548) | 34,443 | 32,895 | 40,044 |
| TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD | | <u>25,812</u> | <u>36,148</u> | <u>61,960</u> | <u>32,895</u> |

The notes on pages 14 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 6402216

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

| | Note | £ | 2022 £ | £ | 2021 £ |
|---|------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 78,376 | | 93,659 | |
| CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year | 6 | <u>(16,416)</u> | | <u>(60,764)</u> | |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | | 61,960 | | 32,895 |
| NET ASSETS | | | <u>61,960</u> | | <u>32,895</u> |
| CHARITY FUNDS | | | | | |
| Restricted funds | 7 | | 25,812 | | (1,548) |
| Unrestricted funds | 7 | | <u>36,148</u> | | <u>34,443</u> |
| TOTAL FUNDS | | | <u>61,960</u> | | <u>32,895</u> |

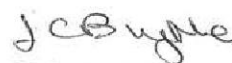
The Charity's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The Trustees consider that the Charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the Charity to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 13/12/2022 and signed on their behalf, by:


Garth Hodgkinson
Trustee


Christine Blythe
Trustee

The notes on pages 14 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

| | Note | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|--|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | |
| Net cash used in operating activities | 9 | <u>(15,283)</u> | <u>(5,784)</u> |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year | | (15,283) | (5,784) |
| Cash and cash equivalents brought forward | | <u>93,659</u> | <u>99,443</u> |
| Cash and cash equivalents carried forward | 10 | <u><u>78,376</u></u> | <u><u>93,659</u></u> |

The notes on pages 14 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service 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.

1.2 Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required.

No restatements were required.

1.3 Company status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page . In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

1.4 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.

1.5 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.

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

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the Charity's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Charity apportioned to charitable activities.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.6 Interest receivable

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

1.7 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.

1.8 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 within interest payable and similar charges.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

1.10 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 Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity 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.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| | Restricted funds 2022 £ | Unrestricted funds 2022 £ | Total funds 2022 £ | Total funds 2021 £ |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Grants receivable | 153,322 | 70,962 | 224,284 | 207,723 |
| <i>Total 2021</i> | 7,756 | 199,967 | 207,723 | |

GRANTS RECEIVABLE

| | Restricted Funds 2022 £ | Unrestricted Funds 2022 £ | Total Funds 2022 £ | Total Funds 2021 £ |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ONE Lancashire | - | 21,628 | 21,628 | - |
| BwD BC - ESIF overprovision in previous year | - | - | - | (806) |
| Lancashire County Council - ESOL provision | - | 49,334 | 49,334 | 199,967 |
| DWP Kickstart | 145,322 | - | 145,322 | 7,440 |
| BwD BC Short Break Booklets | - | - | - | 1,122 |
| NHS England - 1000 Voices project | 8,000 | - | 8,000 | - |
| Total | 153,322 | 70,962 | 224,284 | 207,723 |

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| | Total 2022 £ | Total 2021 £ |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Subscriptions and sundry costs | 41 | - |
| Insurance | 294 | 294 |
| Travel expenses | - | 81 |
| Consulting fees | 7,412 | 5,000 |
| Project delivery costs | 187,307 | 209,257 |
| | 195,054 | 214,632 |
| <i>Total 2021</i> | 214,632 | |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES (continued)

In 2022 of the total charitable activities, £46,783 (2021 - £212,411) was expenditure from unrestricted funds and £148,271 (2021 - £2,221) was expenditure from restricted funds.

4. GOVERNANCE COSTS

| | Restricted funds 2022 £ | Unrestricted funds 2022 £ | Total funds 2022 £ | Total funds 2021 £ |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Governance accountancy fees (including previous years) | - | 165 | 165 | 240 |
| | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |

In 2022 of the total governance costs, £165 (2021 - £240) was expenditure from unrestricted funds and £Nil (2021 - £Nil) was expenditure from restricted funds.

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

This is stated after charging:

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Governance accountancy fees | | 165 | 240 |
| | | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration (2021 - £NIL).

During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2021 - £NIL).

During the year, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2021 - £NIL).

6. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

| | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Funds held | 760 | 760 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 15,656 | 60,004 |
| | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| | 16,416 | 60,764 |
| | | <u> </u> |
| | | <u> </u> |
| | | £ |
| Deferred income | | |
| Deferred income at 1 April 2021 | | 49,334 |
| Resources deferred during the year | | - |
| Amounts released from previous years | | (49,334) |
| | | <u> </u> |
| Deferred income at 31 March 2022 | | - |
| | | <u> </u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

7. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2021 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2022 £ |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| General Funds | 34,443 | 70,962 | (60,269) | (8,988) | 36,148 |
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| Selnet Ltd - Building Better Opportunities Funding - AOP/IIY/CF | (8,988) | - | - | 8,988 | - |
| Department of Work and Pensions - Kickstart project | 7,440 | 145,322 | (131,482) | - | 21,280 |
| NHS England - 1,000 Voices project | - | 8,000 | (3,468) | - | 4,532 |
| | <u>(1,548)</u> | <u>153,322</u> | <u>(134,950)</u> | <u>8,988</u> | <u>25,812</u> |
| Total of funds | <u><u>32,895</u></u> | <u><u>224,284</u></u> | <u><u>(195,219)</u></u> | <u><u>-</u></u> | <u><u>61,960</u></u> |

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2020 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2021 £ |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| General Funds | 26,155 | 199,967 | (212,651) | 20,972 | 34,443 |
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| Selnet Ltd - Building Better Opportunities Funding - AOP/IIY/CF | (7,889) | - | (1,099) | - | (8,988) |
| One Lancashire/BwD BC - CISP/ESF grant - (Funds remaining from completed projects) | 21,778 | (806) | - | (20,972) | - |
| Department of Work and Pensions - Kickstart project | - | 7,440 | - | - | 7,440 |
| Blackburn with Darwen BC - Short Break booklets | - | 1,122 | (1,122) | - | - |
| | <u>13,889</u> | <u>7,756</u> | <u>(2,221)</u> | <u>(20,972)</u> | <u>(1,548)</u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2021 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2022 £ |
|------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| General funds | 34,443 | 70,962 | (60,269) | (8,988) | 36,148 |
| Restricted funds | (1,548) | 153,322 | (134,950) | 8,988 | 25,812 |
| | <u>32,895</u> | <u>224,284</u> | <u>(195,219)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>61,960</u> |

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | <i>Balance at</i> 1 April 2020 £ | <i>Income</i> £ | <i>Expenditure</i> £ | <i>Transfers</i> £ | <i>Balance at</i> 31 March 2021 £ |
|------------------|--|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| General funds | 26,155 | 199,967 | (212,651) | 20,972 | 34,443 |
| Restricted funds | 13,889 | 7,756 | (2,221) | (20,972) | (1,548) |
| | <u>40,044</u> | <u>207,723</u> | <u>(214,872)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>32,895</u> |

8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Restricted funds 2022 £ | Unrestricted funds 2022 £ | Total funds 2022 £ |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Current assets | 40,039 | 38,337 | 78,376 |
| Creditors due within one year | (14,227) | (2,189) | (16,416) |
| | <u>25,812</u> | <u>36,148</u> | <u>61,960</u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS (continued)

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | <i>Restricted funds 2021 £</i> | <i>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</i> | <i>Total funds 2021 £</i> |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Current assets | (1,548) | 95,207 | 93,659 |
| Creditors due within one year | - | (60,764) | (60,764) |
| | <u>(1,548)</u> | <u>34,443</u> | <u>32,895</u> |

9. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Net income/(expenditure) for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities) | 29,065 | (7,149) |
| Adjustment for: | | |
| Decrease in debtors | - | 80,977 |
| Decrease in creditors | (44,348) | (79,612) |
| Net cash used in operating activities | <u>(15,283)</u> | <u>(5,784)</u> |

10. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

| | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Cash in hand | 78,376 | 93,659 |
| Total | <u>78,376</u> | <u>93,659</u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No related party transactions occurred during the year to 31 March 2022.

12. CONTROLLING PARTY

The Charity is controlled by the Trustees.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1126484

Accounts

Registered number: 6402216
Charity number: 1126484

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Trustees

Jeremy Garth Hodgkinson, (Chair)
Gregory Mitten
Joyce Christine Blythe, (Treasurer)
Elaine Louise Barker
Tracy Ann Hopkins
Yakub Patel
Lynn Saggerson
Nasima Bahadur Zaman

Company registered number

6402216

Charity registered number

1126484

Registered office

Boulevard Centre
45 Railway Road
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB1 1EZ

Company secretary

Jeremy Garth Hodgkinson

Accountants

CW Accountants Limited
30 Brotherston Drive
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB 4EJ

Bankers

Yorkshire Bank
25 Manchester Road
Burnley
BB11 1HX

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective 1 January 2015).

Since the Charity qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

Objectives and Activities

a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

LACVS was formed in 2007 as a charitable company by the sub-region's district-based Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS). It was established to foster closer collaboration including sharing resources, supporting local delivery and acting as a vehicle for a coordinated sub-regional voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector voice.

The Objects of the charity are:

"To promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community in the Lancashire Sub Region, which includes the local government areas of Blackburn with Darwen Unitary Authority, Blackpool Unitary Authority and Lancashire County Council (hereinafter called the "Area of Benefit") and in particular, the advancement of education, the protection of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness and in furtherance of the said purposes, but not further or otherwise, to promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the same among the members of the Association in the Area of Benefit."

LACVS's vision is of a vibrant, diverse and sustainable Lancashire sub-region with a strong, independent and effective VCFSE sector that improves people's quality of life and contributes to thriving communities.

LACVS, its members and associates have strong values and are committed to:

- supporting voluntary action that empowers local communities and changes lives, helping to harness the skills, talent and energy that are at the heart of strong and healthy communities
- enabling citizens to be active in their communities both individually and collectively - particularly those whose full participation in society is limited by economic disadvantage, institutional discrimination and exclusion
- a VCFSE sector that is vibrant, diverse and independent
- collaboration that improves support for the sector with services that are responsive to local need and of a consistent and quality standard
- enabling the voices of local people to be heard through effective representation that links the VCFSE sector to decision makers across localities, districts and the sub-region
- campaigning on issues that affect the VCFSE sector and local communities' quality of life and contributes towards equality and social justice
- the accountability of LACVS, its members and associates.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES - continued

The work of LACVS, its members and associates, is rooted in local communities and reaches out to 1,000s of VCFSE organisations. It is delivered by staff and volunteers from centres across the sub-region.

LACVS's members range in size, resources and geographical coverage from single district to county wide. They provide different elements and combinations of infrastructure services, including:

- support for Trustees, staff, and volunteers
- helping new groups to set up and existing ones to become stronger through information, guidance and training e.g. governance, business planning, quality and funding development
- specialisms that include equality, diversity and support for BAME communities
- developing collaborative projects at neighbourhood level which help economically inactive, unemployed, isolated or vulnerable residents
- brokering and supporting volunteering, so that individuals can volunteer in their communities and organisations can be effective in how they involve volunteers in their work
- running local forums and networks of VCFSE groups, facilitating representation, enabling information sharing and co-operation
- collaboration with public and private sectors, including strategic work at local and subregional level, ensuring that local communities' voice and concerns are heard
- campaigning and influencing policy and decisions on issues that matter to local people and their communities
- helping local people to connect to VCFSE services in their community, with information and signposting to access support or volunteering
- social prescribing project work that supports health and wellbeing community
- managing grant programmes that provide vital funding to local VCFSE groups
- offering bespoke services including accountancy, payroll and DBS checks.

LACVS's members also run a range of projects and services that fill gaps and offer local solutions to need.

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

This has been an unprecedented period with the Covid-19 pandemic placing communities under tremendous pressure. LACVS's Board continued to meet virtually throughout the year, helping members to share information and support their organisations' work in response to Covid-19.

LACVS's members played a crucial role working with partners locally and sub-regionally in the public, VCFSE and private sectors in co-ordinating and delivering measures in response to Covid 19. This work has been a testament both to the importance of infrastructure services and affirmation of the VCFSE sector's unique ability to respond swiftly to crises and to reach into communities where other agencies cannot.

Activities included:

- involvement in local Covid response hubs, building on strong existing partnership working
- helping co-ordinate and recruit volunteers in local communities to support those affected most by the pandemic
- assisting frontline groups in their work
- acting as channels for a range of funding streams that have resourced direct interventions
- running projects that met need e.g. befriending
- advocating and offering practical support including for BAME communities whose needs have not been addressed through other services.

In April 2020, the Chair of LACVS was invited to on-line meetings to discuss how the multi-agency national VCS Emergencies Partnership (established in 2017 in response to the Grenfell disaster) could best work alongside local infrastructure organisations across England to support local community responses to the pandemic.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES - continued

The Chair (also CEO of LACVS member Community CVS), alongside another LACVS Trustee (CEO of Lancashire BME Network) volunteered to act as Lancashire Local Liaison Officers with a brief to liaise between local infrastructure bodies in the sub-region and the national support structures and identify any unmet needs at the local level where national support could help to fill. Over the year, they attended weekly or fortnightly meetings of the North Multi-Agency Cell sharing information and co-ordinating efforts across the VCFSE Sector.

LACVS was a key partner in Strengthening Communities Project with Community CVS and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council. The external project evaluation carried out in May 2020-21 by RSM UK Consulting LLP, reported that:

"Collectively, the project's success in improving the lives of people with mental health, offending behaviours or in recovery from substance misuse, who represented over 60% of the participants, has been significant. As highlighted within the report, the project demonstrates the value of investing in positive asset-based approaches which lead to better positive outcomes for the individuals concerned, but also saves the health and social care system and the criminal justice system money."

The project supported 711 participants [164 were aged 50+; 227 were from a BAME background; 368 had a disability or health condition] with 33% achieving positive outcomes. This included 123 moving into education or training and 111 getting a job or moving into job search. The evaluation also found that for every £1 spent the project achieved £1.89 in social value.

In November 2020, the Chair and Treasurer of LACVS, alongside other charities from across Lancashire, participated in an on-line Royal Visit with HRH Duke of Wessex to explain the important work that the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector was doing.

LACVS members, led by Lancashire BME Network, also successfully completed delivery of a programme for resettled Syrian refugee families displaced due to civil war. Activities included ESOL classes and wraparound support. This was the final part of Lancashire Refugee Resettlement Programme working with partners such as Al-Hayat and Lancashire County Council.

LACVS, led by Community CVS, also submitted a proposal to Department of Work and Pensions to deliver as part of Kickstart, a national initiative providing young people with a gateway into employment.

Over the year, LACVS continued to play an active role in sub-regional bodies such as Lancashire and South Cumbria VCFSE Alliance. The Alliance has developed against the backdrop of continuing change to health structures in the sub-region including the new Integrated Care System with partnership bodies across five geographical footprints. LACVS has also been an active partner in Lancashire Local, a network being developed through Voluntary Sector Northwest.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

c. MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

Trustees have complied with their responsibility to have due regard to the Commission's guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers and duties. Trustees are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities and in planning their activities for the year have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance at Trustee meetings.

LACVS brings benefit to the public in line with its Objects through:

- collaborative working to support community and voluntary action that empowers local communities that meets need and improves quality of life;
- services that enable new frontline groups to form to meet unmet local need and existing ones to improve;
- direct support to volunteers and assistance to volunteer involving organisations that bring a range of positive impacts on individuals and their communities;
- supporting and providing frontline projects and services that help economically inactive, unemployed, isolated or vulnerable people.

d. VOLUNTEERS

LACVS is grateful for the contribution of volunteers to its members' work in areas such as supporting the running of local offices, administration and delivery of project services.

Financial review

a. GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

b. FINANCIAL REVIEW

LACVS's total incoming resources and expenditure for the year was £207,723 and £214,872 respectively. Income was primarily related to ESOL project work (£199,967).

After transfers between funds the unrestricted surplus for the year was £8,288 which when added to reserves brought forward resulted in reserves carried forward of £32,895. LACVS has a reserves policy to hold funds equivalent to at least 6 months' core running costs, approximately £7,500. Trustees are satisfied this is a prudent position.

c. PRINCIPAL FUNDING

Principal funding was from Lancashire County Council for ESOL provision.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Structure, governance and management

a. CONSTITUTION

Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 18 October 2007. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

Membership of the charity is open to authorised representatives from Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) and other VCFSE organisations whose primary role is delivery of infrastructure services in Lancashire sub-region as approved by the Trustees. The current membership is: Hyndburn and Ribble Valley CVS, Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS, Community CVS, Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde CVS, Lancashire BME Network, Lancaster District CVS, West Lancashire CVS and Volunteer Centre Blackpool Wyre and Fylde. The members each agree to contribute £1 in the event of the charity winding up.

b. METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

As set out in the Articles of Association the Chair and Treasurer of the Charity are appointed by the Trustees. The AGM's formal business includes the retirement of Trustees and the filling of vacancies. The current Trustees are Chief Officers and a Trustee of their nominating bodies and bring extensive experience of voluntary sector management, governance, business planning and have a good understanding of the contents of the Memorandum and Articles of Association and their legal obligations under charity and company law.

c. POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

Induction and training are available for new Trustees. All Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

d. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The Board meets at least 6 times per year. Trustees have the power to delegate functions to committees appointed by them provided at least one member is a Trustee or an authorised representative and there are robust reporting procedures back to the Board.

The Board includes input from an Associate Member, Chorley Voluntary Community and Faith Sector Network, whose representative attends meetings in a non-voting capacity (this place is currently vacant).

e. RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS

There were no related party transactions in the year ended 31 March 2021.

f. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises: review of the risks that the charity may face; the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks; and the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

f. RISK MANAGEMENT - continued

The charity is continuing work on improving its policies and procedures and systems as its collaborative work programmes grows, including monitoring and project reporting. It also, during the year, prepared for compliance with the requirements of General Data Protection Regulation covering citizen' rights and data privacy regulation.

Trustees engage Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS in support of administration and financial controls and a consultant who assists the Board in its co-ordination and development.

A key element in the management of financial risk is the setting of a reserves policy which is kept under review by trustees (see Financial Review above).

Plans for future periods

a. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

LACVS will be gathering information and evidence in 2021-22 on the role of its members and the wider VCFSE sector in responding to Covid -19 since the pandemic began. This will be collated into a report that highlights the unique contribution that both frontline and infrastructure VCFSE sector organisations have made in responding to the pandemic (and will no doubt make in the year ahead).

LACVS members will also continue their major role in the delivery and development of social prescribing work in the sub-region. This includes local support through link workers that help connect people to activities provided by VCFSE sector groups in their local area. An LACVS Trustee (and CEO of Burnley Pendle and Rossendale CVS) is a regional lead for development of Northwest Collaborative Group for social prescribing.

Members will continue to be actively involved in Lancashire and South Cumbria VCFSE Alliance and Lancashire Local and will be participating in the work of the Health Equity Commission.

LACVS will be delivering new projects including Kickstart Scheme, providing funding to employers to create job placements for 16-to-24-year olds; and Upskilling the Health and Social Care Workforce across Lancashire, offering support, training and "future proofing" for the workforce of small and medium sized organisations across private and social enterprise sectors throughout Lancashire.

The upskilling is to prepare the organisations for the potential growth within the health economy. Through the project it is aimed to train 2,330 employed people with 260 gaining basic skills, 590 employed people gaining units of qualifications at level 2 or below and 285 employed people gaining units of qualifications at level 3 or above. In addition, 405 females in the workplace will be helped to improve their labour market status.

2021-22 will be a period of continuing change in health structures with the new Integrated Care System in the process of being introduced. LACVS's members are actively engaged in collaborative structures including health across districts and the sub-region connecting with their local VCFSE sectors, ensuring that their voices are heard and vital work is recognised. One of the key messages from LACVS as an active partner at this time of change is the need to recognise and build on the crucial contribution that the VCFSE sector makes to health and wellbeing in communities.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The Members of the Charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting that Gillian Davies of CW Accountants be appointed as Independent Examiner for 2021-22.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees (who are also directors of Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service 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 year. 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:


- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

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

This report was approved by the Trustees, on 15 December 2021 and signed on their behalf by:


Garth Hodgkinson
Trustee


Christine Blythe
Trustee

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE (the 'Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

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

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

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

Signed: *G Davies*

Dated: 16 December 2021

Gillian Davies AAT Qualified

CW ACCOUNTANTS LIMITED

30 Brotherston Drive
Blackburn
BB2 4FJ

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

| | Note | Restricted funds 2021 £ | Unrestricted funds 2021 £ | Total funds 2021 £ | Total funds 2020 £ |
|--|------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| INCOME FROM: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 2 | 7,756 | 199,967 | 207,723 | 355,951 |
| Other income | | - | - | - | 1,245 |
| TOTAL INCOME | | <u>7,756</u> | <u>199,967</u> | <u>207,723</u> | <u>357,196</u> |
| EXPENDITURE ON: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 2,221 | 212,651 | 214,872 | 441,498 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | | <u>2,221</u> | <u>212,651</u> | <u>214,872</u> | <u>441,498</u> |
| NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS | | | | | |
| Transfers between Funds | 8 | 5,535 (20,972) | (12,684) 20,972 | (7,149) - | (84,302) - |
| NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES | | | | | |
| | | (15,437) | 8,288 | (7,149) | (84,302) |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | | (15,437) | 8,288 | (7,149) | (84,302) |
| RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS: | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 13,889 | 26,155 | 40,044 | 124,346 |
| TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD | | <u>(1,548)</u> | <u>34,443</u> | <u>32,895</u> | <u>40,044</u> |

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 6402216

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

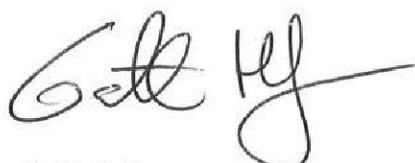
| | Note | £ | 2021 £ | £ | 2020 £ |
|---|------|---------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | |
| Debtors | 6 | - | | 80,977 | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 93,659 | | 99,443 | |
| | | <u>93,659</u> | | <u>180,420</u> | |
| CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year | 7 | (60,764) | | (140,376) | |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | | <u>32,895</u> | | 40,044 |
| NET ASSETS | | | <u><u>32,895</u></u> | | <u><u>40,044</u></u> |
| CHARITY FUNDS | | | | | |
| Restricted funds | 8 | | (1,548) | | 13,889 |
| Unrestricted funds | 8 | | 34,443 | | 26,155 |
| TOTAL FUNDS | | | <u><u>32,895</u></u> | | <u><u>40,044</u></u> |

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

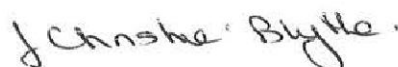
The Trustees consider that the Charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the Charity to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 15 December 2021 and signed on their behalf, by:



Garth Hodgkinson
Trustee



Christine Blythe
Trustee

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

| | Note | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|--|------|---------------|---------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | |
| Net cash used in operating activities | 10 | (5,784) | (14,776) |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year | | (5,784) | (14,776) |
| Cash and cash equivalents brought forward | | 99,443 | 114,219 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Cash and cash equivalents carried forward | 11 | 93,659 | 99,443 |
| | | <hr/> <hr/> | <hr/> <hr/> |

The notes on pages 13 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service 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.

1.2 Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required.

No restatements were required.

1.3 Company status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page . In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

1.4 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.

1.5 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.

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

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the Charity's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Charity apportioned to charitable activities.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.6 Interest receivable

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

1.7 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.

1.8 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.

1.9 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 within interest payable and similar charges.

1.10 Financial instruments

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

1.11 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 Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity 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.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| | Restricted funds 2021 £ | Unrestricted funds 2021 £ | Total funds 2021 £ | <i>Total funds 2020 £</i> |
|-------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Grants receivable | 7,756 | 199,967 | 207,723 | 355,951 |
| <i>Total 2020</i> | <i>33,005</i> | <i>322,946</i> | <i>355,951</i> | |

GRANTS RECEIVABLE

| | Restricted Funds 2020 £ | Unrestricted Funds 2020 £ | Total Funds 2020 £ | <i>Total Funds 2019 £</i> |
|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Selnet Ltd - Building Better Opportunities Funding - AOP/IIY/CF | - | - | - | 25,358 |
| BwD BC - ESIF overprovision in previous year | (806) | - | (806) | - |
| Lancashire County Council - ESOL provision | - | 199,967 | 199,967 | 319,946 |
| Workers Education Assoc - BBO4 | - | - | - | 7,647 |
| Creative Works Preston | - | - | - | 3,000 |
| DWP Kickstart | 7,440 | - | 7,440 | - |
| BwD BC Short Break Booklets | 1,122 | - | 1,122 | - |
| Total | 7,756 | 199,967 | 207,723 | 355,951 |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| | Total 2021 | <i>Total</i> 2020 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Subscriptions and sundry costs | - | 68 |
| Insurance | 294 | 295 |
| Office rent at Preston | - | 415 |
| Travel expenses | 81 | - |
| Consulting fees | 5,000 | - |
| Project delivery costs | 209,257 | 440,480 |
| | 214,632 | 441,258 |
| <i>Total 2020</i> | <i>441,258</i> | |

In 2021 of the total charitable activities, £212,411 (2020 - £303,296) was expenditure from unrestricted funds and £2,221 (2020 - £137,962) was expenditure from restricted funds.

4. GOVERNANCE COSTS

| | Restricted funds | Unrestricted funds | Total funds | <i>Total funds</i> |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | 2021 | 2021 | 2021 | 2020 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Governance accountancy fees (including previous years) | - | 240 | 240 | 240 |

In 2020 of the total governance costs, £240 was expenditure from unrestricted funds and £Nil was expenditure from restricted funds.

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

This is stated after charging:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Governance accountancy fees | 240 | 240 |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration (2020 - £NIL).

During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2020 - £NIL).

During the year, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2020 - £NIL).

6. DEBTORS

| | | |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2021 | 2020 |
| | £ | £ |
| Accrued income | - | 80,977 |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

6. DEBTORS (continued)

7. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Funds held | 760 | 760 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 60,004 | 139,616 |
| | <u>60,764</u> | <u>140,376</u> |
| | | £ |
| Deferred income | | |
| Deferred income at 1 April 2020 | | - |
| Resources deferred during the year | | 49,334 |
| Amounts released from previous years | | - |
| Deferred income at 31 March 2021 | | <u>49,334</u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

8. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2020 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | ESIF costs not correctly allocated from Core in previous years £ | Balance at 31 March 2021 £ |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| General Funds | 26,155 | 199,967 | (212,651) | 20,972 | 34,443 |
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| Selnet Ltd - Building Better Opportunities Funding - AOP/IIY/CF | (7,889) | - | (1,099) | - | (8,988) |
| One Lancashire/BwD BC - CISP/ESF grant - (Funds remaining from completed projects) | 21,778 | (806) | - | (20,972) | - |
| Department of Work and Pensions - Kickstart project | - | 7,440 | - | - | 7,440 |
| Blackburn with Darwen BC - Short Break booklets | - | 1,122 | (1,122) | - | - |
| | <u>13,889</u> | <u>7,756</u> | <u>(2,221)</u> | <u>(20,972)</u> | <u>(1,548)</u> |
| Total of funds | <u>40,044</u> | <u>207,723</u> | <u>(214,872)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>32,895</u> |

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2019 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Balance at 31 March 2020 £ |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| General Funds | 5,500 | 324,191 | (303,536) | 26,155 |
| Restricted funds | | | | |
| Selnet Ltd - Building Better Opportunities Funding - AOP/IIY/CF | (9,691) | 25,358 | (23,556) | (7,889) |
| One Lancashire - CISP/ESF grant | 119,476 | - | (97,698) | 21,778 |
| Workers Education Assoc - Building Better Opportunities - BBO4 | 9,061 | 7,647 | (16,708) | - |
| | <u>118,846</u> | <u>33,005</u> | <u>(137,962)</u> | <u>13,889</u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Balance at 1 April 2020 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | ESIF costs not correctly allocated from Core in previous years £ | Balance at 31 March 2021 £ |
|------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| General funds | 26,155 | 199,967 | (212,651) | 20,972 | 34,443 |
| Restricted funds | 13,889 | 7,756 | (2,221) | (20,972) | (1,548) |
| | <u>40,044</u> | <u>207,723</u> | <u>(214,872)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>32,895</u> |

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | <i>Balance at 1 April 2019 £</i> | <i>Income £</i> | <i>Expenditure £</i> | <i>Balance at 31 March 2020 £</i> |
|------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------------|---|
| General funds | 5,500 | 324,191 | (303,536) | 26,155 |
| Restricted funds | 118,846 | 33,005 | (137,962) | 13,889 |
| | <u>124,346</u> | <u>357,196</u> | <u>(441,498)</u> | <u>40,044</u> |

9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

| | Restricted funds 2021 £ | Unrestricted funds 2021 £ | Total funds 2021 £ |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Current assets | (1,548) | 95,207 | 93,659 |
| Creditors due within one year | - | (60,764) | (60,764) |
| | <u>(1,548)</u> | <u>34,443</u> | <u>32,895</u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS (continued)

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

| | <i>Restricted funds 2020 £</i> | <i>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</i> | <i>Total funds 2020 £</i> |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Current assets | 56,686 | 123,734 | 180,420 |
| Creditors due within one year | (42,797) | (97,579) | (140,376) |
| | <u>13,889</u> | <u>26,155</u> | <u>40,044</u> |

10. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities) | (7,149) | (84,302) |
| Adjustment for: | | |
| Decrease in debtors | 80,977 | 42,371 |
| (Decrease)/increase in creditors | (79,612) | 27,155 |
| Net cash used in operating activities | <u>(5,784)</u> | <u>(14,776)</u> |

11. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Cash in hand | 93,659 | 99,443 |
| Total | <u>93,659</u> | <u>99,443</u> |

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

12. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No related party transactions occurred during the year to 31 March 2021.

13. CONTROLLING PARTY

The Charity is controlled by the Trustees.

