

THE DASH CHARITY

England & Wales · Charity number 1127126

Details

Other names	BERKSHIRE EAST AND SOUTH BUCKS WOMEN'S AID
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	06758907
Registered	2008-12-10
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	551 Fairlie Road Slough Berkshire SL1 4PY
Phone	01753549865
Email	admin@thedashcharity.org.uk
Website	www.thedashcharity.org.uk

Activities

Objects: I THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS AND SUFFERING OF PERSONS, INCLUDING CHILDREN, WHO HAVE SUFFERED , ARE AT RISK OF SUFFERING OR ARE EXPOSED TO DOMESTIC ABUSE;II PROVIDING FOR THE SAFETY OF SURVIVOR OF DOMESTIC ABUSE AND/OR SEXUAL ABUSE, ANDIII TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF VOLUNTARY AND STATUTORY AGENCIES AND THE PUBLIC IN ALL ASPECTS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMIT, ITS CAUSES AND PREVENTION AND THE RELIEF OF ITS CONSEQUENCES.

Activities: To relieve the distress and suffering of persons including children who have suffered,are at risk of suffering or are exposed to domestic abuse.To provide for the safety of survivors of domestic abuse.To advance the education of voluntary and statutory agencies and the public in all aspects of domestic abuse, including without limit,its causes and prevention and the relief of its consequences.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Accommodation/housing
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Buckinghamshire
- Slough
- Windsor And Maidenhead

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£823,628	£826,937	£487,302	20
2024-03-31	£892,404	£856,716	£490,610	23
2023-03-31	£784,855	£835,001	£454,922	22
2022-03-31	£806,674	£785,361	£505,068	22
2021-03-31	£939,172	£769,850	£483,755	23

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England & Wales - Charity number 1127126

Accounts

Company number: 06758907

Charity number: 1127126

The Dash Charity

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Dash Charity

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Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Company number	06758907
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom
Charity number	1127126
Country of registration	England & Wales
Registered office and Operational address	551 Fairlie Road Slough Berkshire SL1 4PY

Directors Directors who are also trustees under charity law, who served during the period and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Ginette Gower	Chair
Katarzyna Williams	Treasurer Left 09/06/2025
Bilquis Mahmood	Secretary
Daniel Crampton	Safeguarding Trustee
Amy Palasz	
Denise Bullock	
Michelle Forster	
Aderonke Oduneye	
Donna Cullimore	Joined 19/06/2024
Frida Norman	Joined 02/05/2025 – resigned 08/08/2025
Narinder Sidhu	Joined 02/05/2025

Key Management Personnel	Nicola Miller	Chief Executive resigned 30/04/2025
	Scarlett McLoughlin	Chief Executive joined 01/05/2025 resigned 31/07/2025
	Frida Norman	Chief Executive joined 11/08/2025
	Kiran Pathak	Head of Finance & Governance
	Claire Batchelor	Head of Advocacy & Outreach
	Tracey Noble	Head of Refuge

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Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Solicitors

Kidd Rapinet Solicitors
392 Edinburgh Avenue
Slough Trading Estate
Slough
Berkshire
SL1 4UF

Independent Examiner

Farrah Kitabi FCA
Sayer Vincent LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
110 Golden Lane,
LONDON,
EC1Y 0TG

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees and Senior Management Team present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Chair & CEO Report & Acknowledgement

Chair Report

I am delighted to present The Dash Charity's Annual Report for 2024–25, reflecting a year of resilience, innovation, and deepening impact across our communities.

Over the past year, The Dash Charity has continued to adapt and grow in response to the rising demand for specialist domestic abuse services. Our updated strategy has guided us to strengthen services for survivors, promote prevention work with children and young people, and deepen our collaboration with local communities and partners.

We have successfully expanded our support for children directly affected by domestic abuse, secured important new funding streams, and led powerful awareness campaigns through initiatives like White Ribbon Day and our Workplace Domestic Abuse Pledge. Our services remain trauma-informed, survivor-led, and firmly rooted in local needs.

This year also saw The Dash Charity strengthening multi-agency partnerships, notably embedding a Domestic Abuse Specialist at Wexham Park Hospital — an important step towards earlier intervention and safeguarding in healthcare settings. Meanwhile, our Communi-tea Appeal and Big Give campaigns demonstrated the unwavering generosity of our community in standing with survivors.

The charity's financial position remains strong, a testament to our dedicated team. Our staff and volunteers have continued to deliver extraordinary support in a landscape of ongoing social and economic uncertainty.

During 2025 there were changes in senior leadership and a number of internal matters raised, which have since been subject to independent review and external examination. Our Board has acted promptly to commission these reviews and implement any recommendations arising. These actions, together with strengthened governance arrangements and improved internal controls, provide assurance that the charity is operating on a sound and sustainable basis.

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Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

In this period of transition, the charity saw two changes in Chief Executive during 2025. Following the departure of the previous postholder and a short period of temporary leadership, the Board appointed Frida Norman as Chief Executive to provide stable and experienced leadership going forward. As an experienced trustee and CEO, Frida held a short-term post as a DASH trustee prior to joining as Chief Executive and it was agreed that her skills were ideally placed to take on the current role with DASH. She has been working closely with the trustees to progress the strengthened governance arrangements arising from the independent reviews and to support the continued delivery of high-quality services.

Looking ahead, Dash will continue to champion the voices of survivors, advocate for better recognition of children as victims in their own right, and strive to make every workplace, school, and community a safer space for those experiencing abuse.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our staff, volunteers, partners, donors, and supporters. Your belief in our mission makes it possible for us to drive real, lasting change.

Ginette Gower, Chair of Trustees, The Dash Charity

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

CEO Report

This year has been one of both significant progress and growing challenge for The Dash Charity, as the need for our services continues to rise sharply across East Berkshire, South Buckinghamshire and beyond.

At a time when the cost-of-living crisis is deepening vulnerabilities and driving increasing complexity in cases, our team has worked tirelessly to support survivors of domestic abuse. Between April 2024 and March 2025, we provided vital specialist support to over 800 adult and child survivors, adapted services to meet emerging needs, and strengthened our partnerships with local communities, businesses, and statutory services.

One of our most urgent areas of focus has been the rising number of children directly affected by domestic abuse. With referrals for children's support exceeding 100 again this year and long waiting lists becoming the norm, it is clear that the impact of trauma on young lives is being severely underestimated nationally. Thanks to vital new funding from BBC Children in Need, the King Cullimore Charitable Trust, and Slough CVS, we are strengthening our capacity, including a dedicated Children's IDVA based in refuge accommodation. This investment is essential – but it still only scratches the surface of the true scale of need.

Our commitment to innovation and public engagement has remained strong throughout the year. Highlights included launching our Workplace Domestic Abuse Pledge on International Women's Day, helping businesses create safer spaces for employees experiencing abuse; running our successful Communi-tea Appeal for the second year to fund trauma-informed support sessions in safe public spaces; and expanding our training and awareness-raising work with employers, statutory partners and community organisations.

We have also shown leadership in the wider sector, notably submitting evidence to the 'Tell Nicole' inquiry to Parliament, speaking out about the impact of major sporting tournaments like UEFA Euros 2024 on service demand, and encouraging employers to recognise the signs of domestic abuse amongst their workforce. Our decision to leave Twitter/X in December 2024 reflected our absolute commitment to survivor safety and safeguarding in digital spaces.

This year, we continued to strengthen multi-agency partnerships, notably securing funding for a new Domestic Abuse Worker embedded within Wexham Park Hospital. Working alongside NHS safeguarding teams, this will provide early intervention and lifesaving support for patients affected by abuse.

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

Financially, The Dash Charity remains stable thanks to the ongoing generosity of trusts, foundations, statutory funders, individual donors, and local community support. Our reserves remain healthy, and our ability to diversify income through fundraising campaigns such as the Big Give's Women and Girls Match Fund ensures we can invest in frontline delivery where it is needed most.

None of our successes would have been possible without the extraordinary dedication of our staff, volunteers, trustees, and partners. Their compassion, expertise and resilience in the face of increasing need inspire me daily.

There is much more work to do. Demand for our services continues to outstrip capacity, and too many survivors – particularly children – still face long waits for the support they urgently need and deserve. But with our incredible community behind us, I am confident that The Dash Charity will continue to adapt, to advocate, and to stand alongside survivors at every stage of their journey to safety, recovery, and hope.

Nicola Miller

Chief Executive Officer (31 March 2025)

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Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Strategic Overview

At The Dash Charity, our vision is simple yet powerful: **Domestic abuse stops here.** Our mission remains focused on breaking the cycle of domestic abuse so that people in our local communities can live stronger, safer lives free from fear.

Throughout 2024–25, we continued to deliver trauma-informed services that placed survivors at the heart of everything we do. We strengthened community resilience, promoted healthy relationships among young people, and expanded our collaboration with partners to maximise collective impact.

Our strategy is underpinned by five core values that continue to define our work:

1. ***We go above and beyond***
Our people matter most, whether our teams of staff and volunteers, or local individuals and families who are victims and survivors of domestic abuse, and we strive to go as far as we can to ensure safer outcomes.
2. ***We work together***
We champion finding solutions inclusively and collaboratively with clients, external stakeholders and each other.
3. ***We understand***
We combine professional learning with expertise by experience, to ensure people benefit from relevant support that is informed by knowledge, skills and survivors' voices.
4. ***We strengthen***
Our people, our communities and our sector are empowered through the quality and lasting impact of our work
5. ***We are local***
We stay where we are needed and have built and earned our reputation and relationships that make Dash 'locally known and loved'

These values guided us through another year of increasing need, evolving complexity, and organisational adaptation. Our commitment to being a trusted, responsive, and specialist service provider for survivors of domestic abuse has never been stronger.

'The Dash difference': Who are we and how does Dash make a difference?

1. Going above and beyond for people: We go the distance, giving people access to the time and space they need until they feel safer.
2. Locally well-known and well-loved: We stay community-focused, well-known and well-loved locally by building trust, confidence and understanding.
3. Working in partnership: We embed a collaborative culture in everything we do to meet the diverse needs of clients in our communities.

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

“Without reaching out to Dash and the encouragement and support, it has helped with the tough moments so far and is helping with the realisation to the extent of what has happened. It’s so nice to not feel like you’re being judged and that when you have a call, you know what you’re talking about and will listen. Just a huge thank you for all these opportunities and support.”

About The Dash Charity:

We have been supporting people experiencing Domestic Abuse in the communities of East Berkshire and South Buckinghamshire since 1976 for 49 years. We provide specialist support to adults and children experiencing mental health issues, modern slavery, immigration, trafficking, homelessness and complex needs associated with Domestic Abuse, empowering them to live a life beyond crisis and ensuring their voices are heard.

We help people to access free legal help, obtain injunctions, arrange for them to have screens and video-links if giving evidence at court and we will support them on the day.

We also speak up for them and advocate on their behalf with housing teams, police, social care. We provide safety devices to help them feel safer in their own home and help source donations of anything they need to make their life a little easier or a little brighter whilst they are trying to stay safe.

Our programmes help women, children and men recognise tactics of abuse, so they can feel more empowered and break the cycle of abuse.

Domestic abuse and its effects can be destructive, yet it still remains an issue which is hidden, stigmatised and one which makes for uncomfortable conversation. We know that 1 in 4 women and 1 in 5 children will be affected by domestic abuse in their lifetimes; locally, there were 56,798 reported incidents of domestic abuse to Thames Valley Police in the last 12 months; it’s likely to be the tip of the iceberg, yet numbers continue to rise year-on-year.

Our current services:

Helpdesk

Our Helpline is open Monday to Thursday from 9.30am until 3pm, Friday 9.30am to 12pm. People who need help outside these hours can leave a message if it’s safe to do so or send us a message by emailing referrals@thedashcharity.org.uk. Our team will call them back as soon as they can, the next working day.

Refuge Accommodation

The Dash Charity runs three refuges for women across the UK. Each refuge has different sized individual bedrooms with shared living facilities. We can accommodate up to 14 women with or without children at any one time. Refuges are safehouses which provide sanctuary and support to those who are escaping domestic abuse and have nowhere else to go.

Advocacy & Outreach

Our Advocacy and Outreach Team provides specialist advice and guidance to local people experiencing any kind of abuse at the hands of a partner, ex-partner or family member. Our Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs) and Outreach workers are professionally

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

trained to support families whatever their circumstances and work alongside them to find a practical pathway to safety.

Children and Young People

Our professional children's practitioners provide bespoke support to children staying in our refuges, as well as within the community. One-to-one sessions provide children with a non-judgemental space in which they can express themselves and their genuine emotions. We provide these children with tools to talk, reflect, learn, recover and develop their own strength and resilience.

Schools Prevention Programme

We deliver Schools workshops for children aged 6 years+ to provide education and awareness to children and young people surrounding Healthy Relationships.

In our Schools Domestic Abuse Prevention Programme, we promote safe, violence-free family relationships. Many young people do not understand what a healthy relationship looks like, and we aim to change that. We challenge the many myths surrounding domestic abuse to change attitudes and beliefs to ensure young people know where and how to seek support and advice when needed.

Services we provide:	Changes around us:	Impact we see:
Advice and advocacy	Reduced risk	Safer lives in our local communities
Community based support programmes	Improved wellbeing	Reduction in referrals to high-risk domestic abuse service
Refuge and safer accommodation	Increased safety	People moving away from domestic abuse
Support for children & young people	Happier people	Stronger young people recovering from domestic abuse
Education and prevention	Better responses to domestic abuse disclosures	Increased support and understanding for victims and survivors; Next generation prevention
Training and skills	Empowered communities and employers	Stronger outcomes for victims and survivors
Awareness-raising	Increased awareness, disclosures and referrals	Reduction in stigma and increase in safety

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

Central operations:	Changes around us:	Impact we see:
Fundraising & Engagement	Sustainable and accessible support services	Creating lasting change for survivors
Finance & HR	Strong, supported workforce and services	Reliable, long-term support for survivors
Senior Leadership	Engaged teams, clear decision-making, trust and confidence	Achieving the goals of our strategic plan

Beneficiaries of our services

The beneficiaries of our services are adults and children who have been affected, or are at risk of abuse, at the hands of a partner, ex-partner or family member.

The geographical remit of The Dash Charity community team is the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Slough and some areas of South Buckinghamshire.

Our refuge accommodation is based in Slough and will accept referrals from all over the UK.

Achievements and performance in the delivery of public benefit

Annual overview

“Thank you so much for listening to me and for supporting me when I needed the most support. I have only spoken about this once to a nurse in my previous GP and she wasn’t as good as she was only worried about the time we had taken. But when I got the courage to speak about it again, you were there for me. I truly appreciate everything you have done to me and to my family.”

– Dash client and domestic abuse survivor

The Dash Charity's services are designed not only to respond to immediate crises but to create lasting safety, empowerment, and change. In 2024–25, we continued to deliver impactful services against a backdrop of rising demand, escalating case complexity, and external social and economic pressures.

Despite these challenges, we achieved significant progress:

We empowered over 800 adult and child survivors through our wide-reaching services—delivering life-changing advocacy, compassionate outreach, safe refuge accommodation, healing therapeutic support, and transformative preventative education.

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

We secured critical new funding streams, allowing us to continue our specialist children's services, including our dedicated Children's IDVA role in our refuges.

Our staff and volunteers provided compassionate, professional support to survivors facing multiple layers of disadvantage, including immigration barriers, financial abuse linked to the cost-of-living crisis, and challenges linked to No Recourse to Public Funds.

We enhanced public awareness through targeted campaigns, including a new Workplace Domestic Abuse Pledge and a second successful Communi-tea Appeal, underlining the importance of accessible support for survivors.

We strengthened operational resilience, maintaining a strong financial position with unrestricted reserves equivalent to 5.1 months of operating costs.

At the heart of these achievements are the individual journeys of survivors who, with our support, found safety, rebuilt their lives, and regained their independence. Their voices and experiences continue to drive our mission forward.

The table below shows the number of unique clients we supported across all areas of service and how our reach compares to previous years:

Outputs:	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Total number of new referrals to Community services (prior to risk assessment)	690	860	889
• Total IDVA clients (high risk)	104	93	54
• Total Outreach clients (medium/standard risk)	241	276	242
• Signposting and brief interventions (see note below)	345	491	602
Total number of children referred into children's therapeutic support	103	108	113
Total number of new referrals to refuge services (prior to risk assessment)	183	177	271
Total number of intakes into refuge	33	25	27
Total Number of Freedom attendees	93	95	107

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

Service impact and outcomes

In 2024–25, The Dash Charity's direct services made a measurable difference to the lives of survivors, providing holistic, trauma-informed support across a wide range of programmes.

Refuge Services

Our refuges continued to provide lifesaving spaces for women and children escaping domestic abuse. Over the course of the year, we accommodated **36 women and 29 children**, offering not just physical safety, but emotional support, empowerment, and pathways to independence.

We maintained a strong focus on outcomes:

- **93%** of women reported improved feelings of safety and wellbeing at move-on.
- **90%** left refuge with stronger support networks than when they arrived.
- **96%** felt more confident about seeking help in the future.
- Over **70%** moved on into safe, sustainable accommodation within six months.

These outcomes were achieved despite high demand, complex safeguarding challenges, and the continued pressures of the wider housing crisis.

“There are not enough words to express how grateful and thankful we are for your help and support during our time in refuge. I honestly can't imagine which way our lives would have turned, if it wasn't for all of you.

“Thank you so much for keeping us safe, thank you for making us feel welcome and thank you so much for helping us during the saddest and hardest time of our lives. Our time in refuge has given both of us the opportunity to grow stronger, become more resilient, and gain a new sense of confidence, knowing that our new journey in life will be much better and happier.”

– Dash refuge client and domestic abuse survivor

Advocacy and Outreach Services

Our IDVA and Outreach teams supported **296 adult survivors** across RBWM, Slough, South Buckinghamshire, and surrounding areas.

Through dedicated Diversity and Older Persons IDVA roles, we reached communities often underrepresented in domestic abuse services, including older survivors, migrant women, and those with complex needs.

Our Helpdesk remained a critical first point of access, responding to **889** calls and referrals, offering immediate safety planning, emotional support, and referrals into longer-term services where needed.

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

99% of clients completing safety plans with our IDVAs achieved improved risk outcomes, reflecting the effectiveness of our structured interventions.

“Meeting with you was something to keep me going mentally for the week.”
– Dash client and domestic abuse survivor

Children’s Services

Children remained at the centre of our response this year, recognised not only as witnesses to domestic abuse but as survivors in their own right.

We delivered tailored therapeutic support to children affected by abuse, alongside group prevention work in schools.

Thanks to funding from BBC Children in Need, Slough CVS, and the King Cullimore Trust, we strengthened our capacity for dedicated children’s workers to meet the rising demand.

Waiting lists for children’s services remained a challenge, often extending to four to six months — a clear indication of the wider unmet need for specialist support in our communities.

Feedback from young people, schools, and parents consistently demonstrated that our services improved children’s emotional wellbeing, safety planning skills, and understanding of healthy relationships.

Freedom Programme

Throughout 2024–25, we continued to deliver the Freedom Programme to support survivors in understanding the dynamics of domestic abuse and rebuilding self-esteem.

We delivered **Eight 10-week programmes**, offering both in-person and virtual delivery to ensure accessibility. **107 survivors** participated in sessions across the year.

Participants reported:

- Increased understanding of coercive and controlling behaviours.
- Improved emotional resilience and reduced self-blame.
- Greater confidence to make positive choices about their future relationships.

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Freedom Programme remains a cornerstone of our recovery support offer, empowering survivors to move forward with strength and independence.

“Gaby, I’m so so grateful for the experience of listening and participating in the weeks I have. It has been an eye opener for me, and overall, more understanding of what I’ve been through personally too. It certainly provided clarity of my own thoughts about, and a massive learning curve too. To understand more what I went through and that I’m not the only person, who had similar experiences, has made a huge difference to me.”

-Freedom participant

Healthy relationships workshops

Our prevention work with children and young people expanded further during 2024–25.

We delivered **25 workshops and assemblies** across primary and secondary schools, reaching **1,641 pupils** with messages around healthy relationships, respect, consent, and emotional wellbeing.

The workshops received overwhelmingly positive feedback from teachers and pupils, with schools reporting improved pupil awareness of safe and respectful behaviours both in and outside of school settings.

As part of our commitment to early intervention, these sessions are vital in equipping young people with the skills and confidence to form healthy relationships and recognise abusive behaviours.

Helpdesk, Signposting and Brief interventions

The Dash Charity's Helpdesk remained a crucial access point for survivors needing immediate advice, triage, and onward referral.

Over the year, the Helpdesk responded to 889 calls and online forms, ensuring survivors received timely support, safety planning, emotional reassurance, and pathways to specialist services.

The Helpdesk also enabled professionals from partner agencies to access advice and make swift safeguarding referrals, reinforcing our role as a trusted and responsive frontline service.

Training and Development

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

This year, our external training initiatives continued to serve as a valuable income source, effectively integrating our specialised knowledge and training expertise into our fundraising strategy. We capitalised on opportunities to deliver in-depth, paid training to various organisations aiming to elevate their staff confidence and knowledge in key areas. These included collaborations with global construction firms and large UK charities.

At The Dash Charity, internal training and development remain fundamental. We conduct regular all-staff training days, ensuring continuous professional growth. Each staff member receives monthly one-on-one supervision with their line manager, complemented by monthly clinical supervision for frontline staff with an external, clinically qualified supervisor. Comprehensive training plans are in place for every staff member, adhering to the accreditations and standards upheld by the charity.

Quality Assurance

The charity proudly retains its **Safelives Leading Lights** accreditation: a programme offering specialist services a set of quality standards for supporting victims of domestic abuse. The programme was launched in 2009 and The Dash Charity was amongst the first to hold this quality mark for its services.

The charity is currently registered under **Ofsted's Childcare standards** and is subject to inspection.

In 2014 **National Women's Aid** launched their quality standards, developed in response to the needs of member organisations. The Charity was very proud to be amongst the first members to receive accreditation in 2015, further evidence of the quality services that are provided for supporting victims of domestic abuse. We look forward to re-accreditation in the coming year.

Internally, our service standards are reviewed by the Senior Management team on an annual basis and at regular operational meetings throughout the year.

Networks and Partnership Working

We strengthened strategic partnerships across Local Authorities, Thames Valley Police, health services, schools, and community organisations.

The appointment of a new Domestic Abuse Worker embedded within Wexham Park Hospital from January 2025 marked a major step forward in multi-agency early intervention.

Our network remains extensive and we have built and maintained strong working relationships with key partners including Local Authority Housing and Adult and Children Social Care Teams, Health, including Mental Health (CMHT) and Education, and Thames

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

Valley Police. We use a number of methods to network, communicate, raise awareness and promote best practice in supporting victims of domestic abuse.

We sit on a range of local and regional Boards as well as participating in multi-agency meetings to support individual clients such as Child Protection conferences and MARAC and MATAC meetings. The Dash Charity is represented at the following multi-agency forums:

- Slough Domestic Abuse Forum
- Slough Domestic Abuse Partnership Board
- RBWM Domestic Abuse Forum
- Thames Valley Domestic Abuse Strategic Group
- RBWM DA Executive Group
- RBWM 'One Borough' networking group
- Women's Aid CEO networking group
- SafeLives CEO networking group

Fundraising and Communications

The fundraising team consists of a part-time Fundraising & Communications Manager and additional commissioned service with fundraising freelancers on an ad hoc basis.

Despite a challenging economic environment, The Dash Charity maintained a strong and diversified fundraising portfolio in 2024–25.

We secured income from:

- Statutory funding agreements.
- Trusts and foundations including BBC Children in Need and the King Cullimore Trust.
- Community fundraising events and appeals.
- Corporate donations and partnerships.

Key highlights included the success of our second **Communi-tea Appeal**, encouraging supporters to fund safe, trauma-informed support sessions over a symbolic cup of tea, and strong participation in the **Big Give Women and Girls Match Fund** campaign.

Our communications profile expanded through strategic campaigns:

- We launched our first **Workplace Domestic Abuse Pledge** in March 2025, engaging local employers in becoming safer workplaces for survivors.
- For **White Ribbon Day**, we published an innovative online moderation toolkit: '**From Admin to Activist**', extending our reach into digital communities and promoting safer online spaces.
- Our CEO authored an **opinion editorial published in Metro UK**, advocating for greater employer action in recognising domestic abuse amongst staff.

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

We also made the safeguarding decision during the **16 Days of Activism Against Domestic Abuse** campaign in December 2024 to leave X (formerly known as Twitter), aligning with our values around survivor safety and respectful online engagement.

Fundraising Practices

We do not have any third-party fundraisers and have not breached any fundraising codes. We are signed up to the Fundraising Regulator and are compliant with their Code of Practice, being committed to high fundraising standards.

Risk review

The Senior Management Team and Board of Trustees maintained a robust risk management framework throughout the year.

Key areas of risk included:

- Increased demand for services against a backdrop of static or declining funding sources.
- Recruitment and retention challenges within the specialist domestic abuse workforce.
- The impact of the cost-of-living crisis on survivors' housing and financial security.
- The changing external funding environment for children's services.

Regular risk assessments and scenario planning were conducted to ensure organisational resilience.

Unrestricted Free reserves remained healthy at approximately 5.1 months of operating costs, providing a safeguard against external shocks.

Remuneration

At the end of the financial year 2024/25, the key management personnel team consisted of four staff including, the Chief Executive, Head of Finance, Advocacy and Outreach Manager and Refuge Services Manager. The combined annual salaries, National Insurance & pension of these key personnel is £211,874. Salaries are benchmarked against other similar sized charities, and the salary scales are reviewed every three - five years. Salaries were reviewed in 2020 as part of that process. Individuals' salaries are reviewed annually, although the charity cannot guarantee an annual review. However, we will ensure that all staff salaries are reviewed and increased at least every two years based on a satisfactory annual appraisal result.

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Staffing

At 31 March 2025, The Dash Charity employed **16 full-time** and **3 part-time** staff and was supported by a team of over **10 volunteers** across refuge, community fundraising, and administrative roles.

We continued to invest in staff wellbeing, professional development, and safeguarding, maintaining rigorous safer recruitment practices, including enhanced DBS checks and mandatory safeguarding training.

The dedication, compassion and professionalism of our staff and volunteers remained the driving force behind our ability to deliver life-changing support to survivors.

Preparation, selection, vetting and vigilant maintenance are all central to our safer recruitment policy. All of our staff, students and volunteers are screened before commencing employment or volunteering with us. This means taking up references from former employers, which specifically ask questions about safeguarding, conduct and suitability to work with vulnerable clients. Identity is additionally sought from candidates prior to interview along with relevant training/ education/ qualification certificates. Our recruitment policy and volunteer policy are updated annually to ensure all recent legislation and guidance is included.

Pre-planned interview questions with an interview panel of two staff members are used, as well as various simulation assessments, so we are further able to assess the knowledge, insight and suitability of a candidate.

All volunteers, students and staff in roles with unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults and clients, must complete an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before they can commence their duties. They also have to undertake safeguarding training along with our introduction to domestic abuse training when they commence their employment.

Financial Review

Total incoming resources for the year were £823,628. Of this £337,467 (41%) was generated from charitable trusts and grants, £128,037 (16%) was generated from client rent and housing benefit, £95,000 (12%) the refuge levelling up funds, £145,274 (18%) from local authorities and the remaining £117,850 (14%) from activities in the community and donations.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £826,937, of which £766,913 (93%) was spent on charitable activities; £60,024 (7%) was spent on the sustainability and development team.

We spent £191,659 (25%) on refuge, £436,531 (57%) on the Advocacy & Outreach team, £138,723 (18%) on the Children's Services team.

Reserves

As at 31 March 2025, the charity held total funds of £487,301 (2024: £490,610), comprising restricted funds of £121,213 and unrestricted reserves of £366,088. This includes £12,196 representing the net book value of tangible fixed assets held for charitable use, which are not readily realisable for general purposes.

The unrestricted reserves represent approximately 5.3 months of operating expenditure (based on total annual expenditure of £826,937). The trustees consider this level of reserves to be appropriate to provide financial stability, manage risk, and ensure continuity of services in the event of unforeseen income shortfalls.

The charity's reserves policy is to maintain unrestricted reserves equivalent to between three and six months of operating expenditure. Current reserves therefore sit comfortably within this target range.

Excluding tangible fixed assets, the charity's **Free Reserves at 31 March 2025 are £353,892** (2024: £388,664) and represent 5.1 months of operating expenditure.

Cash and cash equivalents at year end totalled £512,055, providing sufficient liquidity to meet short-term commitments.

We have maintained our Free Reserves level this year at 5.1 months. The Charity's aim is to have 3-6 months reserves level sustained across our future forecasts and to sustain reserve levels to ensure that there could be a smooth exit if this was ever required. Our strong financial management, accurate forecasts and robust risk management will ensure that we work to maintain our reserves level in the coming year.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Financial Review 2024/25

Year	Total Incoming Resources	Charitable Trusts & Grants	% Rate	Client Rent & Housing Benefit	% Rate
2021/22	806,674	216,390	27%	162,787	20%
2022/23	784,855	294,255	38%	152,331	19%
2023/24	892,404	347,993	39%	147,474	17%
2024/25	823,628	337,467	41%	128,037	16%

Year	Local Authorities including the Dept of Levelling Up & Communities	% Rate	Community & Donations	% Rate
2021/22	217,392	27%	211,005	26%
2022/23	193,841	25%	143,759	18%
2023/24	240,274	27%	156,663	17%
2024/25	240,274	29%	130,178	16%

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Year	Total Expenditure	Spent on Charitable Activities	% Rate	Spent on Fundraising Team	% Rate
2021/22	785,360	682,742	87%	102,619	13%
2022/23	835,001	692,877	83%	142,124	17%
2023/24	856,716	745,434	87%	111,282	13%
2024/25	826,937	766,913	93%	60,024	7%

Spent on Refuge Team	% Rate	Spent on Advocacy Team	% Rate	Spent on Children's Team	% Rate
207,383	26%	292,472	38%	182,887	23%
197,293	24%	305,355	36%	190,229	23%
208,382	24%	385,414	45%	151,638	18%
191,659	24%	436,531	57%	138,723	18%

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Going concern

In assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, the Trustees have considered the charity's financial position, budgets and cash flow forecasts covering at least twelve months from the date of these financial statements, alongside the principal risks and uncertainties faced.

The Trustees note that during the year there were changes in senior leadership and a number of internal matters raised, which have since been subject to independent review and external examination. The Board has acted promptly to commission these reviews and implement any recommendations arising. These actions, together with strengthened governance arrangements and improved internal controls, provide assurance that the charity is operating on a sound and sustainable basis.

At 31 March 2025, the charity held Free Reserves of £353,892, equivalent to approximately 5.1 months of core expenditure, in line with the reserves policy. Cash balances stood at £512,054. The charity continues to maintain positive relationships with its principal commissioners and funders. The existing RBWM contract remains in place until March 2026, and the charity has submitted a tender for the continuation of this work, the outcome of which is expected by early 2026. The Trustees are actively managing this and other funding opportunities to ensure continued service delivery.

Having reviewed the current financial position, forecasts and risk mitigations, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue its operations for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

The Trustees will continue to monitor financial performance and the outcomes of the independent reviews closely and will take further actions as necessary to maintain the charity's financial resilience and public benefit.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 November 2008 and registered as a charity on 10 December 2008.

The company was established under a memorandum of association, which established the objects and powers on 1 April 2009. East Berkshire Women's Aid, a registered charity in England and Wales (charity number 272579), transferred all its assets, liabilities and activities to Berkshire East and South Bucks Women's Aid (BESBWA). On 15 April 2014, the charity changed its name to The Dash Charity, standing for Domestic Abuse Stops Here.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The charity is managed by a Board of Trustees who give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed are disclosed in note 5 of the financial statements. Trustees follow guidance provided by the Charity Commission, including that on public benefit, and are responsible for overseeing the strategic direction, financial stewardship, and governance of the charity.

The CEO was responsible for the leadership and day-to-day management of the charity and for achieving the objectives set out in the business plan. The CEO was supported by the Senior Management Team, including the Head of Finance and Heads of Services for Refuge and Community programs. All legal documents, including leases and contracts, were signed by the Board of Trustees, usually the Chair, after consultation with the CEO.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

The Dash Charity recognises that the role of Trustees involves important responsibilities, and requires not only great commitment, but also certain skills and experience. Sound governance is vital to enable The Dash Charity to achieve its aims and objectives, and therefore the recruitment of Trustees should be carried out with as much care as the recruitment of paid staff, in line with Equal Opportunities policy and procedures.

Our Board has a mixed range of skills and experiences, and we currently have nine Trustees. Our Board of Trustees continue to show full commitment to support the senior management team and govern the Charity effectively.

Specific organisations and individuals with the skills, knowledge or experience identified as above will be targeted for recruitment and more generally, we will advertise through social media and within our networks. If individuals approach The Dash Charity and offer to become a Trustee, they will be required to complete an application form so we can identify what skills they can bring to the organisation, if this fits the current need they will meet with the Chair and the Chief Executive to review their skill set and suitability.

Induction and Training for Trustees

All Trustees receive a programme of induction, co-ordinated by the Chair and Chief Executive upon appointment. A Trustees induction pack is kept up to date and forms the basis of this induction.

All Trustees receive our 'introduction to domestic abuse' one day training session and 'effects of domestic abuse on children' one day training session with our Training Lead. All Trustees will also complete safeguarding training; we also have a named safeguarding lead Trustee, Daniel Crampton, who leads on the review of any significant safeguarding concerns raised across the organisation.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Our Trustees are invited to our quarterly all-staff communications meetings and have direct links to key members of staff for whom they can mentor and offer key skills.

As part of the Skills Audit, the training needs of new Direct are identified and a programme of training planned to meet these needs.

Statement of responsibilities of the Trustees

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

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and the group 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.

Members of the Charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the Charity in the event of winding up. The Trustees are members of the Charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Trustees have no beneficial interest in the Charity.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees acknowledge the following responsibilities:

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

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

Approved by the Trustees on 18 November 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Ginette Gower,

Chair of Trustees, The Dash Charity

Independent examiner's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Dash Charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

This report is made solely to the trustees as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the 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 trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Company you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act')/Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

- 1 Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities.

Independent examiner's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

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:

Name: Farrah Kitabi FCA DChA

Address: Sayer Vincent LLP, 110 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TG

Date: 24 November 2025

The Dash Charity

Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

		2025			2024		
	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Income from:							
Donations and gifts	2a	3,000	91,242	94,242	5,000	136,392	141,392
Other Trading Activities	2b	–	18,221	18,221	–	13,484	13,484
Investment income & Misc		–	7,486	7,486	–	6,786	6,786
<i>Charitable activities</i>							
Refuge	3a	63,715	223,037	286,752	52,364	242,474	294,839
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy	3b	181,593	155,874	337,467	223,420	145,274	368,694
Children's services	3c	79,460	–	79,460	67,209	–	67,209
Total income		327,768	495,860	823,628	347,993	544,411	892,404
Expenditure on:							
<i>Raising funds:</i>							
Costs of generating income		2,385	57,639	60,024	10,104	101,178	111,282
<i>Charitable activities</i>							
Refuge		60,799	130,860	191,659	37,018	171,364	208,382
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy		175,275	261,256	436,531	178,382	207,032	385,414
Children's services		63,186	75,537	138,723	82,982	68,656	151,638
Total resources expended	4	301,645	525,292	826,937	308,485	548,231	856,716
Net (expenditure) / income for the year and net movement in funds	5	26,123	(29,432)	(3,309)	39,508	(3,820)	35,688
Transfers between funds		–	–	–	–	–	–
Net movement in funds		26,123	(29,432)	(3,309)	39,508	(3,820)	35,688
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		95,090	395,520	490,611	55,582	399,340	454,922
Total funds carried forward		121,213	366,088	487,302	95,090	395,520	490,611

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 13a to the financial statements.

The Dash Charity

Balance sheet

Company no. 06758907

As at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	12,196	19,609
		<u>12,196</u>	<u>19,609</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	10	21,912	20,799
Cash at bank and in hand		512,055	545,999
		<u>533,967</u>	<u>566,798</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts due within one year	11	54,325	79,211
Net current assets		<u>479,642</u>	<u>487,587</u>
Total assets less Current liabilities		<u>491,838</u>	<u>507,196</u>
Creditors: amounts due after one year	11a	4,536	16,585
Net assets	12	<u>487,302</u>	<u>490,611</u>
The funds of the charity	13		
Restricted funds		121,213	95,090
Unrestricted funds			
General funds		366,088	395,520
Total charity funds		<u>487,302</u>	<u>490,610</u>

For the year ending 31st March 2025, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small charities "regime".

Approved by the Directors on 18 November 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

The Dash Charity

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net (expenditure) / income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(3,309)		35,688	
Depreciation charges	7,413		7,474	
Interest	(7,486)		(6,786)	
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(1,113)		11,563	
(Decrease) in creditors	(48,233)		(36,579)	
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities		(52,728)		11,360
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Interest and rents from investments	7,486		6,786	
Purchase of fixed assets	–		(13,604)	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		7,486		(6,818)
Cashflows from financing activities				
Loan repayments	11,297		11,006	
Net cash used for financing activities		11,297		11,006
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(33,945)		15,548
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		545,999		530,451
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		512,055		545,999

1. Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

The Dash Charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The registered office address is 551 Fairlie Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 4PY

b) Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The trustees have prepared the accounts on the going concern basis and considered if there are any material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The charity receives a variety of types of income, including grants and donations, and not all income expected for the following financial period is confirmed at the date of signing of the financial statements. Therefore the trustees have considered the likely scenarios for unconfirmed income, taking into account the success rates of previous grant funding applications. The trustees have then considered the worst case scenario, given the current available information, and this does not indicate material uncertainties in the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

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

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

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

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) 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.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services, running refuges, providing child services, advocacy work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

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

j) Allocation of support and governance costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

▪ Cost of generating income	7%
▪ Refuge	22%
▪ Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy	54%
▪ Children's Services	17%

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Where such information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is also provided to potential donors, activity costs are apportioned between fundraising and charitable activities on the basis of area of literature occupied by each activity.

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

▪ Office Equipment	4 years
▪ Furniture & fittings	4 years
▪ Motor Vehicles	4 years

m) Debtors

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

n) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

o) Creditors and provisions

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

p) 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.

q) Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contribution. All staff are enrolled as per the HMRC legislation on to the auto enrolment pension scheme.

2. a) Donations and gifts

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2025 Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2024 Total £
Grants for Fundraising & Core Cost	3,000	12,000	15,000	5,000	55,500	60,500
Donations from fundraisers	-	66,364	66,364	-	74,036	74,036
Corporates	-	8,510	8,510	-	6,120	6,120
Facebook	-	1,127	1,127	-	200	200
Gift aid	-	3,241	3,241	-	536	536
Total	3,000	91,242	94,242	5,000	136,392	141,392

2. b) Income from other trading activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2025 Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2024 Total £
Dash Events	-	-	-	-	703	703
3rd Party Events	-	2,655	2,655	-	2,940	2,940
Community	-	14,116	14,116	-	9,840	9,840
Training	-	1,450	1,450	-	-	-
Total charity income	-	18,221	18,221	-	13,484	13,484

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

3. Incoming resources from charitable activities

			2025			2024
a) Refuge	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Rent	-	118,434	118,434	-	136,153	136,153
Service charges	-	9,603	9,603	-	11,322	11,322
Slough Borough Council	-	95,000	95,000	-	95,000	95,000
Various Small Grants for Refuge Services anything under £10k	21,000	-	21,000	17,364	-	17,364
Charles Hayward	25,000	-	25,000	25,000	-	25,000
Berkshire Community Foundation	17,715	-	17,715	10,000	-	10,000
Total	63,715	223,037	286,752	52,364	242,474	294,839

b) Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy

			2025			2024
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Heart of Bucks	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
Berkshire Community Foundation	43,400	-	43,400	15,000	-	15,000
Hodge Foundation	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
King Cullimore	25,000	-	25,000	25,000	-	25,000
Nationwide	-	-	-	32,500	-	32,500
Thames Valley Police PCC (Older persons IDVA)	35,410	-	35,410	35,410	-	35,410
Thames Valley Police PCC (Diversity IDVA)	46,733	-	46,733	52,066	-	52,066
RBWM DA	-	145,274	145,274	-	145,274	145,274
Various Small Grants for A&O Services anything under £10k	21,050	10,600	31,650	15,944	-	15,944
Sobell	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
Total	181,593	155,874	337,467	205,920	145,274	351,194

c) Children's services

			2025			2024
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Children in Need	26,697	-	26,697	33,315	-	33,315
Thames Valley Police PCC	31,263	-	31,263	31,263	-	31,263
Blagrove Trust	17,500	-	17,500	17,500	-	17,500
Various Small Grants for Children's Services anything under £10k	4,000	-	4,000	2,632	-	2,632
Total	79,460	-	79,460	84,709	-	84,709

4a. Total resources expended (current year)

	Cost of generating income £	Refuge £	Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy £	Children's services £	Governance Costs £	Support Costs £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Staff costs (note 6)	32,025	77,241	304,411	101,091	66,245	71,929	652,943	671,979
Staff training and conferences	–	260	1,400	65	–	160	1,885	4,141
Volunteers' costs	–	–	–	–	–	223	223	121
Fundraising costs	2,056	–	–	–	–	–	2,056	1,314
Refuge running costs	–	2,762	–	–	–	–	2,762	962
Children activities	–	617	745	699	–	–	2,061	3,501
Repairs and renewals	–	16,800	–	–	–	–	16,800	13,282
Office costs	3,806	37,754	10,411	231	–	35,817	88,019	92,135
Motor expenses	–	1,786	–	–	–	–	1,786	2,903
Travel and subsistence	–	188	1,618	2,880	205	60	4,951	4,422
Communications	129	3,234	2,963	683	51	1,149	8,209	7,612
Client Support	–	240	2,902	355	–	–	3,497	5,951
Depreciation	–	4,786	2,303	195	–	129	7,413	7,474
Audit and accountancy	–	–	–	–	–	7,222	7,222	6,774
Legal and professional	8,616	3,900	6,468	–	–	8,124	27,109	34,145
	46,632	149,570	333,221	106,199	66,501	124,814	826,937	856,716
Support Costs	8,737	27,459	67,399	21,218	–	(124,814)	–	–
Governance cost	4,655	14,630	35,911	11,305	(66,501)	–	–	–
Total resources expended	60,024	191,659	436,531	138,723	–	–	826,937	–
Total expenditure 2024	111,282	208,382	385,414	151,638	–	–	–	856,716

The Dash Charity

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

4b. Total resources expended (prior year)

	Cost of generating income £	Refuge £	Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy £	Children's services £	Governance Costs £	Support Costs £	2024 Total £
Staff costs (note 6)	86,747	98,296	262,529	116,124	33,862	74,423	671,979
Staff training and conferences	–	110	800	1,208	110	1,914	4,141
Volunteers' costs	–	–	–	–	–	121	121
Fundraising costs	1,314	–	–	–	–	–	1,314
Refuge running costs	–	962	–	–	–	–	962
Children activities	–	2,341	402	758	–	–	3,501
Repairs and renewals	–	13,008	–	249	–	25	13,282
Office costs	3,627	34,978	9,161	331	–	44,038	92,135
Motor expenses	–	2,816	–	87	–	–	2,903
Travel and subsistence	100	119	1,805	2,264	85	50	4,422
Communications	162	1,802	2,212	408	34	2,994	7,612
Client Support	–	200	5,043	668	–	41	5,951
Depreciation	–	4,621	1,117	195	–	1,541	7,474
Audit and accountancy	–	–	–	–	–	6,774	6,774
Legal and professional	9,550	10,000	4,521	–	–	10,074	34,145
	101,499	169,253	287,590	122,291	34,091	141,993	856,716
Support Costs	7,888	31,554	78,885	23,665	–	(141,993)	–
Governance cost	1,894	7,576	18,939	5,682	(34,091)	–	–
Total resources expended	111,282	208,382	385,414	151,638	–	–	856,716

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

5. Net income for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation	7,413	7,474
Independent Examination fee	4,000	3,750
Trustees Reimbursed Expenses	–	30
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Trustees' expenses represents the payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs totalling £01 for 2025 (2024: £30) incurred by 0 (2024: 1) members relating to attendance at meetings of the trustees.

6. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries and wages	576,577	584,580
Social security costs	49,370	47,672
Pension contributions	22,555	21,777
Termination Cost	–	9,750
Recruitment	4,027	5,591
Other staff costs	415	2,609
	<u>652,943</u>	<u>671,979</u>

No employees earned more than £60k in the financial year (2024: nil).

The total employee salaries of the key management personnel were £211,874 in 2025 (2024: £222,576).

The staff headcount for the year was 20 (2024: 23), allocated to activities as follows:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Raising funds	1	2
Refuge	3	4
IDVA	10	11
Children Services	3	3
Support and governance	3	3
	<u>20</u>	<u>23</u>

7. Related party transactions

In the year trustees made unrestricted donations to the charity totalling £60 (2024: £60).

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2025 or for 2024.

8. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Vehicles	Office equipment £	Furniture and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At the start of the year	9,598	16,004	33,531	59,133
At the end of the year	9,598	16,004	33,531	59,133
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	8,798	9,678	21,048	39,524
Charge for the year	800	3,230	3,383	7,413
At the end of the year	9,598	12,908	24,431	46,937
Net book value				
At the end of the year	–	3,096	9,100	12,196
At the start of the year	800	6,326	12,483	19,609

10. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments	15,563	17,575
Accrued income	6,348	3,224
	21,912	20,799

11. Creditors: amounts due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	5,418	4,886
Taxation and social security	12,037	13,933
Pension	3,610	–
Accruals	21,054	18,875
Loan Repayment	11,759	11,006
Deferred income – Grant funding for future periods	446	30,510
	54,325	79,211

11a. Creditors: Long term

	2025 £	2024 £
HSBC Loan	4,536	16,585
	4,536	16,585

The bank loan with HSBC was provided as part of the Coronavirus Bounce Back Loan Scheme. Under the terms of the loan interest is payable at 2.5% per annum with final repayment due 72 months after initial drawdown, which was in April 2022. No security was required to be provided.

12a. Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	–	12,196	12,196
Net current assets	121,213	370,188	491,401
Long term Liabilities	–	(16,295)	(16,295)
Net assets at the end of the year	121,213	366,089	487,302
Less: tangible fixed assets (not free)	–	(12,196)	(12,196)
Free reserves	–	353,893	353,893

12b. Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	12,752	6,857	19,609
Net current assets	82,338	405,249	487,587
Long term Liabilities	–	(16,585)	(16,585)
Net assets at the end of the year	95,090	395,521	490,611
Less: tangible fixed assets (not free)	–	(6,857)	(6,857)
Free reserves	–	388,664	388,664

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

13a. Movements in funds (current year)

	At the start of the year as restated £	Income and gains £	Expenditure and losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Refuge					
Berkshire Community Foundation	10,000	17,715	4,930	-	22,785
Charles Hayward	-	25,000	25,000	-	-
Various Small Grants for Refuge Services	25,774	21,000	30,869	-	15,905
	35,774	63,715	60,799	-	38,690
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy					
Blagrove	9,494	17,500	14,598	-	12,396
Berkshire Community Foundation Boiler & Cleaner	10,000	-	10,000	-	-
Berkshire Community Foundation Hospital IDVA	-	43,400	10,214	-	33,186
Heart of Bucks	2,500	-	-	-	2,500
King Cullimore	2,083	25,000	27,083	-	-
TVP via PCC Diversity IDVA	11,566	30,734	42,300	-	-
TVP via PCC Older Person IDVA	703	35,410	36,113	-	-
Sobell	10,000	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
Various Small Grants for A&O Services	4,450	21,050	24,967	-	533
	50,796	183,094	175,275	-	58,615
Children's services					
Children In Need	3,629	26,697	25,904	-	4,422
Masonic	2,392	-	745	-	1,647
TVP via PCC Children's IDVA	-	31,263	31,263	-	-
Various Small Grants for Children's	2,000	4,000	5,274	-	726
	8,021	61,960	63,186	-	6,795
Voluntary					
Englefield Charitable Trust	500	-	500	-	-
Various Small Grants	-	3,000	1,885	-	1,115
	500	3,000	2,385	-	1,115
Total restricted funds	95,090	311,769	301,645	-	105,215
General funds	395,520	495,860	525,292	-	366,088
Total unrestricted funds	395,520	495,860	525,292	-	366,088
Total funds	490,610	807,629	826,937	-	471,303

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

13b. Movements in funds (prior year)

	At the start of the year £	Income and gains £	Expenditure and losses as restated £	Transfers £	At the end of the year as restated £
Restricted funds:					
Refuge					
Berkshire Community Foundation	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Charles Hayward	-	25,000	25,000	-	-
Various Small Grants for Refuge Services	20,428	17,364	12,018	-	25,774
	<u>20,428</u>	<u>52,364</u>	<u>37,018</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,774</u>
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy					
Blagrave	-	17,500	8,006	-	9,494
Berkshire Community Foundation	-	15,000	5,000	-	10,000
Heart of Bucks	-	10,000	7,500	-	2,500
Hodge	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
King Cullimore	-	25,000	22,917	-	2,083
Nationwide	-	32,500	32,500	-	-
TVP via PCC	-	52,066	40,500	-	11,566
TVP via PCC	320	35,410	35,027	-	703
Sobell	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Various Small Grants for A&O Services	5,439	15,944	16,933	-	4,450
	<u>5,759</u>	<u>223,420</u>	<u>178,383</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50,796</u>
Children's services					
Children In Need	3,207	33,315	32,893	-	3,629
Masonic	19,847	-	17,455	-	2,392
TVP via PCC	-	31,263	31,263	-	-
Various Small Grants for Children's	738	2,632	1,370	-	2,000
	<u>23,792</u>	<u>67,209</u>	<u>82,982</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,021</u>
Voluntary					
Aviva	917	-	917	-	-
Awards for All	4,435	-	4,435	-	-
Englefield Charitable Trust	-	2,000	1,500	-	500
Matrix Prism	-	3,000	3,000	-	-
Safe Lives	251	-	251	-	-
	<u>5,603</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>10,103</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>500</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>55,582</u>	<u>347,993</u>	<u>308,486</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95,089</u>
General funds	<u>399,340</u>	<u>544,411</u>	<u>548,231</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>395,520</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>399,340</u>	<u>544,411</u>	<u>548,231</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>395,520</u>
Total funds	<u>454,922</u>	<u>892,404</u>	<u>856,717</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>490,609</u>

Purposes of restricted funds

Berkshire Community Foundation	A&O team, Hospital IDVA, Refuge maintenance & Winter Warmer Grant
Blagrove Charitable Trust	IDVA Support, Helpline, Freedom programme
Charles Hayward	Refuge Worker
Children in Need	Children & Families IDVA Healthy Living Grant
King Cullimore	Outreach worker
Masonic	Refuge Sofa & Children's Worker
Ministry of Justice via PCC	A&O Elderly Persons IDVA & Diversity Support Worker & Children's Service Worker
RBWM	A&O team workers & Housing IDVA
Sobell	Helpline
Various Small Grants	Many local & small grant funders have supported us through the year, with advocacy support, children's activities, refuge running cost, new laptops, training etc.

14. Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	Property	
	2025	2024
	£	£
Less than one year –refuge leases	11,750	11,750
One to five years – refuge leases	38,188	47,000
Over five years – refuge leases	–	2,938
	49,938	61,688

THE DASH CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1127126

Accounts

Company number: 06758907

Charity number: 1127126

The Dash Charity

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Dash Charity

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The Dash Charity

Reference and administrative details

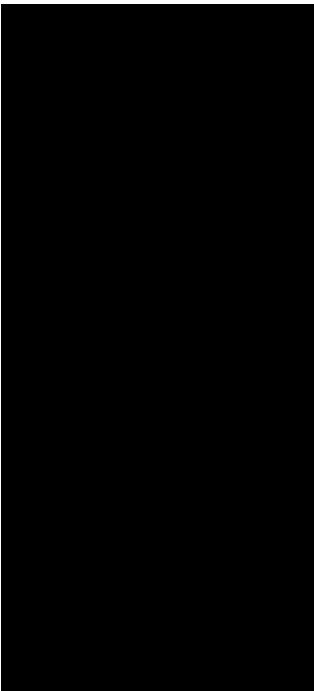
For the year ended 31 March 2024

Company number 06758907
Country of incorporation United Kingdom

Charity number 1127126
Country of registration England & Wales

Registered office 551 Fairlie Road
Slough
Berkshire
SL1 4PY

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

	Chair (maternity leave)
	Interim Chair/Vice-Chair
	Treasurer
	Secretary
	Safeguarding Trustee
	Resigned 31/12/2023
	Resigned 02/04/2024
	Joined 17/01/2024
	Joined 19/06/2024

Key Management Personnel	Nicola Miller	Chief Executive
	Kiran Pathak	Head of Finance & Governance
	Claire Batchelor	Advocacy & Outreach Services Manager
	Tracey Noble	Refuge Services Manager

The Dash Charity

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Solicitors

Kidd Rapinet Solicitors
392 Edinburgh Avenue
Slough Trading Estate
Slough
Berkshire
SL1 4UF

Independent Examiner

Joanna Pittman FCA
Sayer Vincent LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
110 Golden Lane,
LONDON,
EC1Y 0TG

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

The Trustees and Senior Management Team present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

Chair & CEO Report & Acknowledgement

Chair Report

I am delighted to share The Dash Charity's annual report, outlining the progress and achievements we have made supporting the safety of individuals and families across East Berkshire and South Buckinghamshire.

Our new strategy delineates our key priorities in ending domestic abuse and providing crucial support to those who need us most. This encompasses our refuges, outreach programs, and healthy relationship training. As the commissioned provider of domestic abuse services for The Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, we are committed to delivering expert, timely, and responsive services wherever they are needed. Raising awareness within our communities is a core part of our strategy, ensuring that victims of abuse know we are here to help.

The coming year will see us developing and implementing new services, including peer mentoring for young adults, enhancing demand-driven children's services, and expanding our healthy relationships programmes.

Dash will also leverage its position to advocate for change in areas where our local communities stand to benefit the most, rather than focusing on broader issues with less measurable impact.

This year, we successfully relocated our operational headquarters to new premises, providing an optimal environment for our staff and senior executives to collaborate effectively with the community.

Despite the challenges of the past year, including the cost of living crisis, fundraising, and recruitment difficulties, we are planning ahead with renewed optimism and deeply appreciate all the support we have received.

 Interim Chair of Trustees

CEO Report

Last year was another landmark one for The Dash Charity, as we made a profound impact on the lives of domestic abuse survivors. I am incredibly proud of our dedicated team of frontline and support staff. Their unwavering commitment, alongside our referral partners and volunteers, enabled us to assist hundreds of individuals and families facing domestic abuse across Windsor & Maidenhead, Slough, and South Buckinghamshire.

In our refuges, we provided a safe haven for 25 women and 16 children. Our Helpdesk service handled 1,042 referrals and enquiries, marking a 21% increase from the previous year.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Notably, more than 95% of domestic abuse survivors reported feeling safer after completing their support with Dash. We supported 93 high-risk clients through our trained Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs).

Our prevention and education initiatives reached over 1,900 children and young people through specialised one-to-one support and our Healthy Relationships programme in schools. We also spearheaded local campaigns, offered training to professionals on addressing domestic abuse, and leveraged our local expertise to combat hidden abuse in hard-to-reach communities.

While there are many achievements to celebrate, we recognise the ongoing challenges faced by domestic abuse survivors. In March, we unveiled The Dash Charity's new two-year strategic plan, outlining our continued efforts to break the cycle of domestic abuse and foster safer, stronger communities. This strategy is rooted in the insights and experiences of the survivors we support.

Looking ahead, we plan to introduce new services, such as peer mentoring for survivors, and expand our healthy relationships programme for children and young people. Additionally, we aim to address the cost of living crisis affecting survivors.

Our successes in 2023 would not have been possible without the generous support of our funders. We maintained crucial contracts, like the domestic abuse advocacy and outreach contract in the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, and continued receiving vital funding from Slough Borough Council to keep our refuges operational.

Our transformative work is sustained by the support of longstanding funders such as Children in Need, National Lottery Awards for All, and the Berkshire Community Foundation. We also welcomed new supporters, including the Blagrove Trust and The King Cullimore Trust, which funded new roles within our organization. Additionally, the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner's support enabled us to add two new outreach workers to serve our diverse communities in Slough.

Corporate partnerships have been instrumental to our success. From small businesses to larger organisations, the backing of Craft Coop, Stoke Park, and Alnylam, among others, has expanded our reach and strengthened our services. The generosity of local groups like the Freemasons across Berkshire and Buckinghamshire, Windsor Rotary Club, and the Soroptomists has shown the enduring support of our community.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us in 2024. Together, we are making a real difference in the lives of those affected by domestic abuse.

Nicola Miller, CEO, The Dash Charity

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Strategic overview:

Our vision: Domestic abuse stops here

Our mission – our ‘why?’:

We are here to break the cycle of domestic abuse so people in our local communities can feel stronger and safer from abuse

Our strategy:

Strengthening local communities to feel stronger and safer and break the cycle of domestic abuse.

Our core values:

1. **We go above and beyond**
Our people matter most, whether our teams of staff and volunteers, or local individuals and families who are victims and survivors of domestic abuse, and we strive to go as far as we can to ensure safer outcomes.
2. **We work together**
We champion finding solutions inclusively and collaboratively with clients, external stakeholders and each other.
3. **We understand**
We combine professional learning with expertise by experience, to ensure people benefit from relevant support that is informed by knowledge, skills and survivors' voices.
4. **We strengthen**
Our people, our communities and our sector are empowered through the quality and lasting impact of our work
5. **We are local**
We stay where we are needed and have built and earned our reputation and relationships that make Dash 'locally known and loved'

We are Dash.

'The Dash difference': Who are we and how does Dash make a difference?

1. Going above and beyond for people: We go the distance, giving people access to the time and space they need until they feel safer
2. Locally well-known and well-loved: We stay community-focused, well-known and well-loved locally by building trust, confidence and understanding

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

3. Working in partnership: we embed a collaborative culture in everything we do to meet the diverse needs of clients in our communities

'From victims to survivors' is a direction we will take people in and will be reflected in our language. Our clients are people first, then 'victims and survivors', not simply 'victims'. We will use the terms 'service users' or clients if necessary e.g. within other statutory frameworks.

"DASH has been extremely supportive through all its services. The staff are amazing, knowledgeable and supportive. They always give you time and never make you feel you are wasting theirs." (Dash client)

About The Dash Charity:

We have been supporting people experiencing Domestic Abuse in the communities of East Berkshire and South Buckinghamshire for 48 years. We provide specialist support to adults and children experiencing mental health issues, modern slavery, immigration, trafficking, homelessness and complex needs associated with Domestic Abuse, empowering them to live a life beyond crisis and ensuring their voices are heard.

We help people to access free legal help, obtain injunctions, arrange for them to have screens and video-links if giving evidence at court and we will support them on the day.

We also speak up for them and advocate on their behalf with housing teams, police, social care. We provide safety devices to help them feel safer in their own home and help source donations of anything they need to make their life a little easier or a little brighter whilst they are trying to stay safe.

Our programmes help women, children and men recognise tactics of abuse, so they can feel more empowered and break the cycle of abuse.

Domestic abuse and its effects can be destructive, yet it still remains an issue which is hidden, stigmatised and one which makes for uncomfortable conversation. We know that 1 in 4 women and 1 in 5 children will be affected by domestic abuse in their lifetimes; locally, there were 56,000 reported incidents of domestic abuse to Thames Valley Police in the last 12 months; it's likely to be the tip of the iceberg, yet numbers continue to rise year-on-year.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Our current services:

Helpdesk

Our Helpline is open Monday to Wednesday from 9.30am until 2.30pm, Thursday-Friday 9.30am to 4.00pm. People who need help outside these hours can leave a message if it's safe to do so or send us a message by emailing referrals@thedashcharity.org.uk. Our team will call them back as soon as they can, the next working day.

Refuge Accommodation

The Dash Charity runs three refuges for women across the UK. Each refuge has different sized individual bedrooms with shared living facilities. We can accommodate up to 14 women with or without children at any one time. Refuges are safehouses which provide sanctuary and support to those who are escaping domestic abuse and have nowhere else to go.

Advocacy & Outreach

Our Advocacy and Outreach Team provides specialist advice and guidance to local people experiencing any kind of abuse at the hands of a partner, ex-partner or family member. Our Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs) and Outreach workers are professionally trained to support families whatever their circumstances and work alongside them to find a practical pathway to safety.

Children and Young People

Our professional children's practitioners provide bespoke support to children staying in our refuges, as well as within the community. One-to-one sessions provide children with a non-judgemental space in which they can express themselves and their genuine emotions. We provide these children with tools to talk, reflect, learn, recover and develop their own strength and resilience.

Schools Prevention Programme

We deliver Schools workshops for children aged 6 years+ to provide education and awareness to children and young people surrounding Healthy Relationships.

In our Schools Domestic Abuse Prevention Programme, we promote safe, violence-free family relationships. Many young people do not understand what a healthy relationship looks like, and we aim to change that. We challenge the many myths surrounding domestic abuse to change attitudes and beliefs to ensure young people know where and how to seek support and advice when needed.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Services we provide:	Changes around us:	Impact we see:
Advice and advocacy	Reduced risk	Safer lives in our local communities
Community based support programmes	Improved wellbeing	Reduction in referrals to high-risk domestic abuse service
Refuge and safer accommodation	Increased safety	People moving away from domestic abuse
Support for children & young people	Happier people	Stronger young people recovering from domestic abuse
Education and prevention	Better responses to domestic abuse disclosures	Increased support and understanding for victims and survivors; Next generation prevention
Training and skills	Empowered communities and employers	Stronger outcomes for victims and survivors
Awareness-raising	Increased awareness, disclosures and referrals	Reduction in stigma and increase in safety
Central operations:	Changes around us:	Impact we see:
Fundraising & Engagement	Sustainable and accessible support services	Creating lasting change for survivors
Finance & HR	Strong, supported workforce and services	Reliable, long-term support for survivors
Senior Leadership	Engaged teams, clear decision-making, trust and confidence	Achieving the goals of our strategic plan

Beneficiaries of our services

The beneficiaries of our services are adults and children who have been affected, or are at risk of abuse, at the hands of a partner, ex-partner or family member.

The geographical remit of The Dash Charity community team is the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and some areas of South Buckinghamshire. Our refuge accommodation is based in Slough and will accept referrals from all over the UK.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Achievements and performance in the delivery of public benefit

Annual overview

“I cannot put into words what the support from Dash’s IDVAs has meant to me. My story would have been different without them. They gave me the confidence to make life changing decisions and always listened without judgement. There is a long road ahead for me, but I’ve had the best start because of my support from those at The Dash Charity. Thank you.

– Dash client and domestic abuse survivor

The table below shows the number of unique clients we supported across all areas of service and how our reach compares to previous years:

Outputs:	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Total number of new referrals to Community services (prior to risk assessment)	947	690	860
• <i>Total IDVA clients (high risk)</i>	106	104	93
• <i>Total Outreach clients (medium/standard risk)</i>	310	241	276
• <i>Signposting and brief interventions (see note below)</i>	531	345	491
Total number of children referred into children’s therapeutic support	124	103	108
Total number of new referrals to refuge services (prior to risk assessment)	98	183	177
Total number of intakes into refuge	34	33	25
Total Number of Freedom attendees	106	93	95

Service Provision by team

Refuge Services

- ***One-third of clients stayed less than a month, and slightly fewer stayed 4-6 months***
- ***1 in 3 moved on to temporary accommodation; 18% went to live with family/friends. 3 (10%) returned to their perpetrator.***

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

- **79% accessed housing support while staying in refuge; 58% took part in Freedom Plus support programme; whilst 86% gained access to benefits support**
- **93% of clients reported improved feelings of safety and confidence when they moved on from our refuge accommodation**
- **90% left our refuge with improved support networks**
- **96% moved on feeling more confident about asking for help if they needed it**
- **9/10 reported improved optimism about the future**

In refuge, we supported 25 women (3 of whom were pregnant) and 16 children across the year. 70% of women were in our refuge accommodation less than six months before they successfully moved on to safe accommodation. Work alongside our local authority contacts has contributed to our ability to successfully support clients moving on to suitable accommodation as soon as possible.

“I feel 100% safe living in the refuge. I got a lot of support from staff: that helped me a lot. Anything I was worried about, they tried to find solutions for and for my child. I always feel reassured afterwards.

“I learned a lot of things at the refuge through the advice (the staff) gave us for our safety and how to protect ourselves from harm, so that I can look forward to a better future.”

– Dash refuge client and domestic abuse survivor

Advocacy and Outreach Services

- **99% clients had completed all agreed actions on safety & support plans at the point of case closure, and there was a 99% improvement in survivors' risk levels since referral/intake: exceeding our target of 90% for both**
- **Close to 1 in 5 clients (20%) were over 50**
- **17% increase in referrals to our services last year (regardless of risk).**

“My Dash support worker was amazing and helped me understand why I felt the way I did. She also helped me make good, sensible decisions and changes for a happier, healthier future. I can't thank you enough. This is truly a wonderful, inspiring service and I really hope I can help others who are unfortunate enough to find themselves in this position.”

– Dash client and domestic abuse survivor

The feedback from our local authority, RBWM, remains very positive against our contract, successfully achieving all agreed KPIs. In March 2023, following a competitive tender process, we were re-awarded the contract for a further two years, with a potential 'plus one' additional year. This means we will have maintained our role as the local authority's commissioned DA provider for up to seven years.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Key highlights this year have included:

- Our Older Persons IDVA has been to all the local GP surgeries with posters and carried out mini training sessions to all staff members: enabling reception staff and the safeguarding lead in one surgery to recognise that an older person may be experiencing domestic abuse.
- We successfully completed and retained our *Leading Lights* accreditation with SafeLives, the highest sector quality mark for our domestic abuse services.
- We were able to add a full-time Housing IDVA to our support services in Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, offering specialist advocacy to survivors and those referring them for specialist support.

Children's Services

Every child and young person completing our support programme reported understanding that domestic abuse was neither their fault nor their responsibility to stop. All participants also reported improved wellbeing and coping strategies.

We continued to provide bespoke one-to-one support for children and young people affected by domestic abuse. Our support programmes are continually adapted based on young people's feedback, focusing on individual needs rather than adhering to a rigid structure.

Sadly, the number of children referred to our support programmes has increased after dropping, following the Covid pandemic, and we finished the year operating a higher waiting list than in previous years.

Freedom Programme

Following positive feedback, we have continued to offer a hybrid delivery of our Freedom programme, with both virtual and in-person group sessions. These options, trialled during the pandemic, remain popular and cater to clients' varying needs, particularly those with work or caring responsibilities.

A total of 76 clients accessed the programme this year across all formats. We ran five 10-week programmes: virtual and in person at a community venue in Windsor town centre. One virtual session continued to be held in the evening in response to client feedback, improving accessibility to this service.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Healthy relationships workshops

As primary and secondary schools adapted to a post-Covid world, we fully resumed in-person relationship and sex education provision. This year, we ran fewer Healthy Relationship workshops due to staffing changes but saw a 19% increase in pupils reached per 'healthy relationships' workshop with schools and youth organisations across East Berkshire. We conducted 435 workshops and assemblies, attended by 1,816 pupils.

We continued using the Expect Respect model and our own schools' toolkit to inform these sessions, tailoring content to the circumstances of individual young people.

Helpdesk, Signposting and Brief interventions

Our Helpdesk received 1,042 calls from first-time callers/enquirers or referrers throughout the year. Many of these callers received further support from a Dash practitioner, while 491 callers were offered a brief intervention to assist with their safety and onward journey – up on last year's call volume.

We regularly undertake signposting and brief support interventions, directing callers/referrals to other partner agencies when appropriate. Every caller is fully assessed in terms of need and risk, and a support pathway is discussed, always prioritising immediate safety. Referrals may be made to other relevant agencies, including counselling, housing, or legal support.

Our Commissioners encourage us to refer clients to VFES (Victims First Emotional Support) if they are assessed as standard risk or need long-term emotional support. If a client does not reside in RBWM or South Bucks, we refer them to their local authority/DA organisation for support or source out-of-area refuge space if needed.

Training and Development

This year, our external training initiatives continued to serve as a valuable income source, effectively integrating our specialised knowledge and training expertise into our fundraising strategy. We capitalised on opportunities to deliver in-depth, paid training to various organisations aiming to elevate their staff confidence and knowledge in key areas. These included collaborations with global insurance firms and professional bodies.

At The Dash Charity, internal training and development remain fundamental. We conduct regular all-staff training days, ensuring continuous professional growth. Each staff member receives monthly one-on-one supervision with their line manager, complemented by monthly clinical supervision for frontline staff with an external, clinically qualified supervisor. Annual appraisals are conducted for all staff, focusing on personal objectives aligned with the charity's business plan. Comprehensive training plans are in place for every staff member, adhering to the accreditations and standards upheld by the charity.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Quality Assurance

The charity was proud to successfully complete the reaccreditation process and retain its **Safelives Leading Lights** accreditation. The Leading Lights accreditation programme offers specialist services a set of quality standards for supporting victims of domestic abuse. The programme was launched in 2009 and The Dash Charity was amongst the first to hold this quality mark for its services.

The charity is currently registered under **Ofsted's Childcare standards** and is subject to inspection.

In 2014 **National Women's Aid** launched their quality standards, developed in response to the needs of member organisations. The Charity was very proud to be amongst the first members to receive accreditation in 2015, further evidence of the quality services that are provided for supporting victims of domestic abuse. We were also delighted to receive re-accreditation in March 2019 which was valid for three years but this has been extended to five, given the pandemic. We look forward to re-accreditation in 2024.

Internally, our service standards are reviewed by the Senior Management team on an annual basis and at regular operational meetings throughout the year.

Networks and Partnership Working

Our network remains extensive and we have built and maintained strong working relationships with key partners including Local Authority Housing and Adult and Children Social Care Teams, Health, including Mental Health (CMHT) and Education, and Thames Valley Police. We use a number of methods to network, communicate, raise awareness and promote best practice in supporting victims of domestic abuse.

We sit on a range of local and regional Boards as well as participating in multi-agency meetings to support individual clients such as Child Protection conferences and MARAC and MATAC meetings. The Dash Charity is represented at the following multi-agency forums:

- Slough Domestic Abuse Forum
- Slough Domestic Abuse Partnership Board
- RBWM Domestic Abuse Forum
- Thames Valley Domestic Abuse Strategic Group
- RBWM DA Executive Group
- RBWM 'One Borough' networking group
- Thames Valley DA Services Chief Execs Networking Forum
- Women's Aid CEO networking group
- SafeLives CEO networking group

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Fundraising and Communications

The fundraising team consists of 1 Trusts & Grants writers, 1 Community Fundraising Officer and additional commissioned service with fundraising experts Nova Consulting on an ad hoc basis.

A large focus on Trusts and Foundations fundraising continued and we also secured further statutory funding through the Office of the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner. We continued to work hard to improve the charity's community presence with a number of events and activities taking place online and face-to-face in Berkshire and Buckinghamshire.

Our Social Media presence has remained strong with Facebook and Instagram being the main vessels for our PR and marketing.

During the summer, we collaborated with NS Training & Consultancy Services and Practice Index for a new campaign to highlight the risks of FGM to girls and women, and the requirements for mandatory reporting when young girls are taken abroad to undergo the practice.

We marked White Ribbon Day in November 2023 by publishing our mini-toolkit 'From Admin to Activist': a short and simple guide available to anyone involved with managing or moderating a local online community where people comment and share their views.

Our winter fundraising campaign - *Dash Communi-tea Appeal: Safer lives start over every cup* – saw us asking for small representing the cost of a hot drink and the support with domestic abuse that begins in the safe space of a public coffee shop, with one of our trained advocates, being listened to and believed.

Our CEO gave interviews to local media and comments to online articles and news websites on topics of relevance to The Dash Charity and its survivors. This included authoring an opinion piece in Metro UK on domestic abuse being used as a fashion accessory.

Our board continued to meet on a bi-monthly basis, where fundraising was discussed in depth alongside the charity's finances, allowing us to respond to changing need and agree new actions as appropriate. We will return to a pre-Covid schedule of meeting on a quarterly basis for the forthcoming year, with sub-groups meeting more regularly.

Fundraising Practices

Nova Fundraising is a consultancy and has acted as a third-party fundraiser for us, and neither they nor Dash has third-party fundraisers breached any fundraising codes. We are signed up to the Fundraising Regulator and are compliant with their Code of Practice, being committed to high fundraising standards. We have not received any fundraising complaints to date.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Risk review

We have a risk review that is reviewed monthly by the Senior Management Team and also at every Board meeting, to ensure that all aspects of the charity are risk assessed and managed. This regular review has been particularly crucial during the pandemic. These incorporate operational, funding, people and skills, finance, strategy, environment, competition, management technology, regulation, politics and governance. Specific actions are identified against each risk and monitored monthly.

Risks to clients are managed through monthly case reviews. If risks to clients escalate, a review meeting is conducted, and safety plans are amended and implemented. Risk assessments and partnership working enable us to ensure all risk management is considered.

The Senior Management team monitor our financial income and expenditure monthly, reviewing any potential financial risks. This includes assessing our management accounts as well as our cash flow position to ensure that we have a minimum of three months operating costs in reserve. We have rolling budgets to foresee the charity's financial stability and these are also reviewed monthly, and are prepared for a minimum of eighteen months to give us a long-term picture of our financial viability. Throughout regular Board meetings, risk, finance, expenditure and funding is explored and evaluated at a governance level. Risk is shared on an on-going basis through regular communication meetings with all staff, bi-monthly reports to the Board and clear communication with key stakeholders.

Remuneration

At the end of the financial year 2023/24, the key management personnel team consisted of four staff including, the Chief Executive, Head of Finance, Advocacy and Outreach Manager and Refuge Services Manager. The combined annual salaries, National Insurance & pension of these key personnel is £222,576. Salaries are benchmarked against other similar sized charities, and the salary scales are reviewed every few years, salaries were reviewed in 2020 as part of that process. Individuals' salaries are reviewed after each appraisal annually, although the charity cannot guarantee an annual review. However, we will ensure that all staff salaries are reviewed and increased at least every two years based on a satisfactory annual appraisal result.

Staffing

The Dash Charity staff team is made up of 16 full time and 7 part time members of staff. We currently have in excess of 20 volunteers that primarily support fundraising events.

Preparation, selection, vetting and vigilant maintenance are all central to our safer recruitment policy. All of our staff, students and volunteers are screened before commencing employment or volunteering with us. This means taking up references from former employers, which specifically ask questions about safeguarding, conduct and suitability to work with vulnerable clients. Identity is additionally sought from candidates prior to interview

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

along with relevant training/ education/ qualification certificates. Our recruitment policy and volunteer policy are updated annually to ensure all recent legislation and guidance is included.

Pre-planned interview questions with an interview panel of two staff members are used, as well as various simulation assessments, so we are further able to assess the knowledge, insight and suitability of a candidate.

All volunteers, students and staff in roles with unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults and clients, must complete an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before they can commence their duties. They also have to undertake safeguarding training along with our introduction to domestic abuse training when they commence their employment.

Financial Review

Total incoming resources for the year were £892,404. Of this £347,993 (39%) was generated from charitable trusts and grants, £147,474 (17%) was generated from client rent and housing benefit, £95,000 (11%) the refuge levelling up funds, £145,274 (16%) from local authorities and the remaining £156,663 (17%) from activities in the community and donations.

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £856,716, of which £745,434 (87%) was spent on charitable activities; £111,282 (13%) was spent on the sustainability and development team.

We spent £208,382 (24%) on refuge, £385,414 (45%) on the Advocacy & Outreach team, £151,638 (18%) on Children's Services team.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Reserves

As at 31 March 2024 the charity cash balance was £545,999 equivalent to 7.6 months operating expenditure. Total reserves as at 31 March 2024 was £490,610, equivalent to 6.9 months operating expenditure, which was made up of £95,090 restricted reserves and £395,520 unrestricted reserves that equates to 5.5 months running costs.

We have maintained our reserves level this year at 5.5 months. The Charity's aim is to have 3-6 months reserves level sustained across our future forecasts and to sustain reserve levels to ensure that there could be a smooth exit if this was ever required. Our strong financial management, accurate forecasts and robust risk management will ensure that we work to maintain our reserves level in the coming year.

Financial Review 2023/24

Year	Total Incoming Resources	Charitable Trusts & Grants	% Rate	Client Rent & Housing Benefit	% Rate
2020/21	939,172	387,863	41%	149,823	16%
2021/22	806,674	216,390	27%	162,787	20%
2022/ 23	784,855	294,255	38%	152,331	19%
2023/24	892,404	347,993	39%	147,474	17%
		Local Authorities including the Dept of Levelling Up & Communities		Community & Donations	
			% Rate		% Rate
		132,392	14%	268,949	29%
		217,392	27%	211,005	26%
		193,841	25%	143,759	18%
		240,274	27%	156,663	17%

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Year	Total Expenditure	Spent on Charitable Activities	% Rate	Spent on Fundraising Team	% Rate
2020/21	769,850	641,916	83%	127,934	17%
2021/22	785,360	682,742	87%	102,619	13%
2022/23	835,001	692,877	83%	142,124	17%
2023/24	856,716	745,434	87%	111,282	13%
Spent on Refuge Team	% Rate	Spent on Advocacy Team	% Rate	Spent on Children's Team	% Rate
166,095	22%	343,128	45%	132,693	16%
207,383	26%	292,472	38%	182,887	23%
197,293	24%	305,355	36%	190,229	23%
208,382	24%	385,414	45%	151,638	18%

Year	Cash Balance	Number of Months Going Concern	Total reserves	Number of Months Reserves
2020/21	489,484	7.6	483,755	7.5
2022/23	530,451	7.6	454,922	6.5
2021/22	491,592	7.6	505,069	7.8
2023/24	545,999	7.6	490,610	6.9
		Restricted	Unrestricted	Number of Months Reserves
		60,791	422,964	6.6
		49,808	455,261	7.1
		55,582	399,340	5.7
		95,090	395,520	5.5

Report of the Trustees

Going concern

The Trustees review the financial projections of both operating finance and cashflow on a monthly basis. Following these reviews, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue its activities for the near future.

Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements and accounts. The basis for this conclusion is:

- Continued strong financial governance
- Tight and thorough management control
- Clearly demonstrable public benefit
- Continued development of key relationships including local authority and funders
- Cautious approach to future income levels
- Proactive and agile approach to change

We have a strong and successful relationship with our commissioners at RBWM; this contract still forms the basis of core funding for community service delivery. Whilst the lack of multi-year grants is concerning, the fundraising team are working hard to seek to source and secure such funding on an ongoing basis.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 November 2008 and registered as a charity on 10 December 2008.

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

On 1 April 2009, East Berkshire Women's Aid, a registered charity in England and Wales (charity number 272579), transferred all its assets, liabilities and activities to Berkshire East and South Bucks Women's Aid (BESBWA). As of 15 April 2014, the charity changed its name to The Dash Charity, standing for Domestic Abuse Stops Here.

The Chief Executive, Senior Management Team and Board of Trustees followed the procedures advised by the Charity Commission before making appointments for positions. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 5 of the financial statements. The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

The Chief Executive is responsible for the leadership and day-to-day management decisions and fulfilling the long and short-term objectives as per the business plan. The Chief Executive is supported by the Head of Finance who ensures the ongoing financial viability of the Charity, and the two Heads of services- Refuge and Community. All legal documents i.e. leases and contracts are signed by the Board, usually the Chair, after full consultation with the Chief Executive.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

The Dash Charity recognises that the role of Trustees involves important responsibilities, and requires not only great commitment, but also certain skills and experience. Sound governance is vital to enable The Dash Charity to achieve its aims and objectives, and therefore the recruitment of Trustees should be carried out with as much care as the recruitment of paid staff, in line with Equal Opportunities policy and procedures.

Our Board has a mixed range of skills and experiences, and we currently have nine Trustees. Our Board of Trustees continue to show full commitment to support the senior management team and govern the Charity effectively.

Specific organisations and individuals with the skills, knowledge or experience identified as above will be targeted for recruitment and more generally, we will advertise through social media and within our networks. If individuals approach The Dash Charity and offer to become a Trustee, they will be required to complete an application form so we can identify what skills they can bring to the organisation, if this fits the current need they will meet with the Chair and the Chief Executive to review their skill set and suitability.

Induction and Training for Trustees

All Trustees receive a programme of induction, co-ordinated by the Chair and Chief Executive upon appointment. A Trustees induction pack is kept up to date and forms the basis of this induction.

All Trustees receive our 'introduction to domestic abuse' one day training session and 'effects of domestic abuse on children' one day training session with our Training Lead. All Trustees will also complete safeguarding training; we also have a named safeguarding lead Trustee, [REDACTED] who leads on the review of any significant safeguarding concerns raised across the organisation.

Our Trustees are invited to our bi-monthly Communications meetings and have direct links to key members of staff for whom they can mentor and offer key skills. As part of the Skills Audit, the training needs of new Direct are identified and a programme of training planned to meet these needs.

Statement of responsibilities of the Trustees

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group

The Dash Charity

Report of the Trustees

and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and the group 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.

Members of the Charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the Charity in the event of winding up. The Trustees are members of the Charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Trustees have no beneficial interest in the Charity.

The Dash Charity

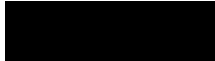
Report of the Trustees

The Trustees acknowledge the following responsibilities:

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

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

Approved by the Trustees on 17th September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

 - Interim Chair of the Trustees

Independent examiner's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

I report on the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

This report is made solely to the trustees as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the 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 trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

- 1** Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2** The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3** The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4** The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities

Independent examiner's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

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:

Name: Joanna Pittman FCA

Independent Examiner

Address: Sayer Vincent LLP, 110 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TG

Date: **23 September 2024**

The Dash Charity

Statement of Financial Activities *(incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

		2024			2023		
	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Income from:							
Donations and gifts	2a	5,000	136,392	141,392	12,910	121,777	134,687
Other Trading Activities	2b	–	13,484	13,484	–	19,352	19,352
Investment income		–	6,786	6,786	–	2,630	2,630
<i>Charitable activities</i>							
Refuge	3a	52,364	242,474	294,839	49,499	247,331	296,830
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy	3b	223,420	145,274	368,694	124,664	98,841	223,505
Children's services	3c	67,209	–	67,209	107,182	669	107,851
Total income		347,993	544,411	892,404	294,255	490,600	784,855
Expenditure on:							
<i>Raising funds:</i>							
Costs of generating income		10,104	101,178	111,282	8,801	133,323	142,124
<i>Charitable activities</i>							
Refuge		37,018	171,364	208,382	48,941	148,352	197,293
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy		178,382	207,032	385,414	119,201	186,154	305,355
Children's services		82,982	68,656	151,638	111,538	78,691	190,229
Total resources expended	4	308,485	548,231	856,716	288,481	546,520	835,001
Net (expenditure) / income for the year and net movement in funds	5	39,508	(3,820)	35,688	5,774	(55,920)	(50,146)
Transfers between funds		–	–	–	–	–	–
Net movement in funds		39,508	(3,820)	35,688	5,774	(55,920)	(50,146)
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		55,582	399,340	454,922	49,808	455,260	505,068
Total funds carried forward		95,090	395,520	490,610	55,582	399,340	454,922

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 13a to the financial statements.

The Dash Charity

Balance sheet

Company no. 06758907

As at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	19,609	13,479
		<u>19,609</u>	<u>13,479</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	10	20,799	32,362
Cash at bank and in hand		545,999	530,451
		<u>566,798</u>	<u>562,812</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts due within one year	11	79,211	93,299
Net current assets		<u>487,587</u>	<u>469,513</u>
Total assets less Current liabilities		<u>507,196</u>	<u>482,991</u>
Creditors: amounts due after one year	11a	16,585	28,070
Net assets	12	<u>490,610</u>	<u>454,922</u>
The funds of the charity	13		
Restricted funds		95,090	55,582
Unrestricted funds			
General funds		395,520	399,340
Total charity funds		<u>490,610</u>	<u>454,922</u>

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

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

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small charities "regime."

Approved by the Directors on 17 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

 Interim Chair of the Directors

The Dash Charity

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net income / expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	35,688		(50,146)	
Depreciation charges	7,474		5,387	
Interest	(6,786)		(2,630)	
Decrease in debtors	11,563		119,386	
(Increase) in creditors	(36,579)		(38,507)	
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities		11,360		33,490
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Interest and rents from investments	6,786		2,630	
Purchase of fixed assets	(13,604)		(7,789)	
Net cash (used in)/ provided by investing activities		(6,818)		(5,159)
Cashflows from financing activities				
Loan repayments	11,006		10,528	
Net cash used for financing activities		11,006		10,528
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		15,548		38,859
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		530,451		491,591
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		545,999		530,451

1. Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

The Dash Charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The registered office address is 551 Fairlie Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 4PY

b) Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The trustees have prepared the accounts on the going concern basis and considered if there are any material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The charity receives a variety of types of income, including grants and donations, and not all income expected for the following financial period is confirmed at the date of signing of the financial statements. Therefore the trustees have considered the likely scenarios for unconfirmed income, taking into account the success rates of previous grant funding applications. The trustees have then considered the worst case scenario, given the current available information, and this does not indicate material uncertainties in the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

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

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

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

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) 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.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services, running refuges, providing child services, advocacy work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

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

j) Allocation of support and governance costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

▪ Cost of generating income	6%
▪ Refuge	22%
▪ Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy	56%
▪ Children's Services	17%

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Where such information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is also provided to potential donors, activity costs are apportioned between fundraising and charitable activities on the basis of area of literature occupied by each activity.

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

▪ Office Equipment	4 years
▪ Furniture & fittings	4 years
▪ Motor Vehicles	4 years

m) Debtors

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

n) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

o) Creditors and provisions

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

p) 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.

q) Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contribution. All staff are enrolled as per the HMRC legislation on to the auto enrolment pension scheme.

2. a) Donations and gifts

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2024 Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £
Grants for Fundraising & Core Cost	5,000	55,500	60,500	12,910	25,945	38,855
Donations from fundraisers	-	74,036	74,036	-	80,075	80,075
Corporates	-	6,120	6,120	-	3,386	3,386
Facebook	-	200	200	-	1,066	1,066
Gift aid	-	536	536	-	11,306	11,306
Total	5,000	136,392	141,392	12,910	121,777	134,687

2. b) Income from other trading activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2024 Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £
Dash Events	-	703	703	-	1,025	1,025
3rd Party Events	-	2,940	2,940	-	4,219	4,219
Community	-	9,840	9,840	-	8,804	8,804
Training	-	-	-	-	5,304	5,304
Total charity income	-	13,484	13,484	-	19,352	19,352

The Dash Charity

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

3. Incoming resources from charitable activities

a) Refuge	Restricted	Unrestricted	2024 Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Rent	-	136,153	136,153	-	136,283	136,283
Service charges	-	11,322	11,322	-	12,654	12,654
Slough Borough Council	-	95,000	95,000	-	95,000	95,000
Various Small Grants for Refuge Services	17,364	-	17,364	24,499	3,394	27,893
Charles Hayward	25,000	-	25,000	25,000	-	25,000
Berkshire Community Foundation	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
Total	52,364	242,474	294,839	49,499	247,331	296,830

b) Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2024 Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Heart of Bucks	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
Berkshire Community Foundation	15,000	-	15,000	-	-	-
Blagrove Trust	17,500	-	17,500	-	-	-
The Mackie Foundation	-	-	-	20,000	-	20,000
Hodge Foundation	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
King Cullimore	25,000	-	25,000	-	-	-
Nationwide	32,500	-	32,500	25,000	-	25,000
Thames Valley Police PCC	35,410	-	35,410	17,705	-	17,705
Thames Valley Police PCC	52,066	-	52,066	-	-	-
RBWM DA	-	145,274	145,274	15,000	98,142	113,142
Various Small Grants for A&O Services	15,944	-	15,944	36,959	699	37,658
Sobell	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
Total	223,420	145,274	368,694	124,664	98,841	223,505

c) Children's services

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2024 Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Children in Need	33,315	-	33,315	31,067	-	31,067
Masonic	-	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
Thames Valley Police PCC	31,263	-	31,263	31,263	-	31,263
Volant	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
Various Small Grants for Children's Services	2,632	-	2,632	4,852	669	5,521
Total	67,209	-	67,209	107,182	669	107,851

The Dash Charity

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

4a. Total resources expended (current year)

	Cost of generating income £	Refuge £	Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy £	Children's services £	Governance Costs £	Support Costs £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Staff costs (note 6)	86,747	98,296	262,529	116,124	33,862	74,423	671,979	678,616
Staff training and conferences	–	110	800	1,208	110	1,914	4,141	5,474
Volunteers' costs	–	–	–	–	–	121	121	244
Fundraising costs	1,314	–	–	–	–	–	1,314	2,270
Refuge running costs	–	962	–	–	–	–	962	7,653
Bad debt provision	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	(12,316)
Children activities	–	2,341	402	758	–	–	3,501	2,009
Repairs and renewals	–	13,008	–	249	–	25	13,282	14,092
Office costs	3,627	34,978	9,161	331	–	44,038	92,135	80,034
Motor expenses	–	2,816	–	87	–	–	2,903	2,165
Travel and subsistence	100	119	1,805	2,264	85	50	4,422	6,948
Communications	162	1,802	2,212	408	34	2,994	7,612	9,384
Client Support	–	200	5,043	668	–	41	5,951	3,900
Depreciation	–	4,621	1,117	195	–	1,541	7,474	5,387
Audit and accountancy	–	–	–	–	–	6,774	6,774	6,009
Legal and professional	9,550	10,000	4,521	–	–	10,074	34,145	23,131
	101,499	169,253	287,590	122,291	34,091	141,993	856,716	835,001
Support Costs	7,888	31,554	78,885	23,665	–	(141,993)	–	–
Governance cost	1,894	7,576	18,939	5,682	(34,091)	–	–	–
Total resources expended	111,282	208,382	385,414	151,638	–	–	856,716	–
Total expenditure 2023	142,124	197,293	305,355	190,229	–	–	–	835,001

The Dash Charity

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

4b. Total resources expended (prior year)

	Cost of generating income £	Refuge £	Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy £	Children's services £	Governance Costs £	Support Costs £	2023 Total £
Staff costs (note 6)	91,657	105,702	212,374	135,090	63,672	70,121	678,616
Staff training and conferences	278	368	920	983	–	2,925	5,474
Volunteers' costs	–	–	–	–	–	244	244
Fundraising costs	2,270	–	–	–	–	–	2,270
Refuge running costs	–	7,617	–	35	–	–	7,653
Bad debt provision	–	(12,316)	–	–	–	–	(12,316)
Children activities	–	1,840	–	169	–	–	2,009
Repairs and renewals	–	14,092	–	–	–	–	14,092
Office costs	4,801	32,067	5,305	817	–	37,044	80,034
Motor expenses	–	1,288	–	877	–	–	2,165
Travel and subsistence	330	256	2,952	3,155	88	166	6,948
Communications	337	552	1,154	1,048	46	6,246	9,384
Client Support	–	152	3,744	4	–	–	3,900
Depreciation	–	3,713	79	195	–	1,400	5,387
Audit and accountancy	–	–	–	–	–	6,009	6,009
Legal and professional	10,980	–	150	650	–	11,351	23,131
	110,654	155,333	226,678	143,023	63,806	135,506	835,001
Support Costs	21,396	28,528	53,489	32,094	–	(135,506)	–
Governance cost	10,075	13,433	25,187	15,112	(63,806)	–	–
Total resources expended	142,124	197,293	305,355	190,229	–	–	835,001

The Dash Charity

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

5. Net income for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation	7,474	5,387
Independent Examination fee	3,750	3,500
Trustees Reimbursed Expenses	30	–
	<u>11,254</u>	<u>8,887</u>

Trustees' expenses represents the payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs totalling £30 (2023: £0) incurred by 1 (2023: 0) members relating to attendance at meetings of the trustees.

6. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries and wages	584,580	601,624
Social security costs	47,672	52,989
Pension contributions	21,777	21,367
Termination Cost	9,750	–
Recruitment	5,591	353
Other staff costs	2,609	2,283
	<u>671,979</u>	<u>678,616</u>

No employees earned more than £60k in the financial year (2023:nil).

The total employee salaries of the key management personnel were 2024 £222,576 (2023: £212,143).

The staff headcount for the year was 23 (2023: 22), allocated to activities as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Raising funds	2.00	3
Refuge	4.00	4
IDVA	11.00	8
Children Services	3.00	5
Support and governance	3.00	3
	<u>23</u>	<u>22</u>

7. Related party transactions

In the year trustees made unrestricted donations to the charity totalling £60 (2023: £375).

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2024 or for 2023.

8. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

The Dash Charity

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Vehicles	Office equipment £	Furniture and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At the start of the year	9,598	15,152	20,779	45,529
Additions in the year	–	852	12,752	13,604
At the end of the year	<u>9,598</u>	<u>16,004</u>	<u>33,531</u>	<u>59,133</u>
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	6,399	5,310	20,341	32,050
Charge for the year	2,399	4,368	707	7,474
At the end of the year	<u>8,798</u>	<u>9,678</u>	<u>21,048</u>	<u>39,524</u>
Net book value				
At the end of the year	<u>800</u>	<u>6,326</u>	<u>12,483</u>	<u>19,609</u>
At the start of the year	<u>3,199</u>	<u>9,842</u>	<u>438</u>	<u>13,479</u>

10. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments	17,575	18,427
Accrued income	<u>3,224</u>	<u>13,934</u>
	<u>20,799</u>	<u>32,362</u>

11. Creditors: amounts due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	4,886	10,052
Taxation and social security	13,933	13,287
Other creditors	–	3,632
Accruals	18,875	8,599
Loan Repayment	11,006	10,528
Deferred income – Grant funding for future periods	<u>30,510</u>	<u>47,201</u>
	<u>79,211</u>	<u>93,299</u>

11a. Creditors: Long term

	2024 £	2023 £
HSBC Loan	<u>16,585</u>	<u>28,070</u>
	<u>16,585</u>	<u>28,070</u>

The bank loan with HSBC was provided as part of the Coronavirus Bounce Back Loan Scheme. Under the terms of the loan interest is payable at 2.5% per annum with final repayment due 72 months after initial drawdown, which was in April 2022. No security was required to be provided.

The Dash Charity

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

12a. Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	12,752	6,857	19,609
Net current assets	82,338	388,663	471,001
Net assets at the end of the year	95,090	395,520	490,610

12b. Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	–	13,479	13,479
Net current assets	55,582	385,861	441,443
Net assets at the end of the year	55,582	399,340	454,922

13a. Movements in funds (current year)

	At the start of the year as restated £	Income and gains £	Expenditure and losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Refuge					
Berkshire Community Foundation	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Charles Hayward	-	25,000	25,000	-	-
Various Small Grants for Refuge Services	20,428	17,364	12,018	-	25,774
	<u>20,428</u>	<u>52,364</u>	<u>37,018</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,774</u>
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy					
Blagrove	-	17,500	8,006	-	9,494
Berkshire Community Foundation	-	15,000	5,000	-	10,000
Heart of Bucks	-	10,000	7,500	-	2,500
Hodge	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
King Cullimore	-	25,000	22,917	-	2,083
Nationwide	-	32,500	32,500	-	-
TVP via PCC	-	52,066	40,500	-	11,566
TVP via PCC	320	35,410	35,027	-	703
Sobell	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Various Small Grants for A&O Services	5,439	15,944	16,933	-	4,450
	<u>5,759</u>	<u>223,420</u>	<u>178,383</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50,796</u>
Children's services					
Children In Need	3,207	33,315	32,893	-	3,629
Masonic	19,847	-	17,455	-	2,392
TVP via PCC	-	31,263	31,263	-	-
Various Small Grants for Children's	738	2,632	1,370	-	2,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>23,792</u>	<u>67,209</u>	<u>82,982</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,021</u>
Voluntary					
Aviva	917	-	917	-	-
Awards for All	4,435	-	4,435	-	-
Englefield Charitable Trust	-	2,000	1,500	-	500
Matrix Prism	-	3,000	3,000	-	-
Safe Lives	251	-	251	-	-
	<u>5,603</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>10,103</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>500</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>55,582</u>	<u>347,993</u>	<u>308,486</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95,090</u>
General funds	<u>399,340</u>	<u>544,411</u>	<u>548,231</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>395,520</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>399,340</u>	<u>544,411</u>	<u>548,231</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>395,520</u>
Total funds	<u>454,922</u>	<u>892,404</u>	<u>856,717</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>490,610</u>

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

13b. Movements in funds (prior year)

	At the start of the year £	Income and gains £	Expenditure and losses as restated £	Transfers £	At the end of the year as restated £
Restricted funds:					
Refuge					
Charles Hayward	-	25,000	25,000	-	-
Various Small Grants for Refuge Services	19,869	24,499	23,940	-	20,428
	<u>19,869</u>	<u>49,499</u>	<u>48,940</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,428</u>
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy					
Hodge	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
Nationwide	-	25,000	25,000	-	-
RBWM	-	15,000	15,000	-	-
TVP via PCC	-	28,038	27,718	-	320
The Mackie Foundation	-	20,000	20,000	-	-
Various Small Grants for A&O Services	296	26,626	21,483	-	5,439
	<u>296</u>	<u>124,664</u>	<u>119,201</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,759</u>
Children's services					
Children In Need	5,019	31,067	32,879	-	3,207
Masonic	23,129	30,000	33,282	-	19,847
TVP via PCC	-	31,263	31,263	-	-
Various Small Grants for Children's	-	4,852	4,114	-	738
Volant	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
	<u>28,148</u>	<u>107,182</u>	<u>111,539</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,792</u>
Voluntary					
Aviva	917	-	-	-	917
Awards for All	-	9,910	5,475	-	4,435
Matrix Prism	-	3,000	3,000	-	-
Safe Lives	578	-	327	-	251
Total restricted funds	<u>49,808</u>	<u>294,255</u>	<u>288,481</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55,582</u>
General funds	<u>455,260</u>	<u>490,600</u>	<u>546,520</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>399,340</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>455,260</u>	<u>490,600</u>	<u>546,520</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>399,340</u>
Total funds	<u>505,068</u>	<u>784,855</u>	<u>835,001</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>454,922</u>

Purposes of restricted funds

Awards for All	Community Fundariser
Berkshire Community	A&O team and Refuge maintenance
Foundation	IDVA Support, Helpline, Freedom programme
Blagrove Charitable Trust	Refuge Worker
Charles Hayward	Children & Families IDVA Healthy Living Grant
Children in Need	Supporting Clients
Heart of Bucks	A&O Manager
Hodge	Outreach worker
King Cullimore	Refuge Sofa & Children's Worker
Masonic	A&O Elderly Persons IDVA & Diversity Support Worker & Children's Service Worker
Ministry of Justice via PCC	Outreach Worker
Nationwide	A&O team workers & Housing IDVA
RBWM	Helpline
Sobell	Many local & small grant funders have supported us through the year, with advocacy support, children's activities, refuge running cost, new laptops, training etc.
Various Small Grants	

14. Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	Property 2024 £	2023 £
Less than one year – refuge leases	11,750	17,622
One to five years – refuge leases	47,000	44,088
Over five years – refuge leases	2,938	14,696
	61,688	76,405

THE DASH CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1127126

Accounts

Company number: 06758907

Charity number: 1127126

The Dash Charity

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

The Dash Charity

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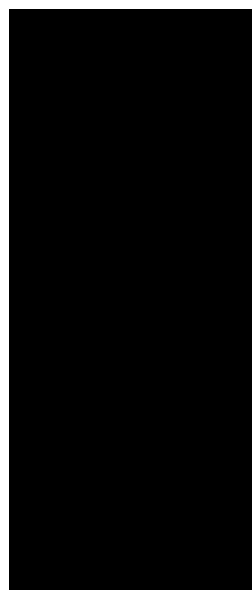
The Dash Charity

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Company number	06758907
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom
Charity number	1127126
Country of registration	England & Wales
Registered office and Operational address	551 Fairlie Road Slough Berkshire SL1 4PY

Directors Directors who are also trustees under charity law, who served during the period and up to the date of this report were as follows:



Chair
Secretary
Safeguarding Trustee
Vice Chair

Joined 29/09/2022
Treasurer joined 23/11/22
Joined 27/01/2023
Joined 26/02/2023
Resigned 09/09/2022

Key Management Personnel	Nicola Miller	Chief Executive joined 8 th Aug 22
	Kiran Pathak	Head of Finance & Governance
	Claire Batchelor	Advocacy & Outreach Manager
	Tracey Noble	Refuge Manager

The Dash Charity

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Solicitors

Kidd Rapinet Solicitors
392 Edinburgh Avenue
Slough Trading Estate
Slough
Berkshire
SL1 4UF

Independent examiner Joanna Pittman FCA

Sayer Vincent LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane,
LONDON,
EC1Y 0TL

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2023

The Directors and Senior Management Team present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Chair & CEO Report & Acknowledgement

Chair Report

It's been another challenging year for The Dash Charity. We have continued to go above and beyond for adults and children affected by domestic abuse accessing our services.

The cost of living crisis has heightened the challenges faced by both our clients and colleagues. Referrals to our advocacy and refuge services have remained high. We have worked hard to safely manage these additional challenges and continue to work hard reduce the risks of domestic abuse to our clients.

I am incredibly proud of our dedicated team of staff and volunteers. Thank you from all the trustees for the difference you make every single day.

Our Board welcomed several new trustees this year, bringing with them new perspectives and skills. We are grateful for the support of all of our wonderful trustees.

I also wanted to thank our incredible donors and funders, who continue to provide the financial stability we rely on to deliver life changing support in our local communities. We are extremely thankful for what you have enabled us to deliver this year. Without you none of this would be possible.

Our mission for the future is clear - to break the cycle of abuse and end domestic abuse once and for all. I look forward to seeing how Dash continues to grow over the next year, developing a refreshed strategy for the coming years and continuing to deliver high quality and life changing support to adults, children and families experiencing domestic abuse.

 Chair of Trustees

CEO Report

I joined Dash as CEO in August and feel incredibly proud and privileged to be at the helm of this well-known and well-loved organisation that has a lasting impact upon so many people's lives across East Berkshire and South Buckinghamshire.

The work being done by our team remains life-changing for those who have experienced domestic abuse, as staff and volunteers go the extra mile to help create stronger people, spaces and communities.

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As we emerged from the pandemic, our focus on going above and beyond for survivors of domestic abuse has remained, giving people access to the time and space they need for as long as it takes to feel safer. However, with the challenges of the global pandemic moving slowly into the past, we have been forced to face a new reality, where the cost of living crisis has impacted victims of domestic abuse in unique and worrying ways.

A Women's Aid survey found the picture nationally was worrying. 73% said their financial links to their abuser coupled with the cost of living crisis made it harder for them to leave, while 66% said abusers were using the cost of living as another tool to abuse.

We launched our 'Cost of Leaving Crisis' campaign to raise awareness and funds to fight these issues that remain close to home for our clients. The Dash Charity has seen previous clients calling back in for referrals to foodbanks, victims staying longer in refuge because they can't afford to move out, and not being able to flee abusive homes in the first place due to worries about money. All this has been whilst Dash balances an increase in demand with the escalating cost of running refuge services.

At the same time, we have responded to the needs of our communities and introduced new services to ensure the right support is in place for the people who need it. Referrals from people aged 55+ have soared in response to the appointment and work of our older people's IDVA; we retained our hybrid delivery model of online and in-person group support programme to improve accessibility for survivors; and we have introduced popular new drop-in spaces across our local footprint.

Our refuges have adapted to demands and supported complex cases by investing the time and practice innovation to ensure a safe sanctuary flee women fleeing abuse.

Our support for children is more in demand than ever and we are pleased that we are able to collaborate with other agencies and schools to ensure young people who have lived through domestic abuse get the trauma-informed response they need to move forward.

Demand for our prevention and education programmes remains high, from training for skilled professionals to workshops in schools that tackle the normalisation of unhealthy behaviours in relationships.

We finished the year with the successful re-commissioning of Dash by Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead (RBWM) for domestic abuse community services for another two years, with the option to extend for further year. We are honoured to be continuing to build upon our work and impact across the communities where we have been making a big difference.

We retained a strong presence across Slough, the location of our three refuges, and continue to work closely with Slough Borough Council on ensuring the diverse needs of its

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communities are supported through our specialist IDVAs. The 'Levelling Up' money that comes from Slough Borough Council under the Domestic Abuse Act brings vital income for our refuges and staff who run them.

As we move forward into the coming year, with a forthcoming strategy refresh, our mission to break the cycle of domestic abuse remains more vital and relevant than ever. Thank you to all the people – the staff, volunteers, friends, funders and supporters - who make this possible. Together we will make "Domestic abuse stops here" a reality.

Nicola Miller, CEO

Vision: End Domestic Abuse

Mission: To safeguard women, men and children in our community affected by Domestic Abuse, by offering a range of specialist services that will keep them safe and break the cycle of abuse.

Strategic Priorities:

- **Meeting Needs:** Provide specialist tailored services to adult and child victims, intervening as early as possible to prevent domestic abuse from happening, continuing or re-occurring
- **People:** Attract, develop, reward and retain committed staff and volunteers
- **Campaigns/awareness:** Raise awareness and challenge attitudes, beliefs and behaviours and educate our communities to prevent domestic abuse and break the cycle
- **Partnerships/Networking:** Build sustainable relationships with key stakeholders and supporters to ensure our Vision and Mission are realised
- **Fundraising/Finance:** Implement a realistic, targeted fundraising strategy to provide diversified income helping ensure our long-term sustainability

Values:

- **Client & Stakeholder Focus:** Understanding their requirements and striving to meet or exceed their expectations
- **Adaptability to Change:** Being adaptable to changes in the environment; ready and able to modify practices and behaviours
- **Quality:** Maintaining or exceeding service quality and reliability

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- **Accountability:** Taking responsibility and seeing matters through to conclusion; seeing the bigger picture, understanding and demonstrating the part you play in the success of the whole organisation
- **Initiating Action:** Taking prompt action to accomplish objectives; taking-action to achieve goals beyond what is required; being proactive

Aims

Our overall aim is to enable positive change for those affected by domestic abuse, by keeping victims safe, breaking the cycle of abuse and allowing families and individuals to thrive. We want to ensure all victims of domestic abuse, both adults and children, receive quality support services tailored around their individual needs, so that they can live their lives free from future relationship abuse.

Our work in the community aims to challenge attitudes, preconceptions and beliefs surrounding domestic abuse. We want to prevent domestic abuse through early intervention, education and awareness. We want our work to support safer, more equal communities, so adults and children can live free from abuse.

We ensure our services are high quality and tailored around the changing needs of our surrounding communities. With this in mind, our services will:

- Provide a specialist response to victims across varying levels of risk
- Aim to reduce the risk of further abuse for each individual
- Intervene at the earliest stage possible
- Prevent domestic abuse through education, training and awareness
- Offer recovery support
- Hold perpetrators to account through the criminal justice system

Activities

Since 1976, The Dash Charity has provided emergency temporary accommodation with emotional and practical support for women and their children fleeing domestic abuse. Since 2009, the scope of our work has broadened significantly, now supporting male victims, children and young people affected by domestic abuse in our local communities, and having an extensive community-based offering to families residing within the geographical remit of the organisation.

Our services have been developed over 46 years in consultation with our beneficiaries whose voice is vital in ensuring the services we provide really do work. Each individual situation will always be assessed on its own dynamics and a bespoke plan of support developed which build on strengths, resilience and wishes of each family. We work within a strong network of partner agencies to ensure that a holistic approach is taken to support.

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We have 3 refuges that can accommodate up to 14 families at any one time and provide safe accommodation and support for those victims at the highest risk, having to flee their homes to stay safe, often having just a small window of opportunity in which to escape. Women and their children will be supported to recover from their experiences and rediscover their confidence and independence.

We run an Outreach and Advocacy Community Service within our local community, supporting local victims of domestic abuse assessed as medium and high risk of further abuse, helping them stay safe and providing practical and intensive support, working alongside them to negotiate their own journey to safety.

We provide one to one support to children who have witnessed domestic abuse and have behavioural or emotional difficulties as a result. We run a crisis helpline for victims and practitioners and deliver training and healthy relationships workshops in schools and youth settings.

Beneficiaries of our services

The beneficiaries of our services are adults and children who have been affected, or are at risk of abuse, at the hands of a partner, ex-partner or family member.

The geographical remit of The Dash Charity community team is the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and some areas of South Buckinghamshire. Our refuge accommodation is based in Slough and will accept referrals from all over the UK.

Achievements and performance in the delivery of public benefit

Yearly Overview

"DASH has been extremely supportive through all its services. The staff are amazing, knowledgeable and supportive. They always give you time and never make you feel you are wasting theirs." (Dash client)

The table below shows the number of unique clients we supported across all areas of service and how our reach compares to previous years:

Outputs:	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Total number of new referrals to Community services (prior to risk assessment)	1,072	947	690
• Total IDVA clients (high risk)	138	106	104
• Total Outreach clients (medium/standard risk)	302	310	241

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Outputs:	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<i>Signposting and brief interventions (see note below)</i>	632	531	345
Total number of children referred into children's therapeutic support	120	124	103
Total number of new referrals to refuge services (prior to risk assessment)	115	98	183
Total number of intakes into refuge	33	34	33
Total Number of Freedom attendees	29	106	93

Service Provision by team

Refuge Services

- ***100% clients reported increased safety and stronger support networks post support***
- ***100% clients reported Increased levels of confidence and optimism for the future post support, with a better understanding of domestic abuse and greater confidence in seeking help in the future***
- ***96% clients were resettled in safe and appropriate accommodation with onward support in place***
- ***90% clients fully completed all actions and goals on their personal support plan***
- ***100% had increased confidence in parenting, post support***

In refuge, we supported 46 women (1 of whom was pregnant) and 32 children across the year. Only 5 women were in our refuge accommodation more than the desired maximum stay of 6 months. This is an 80% reduction from the previous year, which saw 26 women staying on beyond 6 months. Work alongside our local authority has contributed to this pattern and success moving clients on to suitable accommodation much sooner.

Some of our highlights this year have included:

- A new donation scheme where all new occupants are donated bedding, towels and dressing gowns
- Continuing to source essential items for families from Babybank, local Social Media appeals and receiving regular donations of tins and dried foods for our shared store cupboards from local Food Banks.

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- Helping clients to navigate support services including housing, legal and social care, working together to give each client the confidence to be able to advocate for themselves once they leave refuge.
- Groundbreaking progress for a lawfully resident EU national left without support simply because of her immigration status through a legal partnership

Advocacy and Outreach Services

99% of clients reported increased feelings of safety post support

97% completion of risk assessments and safety plans for all within agreed time scales

99% of clients reported confidence in accessing support at the point of case closure

"Dash has been phenomenal during a very trying time. I am grateful to have access to these resources (Dash and Freedom). I am not sure how I would have made it through without them." (former Dash client)

The feedback from our local authority, RBWM, remains very positive against our contract, successfully achieving all agreed KPIs. In March, following a competitive tender process, we were re-awarded the contract for a further two years, with a potential 'plus one' additional year. This means we will have maintained our role as the local authority's commissioned DA provider for up to seven years.

Key highlights this year have included:

- we now have a dedicated specialist IDVA to support older victims experiencing all forms of domestic abuse who live in RBWM, Slough or South Buckinghamshire
- Obtained a Forced Marriage Protection Order, protecting the daughter and younger siblings of a client from being married against their will
- completed 8 'healthy relationships' sessions with schools and youth organisations across Slough, as part of the legacy of the Knife Angel, which was present in Slough. for January 2023. During the Knife Angel, 855 children and young people accessed Dash workshops across 5 different settings in Slough.

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Children's Services

100% children/young people completing their programme of support reported understanding that domestic abuse was not their fault, nor was it their responsibility to stop it. They all reported improved wellbeing and coping strategies too.

We continued to provide our bespoke one-to-one support to children and young people affected by domestic abuse.

The number of children referred into our children's support programmes dropped slightly following a steady increase during the Covid pandemic, but strong demand for one-to-one work with children who have been affected by domestic abuse remains. During this year our waiting list for support reduced to pre-pandemic levels for the first time.

The programmes of support are continually adapted year-round in response to young people's feedback and are focussed on the needs of the individual rather than the rigidity of a set programme.

Freedom Programme

We have continued to offer a hybrid delivery of our Freedom programme, following positive feedback and attendance of virtual and in person group sessions. These two options were trialled during the pandemic and remain popular. They meet the varying needs of clients, particularly those who work or have caring responsibilities.

A total of 93 clients accessed one of the programmes during the year across all formats.

We ran 8 10-week programmes across the year, two virtual and one face to face at a community venue in Windsor town centre. One of our virtual sessions has continued to be run in the evening in response to client feedback and to improve accessibility to this element of service provision.

Healthy relationships workshops

"Students have always been engaged throughout the sessions that [Dash] runs. The questions the students ask go beyond what they would ask their normal class teacher."

"Students in Y13 still remember the [Dash support worker] sessions from lower down the school. In particular they remember just how knowledgeable she is and that she is calm, and answers all of their questions."

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Primary and secondary schools continued to adapt and return to a post covid world, which meant a full return to in-person relationship and sex education provision. We were able to run double the number of Healthy Relationship workshops in schools this year than last year, reaching three times as many children and young people. This represented a total of 42 workshops and assemblies, attended by 1,832 pupils.

We've continued using the Expect Respect model as well as our own schools' toolkit to inform these sessions, whilst tailoring content to the circumstances of the individual young person. We've worked with 103 young people on a one-to-one basis across the year, nearly quadrupling last year's figure.

Helpdesk, Signposting and Brief interventions

We received a total of 863 calls from first-time callers/enquirers or referrers via our Helpdesk throughout the year. Many of these callers went on to receive further support from a Dash practitioner, however 365 callers were offered a brief intervention to assist them with their safety and onward journey. This represents a slight drop in last year's numbers, when we experienced unprecedented demand for our services during the Covid pandemic.

We undertake signposting and brief support interventions on a regular basis where callers/referrals would benefit from support from other partner agencies instead of Dash for a variety of reasons. Every caller is still fully assessed in terms of need and risk and a pathway of support will be discussed with the client, which will always involve immediate safety. Referrals may be made on their behalf, to other relevant agencies including counselling, housing or legal support.

Our Commissioners are keen that we refer clients to VFES (Victims First Emotional Support) if clients are assessed as standard risk or need longer term emotional support. If a client does not reside in RBWM or South Bucks, we will refer them to their local authority/DA organisation for support or source out of area refuge space on their behalf if this is an identified need.

Training and Development

Our external training this year continued to generate income as we incorporated our specialist knowledge and training skills into our fundraising strategy. We have responded to opportunities to provide paid-for and greater depth training to organisations looking to train their staff to the next level. These included law firms, housing associations and professional bodies. This year we have delivered training to 442 people.

Internal training and development remain integral at The Dash Charity and we deliver regular all-staff training days. All staff receive monthly one to one supervision with their line manager

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and further to this we offer monthly clinical supervision with an external and clinically qualified supervisor. All staff are subject to yearly appraisals based on personal objectives linked into the charity business plan. Training plans are in place for all staff and meet accreditations and standards upheld by the charity.

Quality Assurance

The charity was one of the first to achieve and retain the **Safelives Leading Lights** accreditation and still holds it to this day. The Leading Lights accreditation programme offers specialist services a set of quality standards for supporting victims of domestic abuse. The programme was launched in 2009. We prepared this year for re-accreditation in 2023-24.

The charity is currently registered under **Ofsted's Childcare standards** and is subject to inspection.

In 2014 **National Women's Aid** launched their quality standards, developed in response to the needs of member organisations. The Charity was very proud to be amongst the first members to receive accreditation in 2015, further evidence of the quality services that are provided for supporting victims of domestic abuse. We were also delighted to receive re-accreditation in March 2019 which was valid for three years but this has been extended to five, given the pandemic. We look forward to re-accreditation in 2024.

Internally, our service standards are reviewed by the Senior Management team on an annual basis and at regular operational meetings throughout the year.

Networks and Partnership Working

Our network is extensive and we have built and maintained strong working relationships with key partners including Thames Valley Police, Local Authority Housing and Adult and Children Social Care Teams, Health, including Mental Health (CMHT) and Education. We use a number of methods to network, communicate, raise awareness and promote best practice in supporting victims of domestic abuse.

We sit on a range of local and regional Boards as well as participating in multi-agency meetings to support individual clients such as Child Protection conferences and MARAC and MATAC meetings. The Dash Charity is represented at the following multi-agency forums:

- Slough Domestic Abuse Forum
- Slough Domestic Abuse Partnership Group
- RBWM Domestic Abuse Forum
- Thames Valley Domestic Abuse Strategic Group
- RBWM DA Executive Group
- RBWM 'One Borough' networking group

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- Thames Valley DA Services Chief Execs Networking Forum
- Women's Aid CEO networking group
- SafeLives CEO networking group

Fundraising and Communications

The fundraising team consists of 1.5 Trusts & Grants writers, 1 Community Fundraising Officer and a commissioned service with fundraising experts Nova Consulting. Nova's role has included mentoring and developing the team, building capacity and expertise. Trustee [REDACTED] continued to support the fundraising team with her professional background being in marketing and communications, until Nicola joined as CEO in August.

A large focus on Trusts and Foundations continued and we also secured further statutory funding through the Office of the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner. We continued to work hard to improve the charity's community presence with a number of supporter-led events and activities taking place online and face-to-face.

Our Social Media presence has remained strong with Facebook and Instagram being the main vessels for our PR and marketing.

Our board continued to meet on a bi-monthly basis, where fundraising was discussed in depth alongside the charity's finances, allowing us to respond to changing need and agree new actions as appropriate.

Fundraising Practices

We do not have any third-party fundraisers and have not breached any fundraising codes. We are signed up to the Fundraising Regulator and are compliant with their Code of Practice, being committed to high fundraising standards. We have not received any fundraising complaints to date.

Risk review

We have a risk review that is reviewed monthly by the Senior Management Team and also at every Board meeting, to ensure that all aspects of the charity are risk assessed and managed. This regular review has been particularly crucial during the pandemic. These incorporate: operational, funding, people and skills, finance, strategy, environment, competition, management technology, regulation, politics and governance. Specific actions are identified against each risk and monitored monthly.

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Risks to clients are managed through monthly case reviews. If risks to clients escalate, a review meeting is conducted, and safety plans are amended and implemented. Risk assessments and partnership working enable us to ensure all risk management is considered.

The Senior Management team monitor our financial income and expenditure monthly, reviewing any potential financial risks. This includes assessing our management accounts as well as our cash flow position to ensure that we have a minimum of three months operating costs in reserve. We have rolling budgets to foresee the charity's financial stability and these are also reviewed monthly, and are prepared for a minimum of eighteen months to give us a long-term picture of our financial viability. Throughout regular Board meetings, risk, finance, expenditure and funding is explored and evaluated at a governance level. Risk is shared on an on-going basis through regular communication meetings with all staff, bi-monthly reports to the Board and clear communication with key stakeholders.

Remuneration

At the end of the financial year 2022/23, the key management personnel team consisted of four staff including, the Chief Executive, Head of Finance, Advocacy and Outreach Manager and Refuge Services Manager. The combined annual salaries, National Insurance & pension of these key personnel is £212,143. Salaries are benchmarked against other similar sized charities, and the salary scales are reviewed every three years, salaries were reviewed in 2020 as part of that process. Individuals' salaries are reviewed after each appraisal annually, although the charity cannot guarantee an annual review. However, we will ensure that all staff salaries are reviewed and increased at least every two years based on a satisfactory annual appraisal result.

Staffing

The Dash Charity staff team is made up of 15 full time and 7 part time members of staff. We currently have in excess of 20 volunteers that primarily support fundraising events.

Preparation, selection, vetting and vigilant maintenance are all central to our safer recruitment policy. All of our staff, students and volunteers are screened before commencing employment or volunteering with us. This means taking up references from former employers, which specifically ask questions about safeguarding, conduct and suitability to work with vulnerable clients. Identity is additionally sought from candidates prior to interview along with relevant training/ education/ qualification certificates. Our recruitment policy and volunteer policy are updated annually to ensure all recent legislation and guidance is included.

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Pre-planned interview questions with an interview panel of two staff members are used, as well as various simulation assessments, so we are further able to assess the knowledge, insight and suitability of a candidate.

All volunteers, students and staff in roles with unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults and clients, must complete an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before they can commence their duties. They also have to undertake safeguarding training along with our introduction to domestic abuse training when they commence their employment.

Financial Review

Total incoming resources for the year were £784,855. Of this £294,255 (37%) was generated from charitable trusts and grants, £152,331 (19%) was generated from client rent and housing benefit, £95,000 (12%) the refuge levelling up funds, £98,841 (13%) from local authorities and the remaining £144,428 (19%) from activities in the community and donations.

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £835,001, of which £692,877 (83%) was spent on charitable activities; £142,124 (17%) was spent on the sustainability and development team.

We spent £197,293 (24%) on refuge, £305,355 (36%) on the Advocacy & Outreach team, £190,229 (23%) on Children's Services team.

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Reserves

As at 31 March 2023 the charity cash balance was £530,451 equivalent to 7.6 months operating expenditure. Total reserves as at 31 March 2023 was £454,922, equivalent to 6.5 months operating expenditure, which was made up of £55,582 restricted reserves and £399,340 unrestricted reserves that equates to 5.7 months running costs.

We have maintained our reserves level this year at 5.7 months. The Charity's aim is to have 3-6 months reserves level sustained across our future forecasts and to sustain reserve levels to ensure that there could be a smooth exit if this was ever required. Our strong financial management, accurate forecasts and robust risk management will ensure that we work to maintain our reserves level in the coming year.

Financial Review 2022/23

Year	Total Incoming Resources	Charitable Trusts & Grants	% Rate	Client Rent & Housing Benefit	% Rate
2020/21	939,172	387,863	41%	149,823	16%
2021/22	806,674	216,390	27%	162,787	20%
2022/ 23	784,855	294,255	38%	152,331	19%
		Local Authorities including the Dept of Levelling Up & Communities	% Rate	Community & Donations	% Rate
		132,392	14%	268,949	29%
		217,392	27%	211,005	26%
		193,841	25%	143,759	18%

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Year	Total Expenditure	Spent on Charitable Activities	% Rate	Spent on Fundraising Team	% Rate
2020/21	769,850	641,916	83%	127,934	17%
2021/22	785,360	682,742	87%	102,619	13%
2022/23	835,001	692,877	83%	142,124	17%
Spent on Refuge Team	% Rate	Spent on Advocacy Team	% Rate	Spent on Children's Team	% Rate
166,095	22%	343,128	45%	132,693	16%
207,383	26%	292,472	38%	182,887	23%
197,293	24%	305,355	36%	190,229	23%

Year	Cash Balance	Number of Months Going Concern	Total reserves	Number of Months Reserves
2020/21	489,484	7.6	483,755	7.5
2021/22	491,592	7.6	505,069	7.8
2022/23	530,451	7.6	454,922	6.5
		Restricted	Unrestricted	Number of Months Reserves
		60,791	422,964	6.6
		49,808	455,261	7.1
		55,582	399,340	5.7

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Going concern

The directors review the financial projections of both operating finance and cashflow on a monthly basis. Following these reviews, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue its activities for the near future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements and accounts. The basis for this conclusion is:

- Continued strong financial governance
- Tight and thorough management control
- Clearly demonstrable public benefit
- Continued development of key relationships including local authority and funders
- Cautious approach to future income levels
- Proactive and agile approach to change

We have a strong and successful relationship with our commissioners at RBWM; this contract still forms the basis of core funding for community service delivery. Whilst the lack of multi-year grants is concerning, the fundraising team are working hard to seek to source and secure such funding on an ongoing basis.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 November 2008 and registered as a charity on 10 December 2008.

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

On 1 April 2009, East Berkshire Women's Aid, a registered charity in England and Wales (charity number 272579), transferred all its assets, liabilities and activities to Berkshire East and South Bucks Women's Aid (BESBWA). As of 15 April 2014, the charity changed its name to The Dash Charity, standing for Domestic Abuse Stops Here.

The Chief Executive, Senior Management Team and Board of Directors followed the procedures advised by the Charity Commission before making appointments for positions. All directors give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 5 of the financial statements.

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

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The Chief Executive is responsible for the leadership and day-to-day management decisions and fulfilling the long and short-term objectives as per the business plan. The Chief Executive is supported by the Head of Finance who ensures the ongoing financial viability of the Charity, and the two Heads of services- Refuge and Community. All legal documents i.e. leases and contracts are signed by the Board, usually the Chair, after full consultation with the Chief Executive.

Recruitment and appointment of Directors

The Dash Charity recognises that the role of Directors involves important responsibilities, and requires not only great commitment, but also certain skills and experience. Sound governance is vital to enable The Dash Charity to achieve its aims and objectives, and therefore the recruitment of Directors should be carried out with as much care as the recruitment of paid staff, in line with Equal Opportunities policy and procedures.

Our Board has a mixed range of skills and experiences and we currently have nine Trustees. Our Board of Directors continue to show full commitment to support the senior management team and govern the Charity effectively.

Specific organisations and individuals with the skills, knowledge or experience identified as above will be targeted for recruitment and more generally, we will advertise through social media and within our networks. If individuals approach The Dash Charity and offer to become a Director they will be required to complete an application form so we can identify what skills they can bring to the organisation, if this fits the current need they will meet with the Chair and the Chief Executive to review their skill set and suitability.

Induction and Training for Directors

All Directors receive a programme of induction, co-ordinated by the Chair and Chief Executive upon appointment. A Directors induction pack is kept up to date and forms the basis of this induction.

All Directors receive our 'introduction to domestic abuse' one day training session and 'effects of domestic abuse on children' one day training session with our Training Lead. All Directors will also complete safeguarding training; we also have a named safeguarding lead Trustee, Daniel Crampton, who leads on the review of any significant safeguarding concerns raised across the organisation.

Our Directors are invited to our bi-monthly Communications meetings and have direct links to key members of staff for whom they can mentor and offer key skills. As part of the Skills Audit, the training needs of new Directors are identified and a programme of training planned to meet these needs.

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Statement of responsibilities of the Directors

The Directors (who are also trustees of The Dash Charity for the purposes of charity law) are responsible for preparing the directors' 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 directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

The Directors 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.

Members of the Charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the Charity in the event of winding up. The Directors are members of the Charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Directors have no beneficial interest in the Charity.

The directors acknowledge the following responsibilities:

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

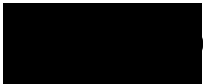
The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2023

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

Approved by the Directors on 21 September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

 Chair of the Directors

Independent examiner's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

I report on the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

This report is made solely to the trustees as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the 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 trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

- 1** Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2** The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3** The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4** The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities

Independent examiner's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

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:

Name: Joanna Pittman FCA

Independent Examiner

Address: Sayer Vincent LLP, Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TL

Date: 13 October 2023

The Dash Charity

Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

		2023			2022		
	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Income from:							
Donations and gifts	2a	12,910	121,777	134,687	–	184,799	184,799
Other Trading Activities	2b	–	19,352	19,352	–	26,154	26,154
Investment income		–	2,630	2,630	–	52	52
<i>Charitable activities</i>							
Refuge	3a	49,499	247,331	296,830	24,000	261,887	285,887
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy	3b	124,664	98,841	223,505	87,449	117,392	204,841
Children's services	3c	107,182	669	107,851	104,941	–	104,941
Total income		294,255	490,600	784,855	216,390	590,284	806,674
Expenditure on:							
<i>Raising funds:</i>							
Costs of generating income		8,801	133,323	142,124	326	102,293	102,619
<i>Charitable activities</i>							
Refuge		48,941	148,352	197,293	27,234	180,149	207,383
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy		119,201	186,154	305,355	96,566	195,906	292,472
Children's services		111,538	78,691	190,229	103,247	79,640	182,887
Total resources expended	4	288,481	546,520	835,001	227,373	557,988	785,361
Net (expenditure) / income for the year and net movement in funds	5	5,774	(55,920)	(50,146)	(10,983)	32,296	21,313
Transfers between funds		–	–	–	–	–	–
Net movement in funds		5,774	(55,920)	(50,146)	(10,983)	32,296	21,313
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		49,808	455,260	505,068	60,791	422,964	483,755
Total funds carried forward		55,582	399,340	454,922	49,808	455,260	505,068

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 13a to the financial statements.

The Dash Charity

Balance sheet

Company no. 06758907

As at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	13,479	11,077
		<u>13,479</u>	<u>11,077</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	10	32,362	151,748
Cash at bank and in hand		530,451	491,591
		<u>562,812</u>	<u>643,339</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts due within one year	11	93,299	85,213
Net current assets		<u>469,513</u>	<u>558,126</u>
Total assets less Current liabilities		<u>482,991</u>	<u>569,203</u>
Creditors: amounts due after one year	11a	28,070	64,135
Net assets	12	<u>454,922</u>	<u>505,068</u>
The funds of the charity	13		
Restricted funds		55,582	49,808
Unrestricted funds			
General funds		399,340	455,260
Total charity funds		<u>454,922</u>	<u>505,068</u>

For the year ending 31st March 2023, the company was entitled to exemption deom audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of it's accounts for the year in question accordance to section 476.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small charities "regime."

Approved by the Directors on 21 September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

- Chair of the Directors

The Dash Charity

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net income / expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(50,146)		21,313	
Depreciation charges	5,387		5,278	
Interest	(2,630)		(52)	
Decrease/ (increase) in debtors	119,386		(83,362)	
Increase in creditors – excluding bank loan	(27,979)		48,214	
Increase in provisions for bad debt	–		12,316	
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities		44,018		3,707
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Interest and rents from investments	2,630		52	
Purchase of fixed assets	(7,789)		(779)	
Net cash (used in)/ provided by investing activities		(5,159)		(727)
Cash flows from financing activities:				
HSBC Bank loan			(873)	
Net cash (used in) / provided by financing activities		–		(873)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		38,859		2,108
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		491,591		489,484
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		530,451		491,591

1. Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

The Dash Charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The registered office address is 551 Fairlie Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 4PY

b) Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The trustees have prepared the accounts on the going concern basis and considered if there are any material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The charity receives a variety of types of income, including grants and donations, and not all income expected for the following financial period is confirmed at the date of signing of the financial statements. Therefore the trustees have considered the likely scenarios for unconfirmed income, taking into account the success rates of previous grant funding applications. The trustees have then considered the worst case scenario, given the current available information, and this does not indicate material uncertainties in the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

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

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

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

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) 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.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services, running refuges, providing child services, advocacy work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

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

j) Allocation of support and governance costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

▪ Cost of generating income	16%
▪ Refuge	21%
▪ Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy	39%
▪ Children's Services	24%

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Where such information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is also provided to potential donors, activity costs are apportioned between fundraising and charitable activities on the basis of area of literature occupied by each activity.

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

▪ Office Equipment	4 years
▪ Furniture & fittings	4 years
▪ Motor Vehicles	4 years

m) Debtors

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

n) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

o) Creditors and provisions

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

p) 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.

q) Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contribution. All staff are enrolled as per the HMRC legislation on to the auto enrolment pension scheme.

2. a) Donations and gifts

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £
Grants for Fundraising & Core Cost	12,910	25,945	38,855	–	110,500	110,500
Donations from fundraisers	–	80,075	80,075	–	32,416	32,416
Corporates	–	3,386	3,386	–	30,306	30,306
Facebook	–	1,066	1,066	–	3,727	3,727
Gift aid	–	11,306	11,306	–	7,850	7,850
Total	12,910	121,777	134,687	–	184,799	184,799

2. b) Income from other trading activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £
Dash Events	–	1,025	1,025	–	1,807	1,807
3rd Party Events	–	4,219	4,219	–	11,248	11,248
Community	–	8,804	8,804	–	7,798	7,798
Training	–	5,304	5,304	–	5,301	5,301
Total charity income	–	19,352	19,352	–	26,154	26,154

3. Incoming resources from charitable activities

a) Refuge	Restricted	Unrestricted	2023	Restricted	Unrestricted	2022
	£	£	Total £	£	£	Total £
Rent	-	136,283	136,283	-	151,300	151,300
Service charges	-	12,654	12,654	-	10,487	10,487
Slough Borough Council	-	95,000	95,000	-	100,000	100,000
Various Small Grants for Refuge Services	24,499	3,394	27,893	12,000	100	12,100
Charles Hayward	25,000	-	25,000	-	-	-
Sobell	-	-	-	12,000	-	12,000
Total	49,499	247,331	296,830	24,000	261,887	285,887

b) Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2023	Restricted	Unrestricted	2022
	£	£	Total £	£	£	Total £
Awards for All	-	-	-	9,948	-	9,948
Berkshire Community Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Mackie Foundation	20,000	-	20,000	20,000	-	20,000
Hodge Foundation	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
Nationwide	25,000	-	25,000	-	-	-
Thames Valley Police PCC	17,705	-	17,705	37,279	-	37,279
RBWM DA	15,000	98,142	113,142	-	117,392	117,392
Various Small Grants for A&O Services	36,959	699	37,658	16,430	-	16,430
Wexham A&E	-	-	-	3,792	-	3,792
Total	124,664	98,841	223,505	87,449	117,392	204,841

c) Children's services

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2023	Restricted	Unrestricted	2022
	£	£	Total £	£	£	Total £
Children in Need	31,067	-	31,067	36,091	-	36,091
Masonic	30,000	-	30,000	30,000	-	30,000
Thames Valley Police PCC	31,263	-	31,263	30,850	-	30,850
Volant	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
Various Small Grants for Children's Services	4,852	669	5,521	8,000	-	8,000
Total	107,182	669	107,851	104,941	-	104,941

4a. Total resources expended (current year)

	Cost of generating income £	Refuge £	Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy £	Children's services £	Governance Costs £	Support Costs £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Staff costs (note 6)	91,657	105,702	212,374	135,090	63,672	70,121	678,616	633,410
Staff training and conferences	278	368	920	983	–	2,925	5,474	8,438
Volunteers' costs	–	–	–	–	–	244	244	609
Fundraising costs	2,270	–	–	–	–	–	2,270	2,739
Refuge running costs	–	7,617	–	35	–	–	7,653	1,168
Bad debt provision	–	(12,316)	–	–	–	–	(12,316)	12,316
Children activities	–	1,840	–	169	–	–	2,009	3,672
Repairs and renewals	–	14,092	–	–	–	–	14,092	17,440
Office costs	4,801	32,067	5,305	817	–	37,044	80,034	56,363
Motor expenses	–	1,288	–	877	–	–	2,165	1,680
Travel and subsistence	330	256	2,952	3,155	88	166	6,948	3,754
Communications	337	552	1,154	1,048	46	6,246	9,384	8,887
Client Support	–	152	3,744	4	–	–	3,900	2,953
Depreciation	–	3,713	79	195	–	1,400	5,387	5,280
Audit and accountancy	–	–	–	–	–	6,009	6,009	10,277
Legal and professional	10,980	–	150	650	–	11,351	23,131	16,377
	110,654	155,333	226,678	143,023	63,806	135,506	835,001	785,363
Support Costs	21,396	28,528	53,489	32,094	–	(135,506)	–	–
Governance cost	10,075	13,433	25,187	15,112	(63,806)	–	–	–
Total resources expended	142,124	197,293	305,355	190,229	–	–	835,001	–
Total expenditure 2022	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	785,363

The Dash Charity

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

4b. Total resources expended (prior year)

	Cost of generating income £	Refuge £	Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy £	Children's services £	Governance Costs £	Support Costs £	2022 Total £
Staff costs (note 6)	74,147	100,796	203,896	133,362	58,825	62,384	633,410
Staff training and conferences	335	3,480	1,600	2,266	590	166	8,438
Volunteers' costs	-	-	-	-	-	609	609
Fundraising costs	2,739	-	-	-	-	-	2,739
Refuge running costs	-	1,158	10	-	-	-	1,168
Bad debt provision	-	12,316	-	-	-	-	12,316
Children activities	-	1,188	211	2,273	-	-	3,672
Repairs and renewals	-	17,440	-	-	-	-	17,440
Office costs	4,302	27,634	5,907	2,164	-	16,355	56,363
Motor expenses	-	1,617	-	63	-	-	1,680
Travel and subsistence	329	325	1,563	1,508	-	29	3,754
Communications	247	1,006	935	689	19	5,992	8,887
Client Support	-	209	2,744	-	-	-	2,953
Depreciation	-	2,835	-	146	-	2,299	5,280
Audit and accountancy	-	-	-	-	-	10,277	10,277
Legal and professional	4,500	-	847	900	-	10,130	16,377
	86,599	170,004	217,712	143,371	59,435	108,240	785,363
Support Costs	10,341	24,130	48,260	25,509	-	(108,240)	-
Governance cost	5,679	13,250	26,499	14,007	(59,435)	-	-
Total resources expended	102,619	207,384	292,472	182,887	-	-	785,363
Total expenditure 2022	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

5. Net (expenditure)/income for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation	5,387	5,278
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
▪ Audit	-	7,000
Independent Examination	3,500	
Directors' remuneration	-	-
Directors' reimbursed expenses	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

No director received reimbursement of expenses for this year during the year (2023: £nil) or (2022 was for recruitment cost : £275).

6. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Salaries and wages	601,624	557,010
Social security costs	52,989	46,622
Pension contributions	21,367	20,829
Termination Cost	-	4,743
Recruitment	353	2,908
Other staff costs	2,283	1,298
	<u>678,616</u>	<u>633,410</u>

No employees earned over £60k in the financial year (2022: £nil) or (2023: £nil).

The total employee salaries of the key management personnel were 2023:£212,143 (2022: £207,985). We have had a change in our CEO this year.

The staff headcount for the year was 22 (2022: 22), allocated to activities as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Raising funds	3.00	3
Refuge	4.00	4
IDVA	7.50	8
Children Services	4.50	4
Support and governance	3.00	3
	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>

7. Related party transactions

In the year trustees made unrestricted donations to the charity totalling £375 (2022: £300).

There are no other related party transactions to disclose for 2023 or for 2022.

8. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Vehicles	Office equipment £	Furniture and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At the start of the year	9,598	7,362	20,779	37,739
Additions in the year	–	7,789	–	7,789
At the end of the year	<u>9,598</u>	<u>15,152</u>	<u>20,779</u>	<u>45,528</u>
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	3,999	2,636	20,027	26,662
Charge for the year	2,400	2,674	314	5,387
At the end of the year	<u>6,399</u>	<u>5,310</u>	<u>20,341</u>	<u>32,049</u>
Net book value				
At the end of the year	<u>3,199</u>	<u>9,842</u>	<u>438</u>	<u>13,479</u>
At the start of the year	<u>5,599</u>	<u>4,726</u>	<u>752</u>	<u>11,077</u>

10. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	–	50
Prepayments	18,427	11,017
Accrued income	13,934	140,681
	<u>32,362</u>	<u>151,748</u>

11. Creditors: amounts due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	10,052	7,789
Taxation and social security	13,287	12,633
Other creditors	3,632	3,498
Accruals	8,599	26,358
Loan Repayment	10,528	9,992
Deferred income – Grant funding for future periods	47,201	24,944
	<u>93,299</u>	<u>85,213</u>

11a. Creditors: Long term

	2023 £	2022 £
HSBC Loan	28,070	39,135
Deferred Income for Yr 23/24	–	25,000
	<u>28,070</u>	<u>64,135</u>

The bank loan with HSBC was provided as part of the Coronavirus Bounce Back Loan Scheme. Under the terms of the loan interest is payable at 2.5% per annum with final repayment due 72 months after initial drawdown. No security was required to be provided.

12a. Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	–	13,479	13,479
Net current assets	55,582	385,861	441,443
Net assets at the end of the year	55,582	399,340	454,922

12b. Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	–	11,077	11,077
Net current assets	49,808	444,183	493,991
Net assets at the end of the year	49,808	455,260	505,068

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

13a. Movements in funds (current year)

	At the start of the year as restated £	Income and gains £	Expenditure and losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Refuge					
Charles Hayward	–	25,000	25,000	–	–
Various Small Grants for Refuge Services	19,869	24,499	23,940	–	20,428
	19,869	49,499	48,940	–	20,428
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy					
Hodge	–	10,000	10,000	–	–
Nationwide		25,000	25,000		–
RBWM		15,000	15,000		–
TVP via PCC	–	28,038	27,718	–	320
The Mackie Foundation	–	20,000	20,000	–	–
Various Small Grants for A&O Services	296	26,626	21,483	–	5,439
	296	124,664	119,201	–	5,759
Children's services					
		–	–	–	–
Children In Need	5,019	31,067	32,879	–	3,207
Masonic	23,129	30,000	33,282	–	19,847
TVP via PCC	–	31,263	31,263	–	–
Various Small Grants for Children's	–	4,852	4,114	–	738
Volant	–	10,000	10,000	–	–
	28,148	107,182	111,539	–	23,792
Voluntary					
Aviva	917	–	–	–	917
Awards for All		9,910	5,475	–	4,435
Matrix Prism		3,000	3,000	–	–
Safe Lives	578	–	327	–	251
Total restricted funds	49,808	294,255	288,481	–	55,582
General funds	455,260	490,600	546,520	–	399,340
Total unrestricted funds	455,260	490,600	546,520	–	399,340
Total funds	505,068	784,855	835,001	–	454,922

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

13b. Movements in funds (prior year)

	At the start of the year £	Income and gains £	Expenditure and losses as restated £	Transfers £	At the end of the year as restated £
Restricted funds:					
Refuge					
Sobell	–	12,000	12,000	–	–
Various Small Grants for Refuge Services	23,103	12,000	15,234		19,869
	<u>23,103</u>	<u>24,000</u>	<u>27,234</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>19,869</u>
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy					
Awards For All	–	9,948	9,948	–	–
MOJ via PCC	–	37,279	37,279	–	–
The Mackie Foundation	–	20,000	20,000	–	–
Various Small Grants for A&O Services	9,413	20,222	29,339	–	296
	<u>9,413</u>	<u>87,449</u>	<u>96,566</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>296</u>
Children's services					
Children In Need	110	36,091	31,182	–	5,019
Masonic	–	30,000	6,871		23,129
MOJ via PCC	–	30,850	30,850		–
Various Small Grants for Children's	1,211	8,000	9,211	–	–
UCB King Budouin	25,133	–	25,133	–	–
	<u>26,454</u>	<u>104,941</u>	<u>103,247</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>28,148</u>
Voluntary					
Aviva	917	–	–	–	917
Safe Lives	904	–	326	–	578
Total restricted funds	<u>60,791</u>	<u>216,390</u>	<u>227,373</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>49,808</u>
General funds	<u>422,964</u>	<u>590,284</u>	<u>557,988</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>455,260</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>422,964</u>	<u>590,284</u>	<u>557,988</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>455,260</u>
Total funds	<u>483,755</u>	<u>806,674</u>	<u>785,361</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>505,068</u>

Purposes of restricted funds

Awards for All	Community Fundariser
Charles Hayward	Refuge Worker
Children in Need	Children & Families IDVA Healthy Living Grant
Hodge	A&O Manager
Masonic	Refuge Sofa & Children's Worker
Ministry of Justice via PCC	A&O Elderly Persons IDVA & Children's Service Worker
Nationwide	Outreach Worker
RBWM	A7O team workers & Freedom Worker
The Mackie Foundation	A&O Team
Volant	Freedom Worker
Various Small Grants	Berkshire Community Foundation are our local supporters, who have provided us with some small grants towards our helpline, a boiler for our refuge, children's activities, front line support. Many other local & small grant funders have supported us through the year aswell.

14. Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	Property 2023 £	2022 £
Less than one year – office rent & refuge leases	17,622	2,947
One to five years – refuge leases	44,088	–
Over five years – refuge leases	14,696	
	<u>76,405</u>	<u>2,947</u>

THE DASH CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1127126

Accounts

Company number: 06758907

Charity number: 1127126

The Dash Charity

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The Dash Charity

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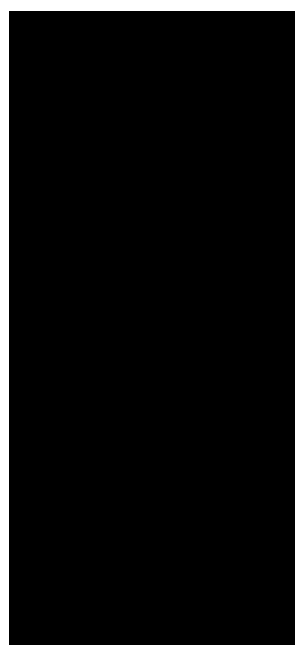
The Dash Charity

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Company number	06758907
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom
Charity number	1127126
Country of registration	England & Wales
Registered office and Operational address	551 Fairlie Road Slough Berkshire SL1 4PY

Directors Directors who are also trustees under charity law, who served during the period and up to the date of this report were as follows:



Chair
Left on 25/03/2022
Secretary

Joined 17/02/2022
Left on 29/04/2021
Left on 21/02/2022

Left on 04/01/2022
Joined 29/09/2022

Key Management Personnel	Alison Bourne	Chief Executive (to 16/08/2022)
	Kiran Pathak	Head of Finance & Governance
	Claire Batchelor	Advocacy & Outreach Manager
	Tracey Noble	Refuge Manager
	Nicola Miller	Chief Executive (from 08/08/2022)

The Dash Charity

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Solicitors

Kidd Rapinet Solicitors
392 Edinburgh Avenue
Slough Trading Estate
Slough
Berkshire
SL1 4UF

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane,
LONDON,
EC1Y 0TL

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The Directors and Senior Management Team present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Chair & CEO Report & Acknowledgement

Chair Report

2021/22 has been a fantastic year for The Dash Charity. We have continued to deliver high quality services to families and individuals experiencing domestic abuse throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Under extremely difficult circumstances, we have continued to manage high levels of referrals to both our refuge and community-based advocacy services.

The team at Dash have shown determination and resilience in uncertain and challenging times, ensuring that survivors of domestic abuse have the support they need no matter what the context or how complex their situation. The team have continued to work remotely and retain a strong sense of team spirit and are united in their cause. On behalf of all the trustees I would like to thank our team for the hard work they have put in this year and the total commitment to Dash and changing lives. Their pride and compassion has shone through and we are extremely proud to be part of such a wonderful team.

I would also like to thank all of our funders, volunteers and supporters. Without all of you we would not be here. We are so grateful for your ongoing support.

Looking ahead, we will continue towards our vision of ending domestic abuse and breaking the cycle of abuse. We will continue to focus on education and early intervention to help prevent domestic abuse, while supporting families and individuals experiencing domestic abuse through our refuge and advocacy work.

CEO Report

We continue to maintain and build relationships with both the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (for whom we are the commissioned service) and also Slough Borough Council, where our three refuges are placed, and with whom we have worked really positively on optimising the 'Levelling Up' money from the Domestic Abuse Act. We continue to review our risk assessments in these changing times and the team have been exceptional in continuing to adapt to the current environment. We have recruited new staff as funding has allowed and inducted them both face to face and virtually.

We continued with monthly one-to-one supervision calls online as well as the clinical supervision support for the frontline workers. This was particularly important as referrals from adult and children affected by domestic abuse continued to remain high during the pandemic.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The fundraising team have continued to do an outstanding job. Those working on obtaining grants have worked hard on researching opportunities and writing excellent bids. Our new community fundraiser has worked effectively with our new fundraising partners Nova Consulting, particularly focussing on nurturing our existing supporters.

The Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead (RBWM) are due to re-commission August/September 2022 so we have established a 'Tender Ready' team to prepare us for this, along with the planned re-commissioning of domestic abuse community services by Slough Borough Council within the next financial year.

Our Chair of Trustees, [REDACTED] returned from maternity leave in March; previous interim Chair [REDACTED] stood down at that time. We are extremely grateful for their support and commitment.

Personally, I am truly inspired and proud of the team at Dash who work tirelessly to ensure that victims of domestic abuse are empowered and have the tools they need to keep themselves and their children safe. Over the years I have seen the charity continue to thrive and aspire to provide the best services possible for the adults and children that need us most. Currently we have a renewed focus on prevention and education alongside our existing services to support all clients experiencing domestic abuse.

Looking ahead, we will continue to challenge perceptions of domestic abuse and work with our extensive network of professionals to build trust in our community to seek help and support, and break the cycle of domestic abuse.

Strategic Report

Vision: End Domestic Abuse

Mission: To safeguard women, men and children in our community affected by Domestic Abuse, by offering a range of specialist services that will keep them safe and break the cycle of abuse.

Strategic Priorities:

- Meeting Needs: Provide specialist tailored services to adult and child victims, intervening as early as possible to prevent domestic abuse from happening, continuing or re-occurring
- People: Attract, develop, reward and retain committed staff and volunteers
- Campaigns/awareness: Raise awareness and challenge attitudes, beliefs and behaviours and educate our communities to prevent domestic abuse and break the cycle

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

- **Partnerships/Networking:** Build sustainable relationships with key stakeholders and supporters to ensure our Vision and Mission are realised
- **Fundraising/Finance:** Implement a realistic, targeted fundraising strategy to provide diversified income helping ensure our long-term sustainability

Values:

- **Client & Stakeholder Focus:** Understanding their requirements and striving to meet or exceed their expectations
- **Adaptability to Change:** Being adaptable to changes in the environment; ready and able to modify practices and behaviours
- **Quality:** Maintaining or exceeding service quality and reliability
- **Accountability:** Taking responsibility and seeing matters through to conclusion; seeing the bigger picture, understanding and demonstrating the part you play in the success of the whole organisation
- **Initiating Action:** Taking prompt action to accomplish objectives; taking-action to achieve goals beyond what is required; being proactive

Work was started on a 'Strategy Refresh' project with support from the Lloyds Foundation Enhance Programme, starting with data-gathering collected from trustees, staff, managers and service users. This is being finalised currently in consultation with the whole Dash team and enabling individual and team objectives to remain current and relevant.

We finished the year with 6 Board members, each with varied professional backgrounds and we have skilled and committed front line practitioners who carry out the most incredible and life changing work every day. We are currently looking to recruit additional Trustees.

Aims

Our overall aim is to enable positive change for those affected by domestic abuse, by keeping victims safe, breaking the cycle of abuse and allowing families and individuals to thrive. We want to ensure all victims of domestic abuse, both adults and children, receive quality support services tailored around their individual needs, so that they can live their lives free from future relationship abuse.

Our work in the community aims to challenge attitudes, preconceptions and beliefs surrounding domestic abuse. We want to prevent domestic abuse through early intervention, education and awareness. We want our work to support safer, more equal communities, so adults and children can live free from abuse.

We ensure our services are high quality and tailored around the changing needs of our surrounding communities. With this in mind, our services will:

- Provide a specialist response to victims across varying levels of risk
- Aim to reduce the risk of further abuse for each individual

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

- Intervene at the earliest stage possible
- Prevent domestic abuse through education, training and awareness
- Offer recovery support
- Hold perpetrators to account through the criminal justice system

Activities

Since 1976, The Dash Charity has provided emergency temporary accommodation with emotional and practical support for women and their children fleeing domestic abuse. Since 2009, the scope of our work has broadened significantly, now supporting male victims, children and young people affected by domestic abuse in our local communities, and having an extensive community-based offering to families residing within the geographical remit of the organisation.

Our services have been developed over 46 years in consultation with our beneficiaries whose voice is vital in ensuring the services we provide really do work. Each individual situation will always be assessed on its own dynamics and a bespoke plan of support developed which build on strengths, resilience and wishes of each family. We work within a strong network of partner agencies to ensure that a holistic approach is taken to support.

We have 3 refuges that can accommodate up to 14 families at any one time and provide safe accommodation and support for those victims at the highest risk, having to flee their homes to stay safe, often having just a small window of opportunity in which to escape. Women and their children will be supported to recover from their experiences and rediscover their confidence and independence.

We run an Outreach and Advocacy Community Service within our local community, supporting local victims of domestic abuse assessed as medium and high risk of further abuse, helping them stay safe and providing practical and intensive support, working alongside them to negotiate their own journey to safety.

We provide one to one support to children who have witnessed domestic abuse and have behavioural or emotional difficulties as a result. We run a crisis helpline for victims and practitioners and deliver training and healthy relationships workshops in schools and youth settings.

Beneficiaries of our services

The beneficiaries of our services are adults and children who have been affected, or are at risk of abuse, at the hands of a partner, ex-partner or family member.

The geographical remit of The Dash Charity community team is the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and some areas of South Buckinghamshire. Our refuge accommodation is based in Slough and will accept referrals from all over the UK.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Achievements and performance in the delivery of public benefit

Yearly Overview

The new financial year began with us following the roadmap out of our third Covid-19 lockdown with restrictions finally being lifted across the UK. Whilst our referral rate to services began to slow, we were acutely aware of the ongoing impact of the pandemic on families affected by domestic abuse and the need for us to readjust the way we delivered our services in a post pandemic world.

We continued to work flexibly and via virtual means with our clients in order to maximise accessibility to our services, although face-to-face meetings were able to resume with clients given a choice into how best to access our support. In the absence of a central office space for our community and back office teams, remote working was supported through monthly face-to-face team meetings, clinical supervision and bi-monthly in person Communication/Training meet-ups.

We were pleased to be able to re-introduce our in-person Freedom Programmes, Healthy Relationship Workshops and external training over the course of this year, bringing the natural benefit of raising the awareness of our work within our communities and strengthening the partnership approach to tackling domestic abuse locally.

The table below shows the number of unique clients we supported across all areas of service and how our reach compares to previous years.:

Outputs:	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Total number of new referrals to Community services (prior to risk assessment)	792	1,072	947
• <i>Total IDVA clients (high risk)</i>	153	138	106
• <i>Total Outreach clients (medium/standard risk)</i>	259	302	310
• <i>Signposting and brief interventions (see note below)</i>	380	632	531
Total number of children referred into children's therapeutic support	79	120	124
Total number of new referrals to refuge services (prior to risk assessment)	157	115	98
Total number of intakes into refuge	34	33	34
Total Number of Freedom attendees	0	29	106

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Service Provision by team

Refuge Services

- **96% clients were resettled in safe and appropriate accommodation with onward support in place**
- **100% clients reported increased safety and stronger support networks post support**
- **100% clients reported Increased levels of confidence and optimism for the future post support**

In refuge, we supported 35 women (3 of which were pregnant) and 29 children across the year. 26 women were in our refuge accommodation more than the desired maximum stay of 6 months. This was largely due to clients with insecure immigration status and delays accessing suitable onward housing. We are working alongside our local authority in the context of the new Domestic Abuse Bill in order to address this pattern at an institutional level.

We've continued to manage our refuge homes though the changing COVID guidance and regulations, updating and reviewing our COVID risk management plan on a regular basis. Our first COVID case in refuge was in August 2021 and in total we have only had 4 COVID cases across 2 of our houses; we have actively encouraged and supported clients to receive their vaccinations and to adhere to all government guidance.

Some of our highlights this year have included:

- Supporting a No Recourse to Public Funds client to successful tribunal appeal win against the DWP who now has access to public funds
- Employing the use of the Women's Aid Rail to Refuge project, transporting 30% of our intakes to refuge in via this service
- Continuing to source essential items for families from Babybank, local Social Media appeals and receiving regular donations of tins and dried foods for our shared store cupboards from local Food Banks.
- Slough Borough Council conducted required consultation as part of the DA Bill Safe Accommodation statutory requirements. A number of Dash staff were interviewed and Focus Groups were held with refuge residents. The feedback on our services was outstanding.
- Working with 'More to her Life' charity who started a project to provide birthday gifts for our refuge clients. Clients were able to choose gifts/vouchers/birthday cake/balloons etc up to the value of £100 which helped make their birthdays extra special

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

- Providing 1-1 weaning sessions with clients along with 1-1 cooking sessions for those clients who needed more confidence in cooking for them and their children.
- We remained a key partner of the national 'Routes to Support' Network enabling us to source immediate refuge for those we could not support due to lack of space or the close proximity of the perpetrator to Dash refuges.

Advocacy and Outreach Services

99% of clients reported improved safety post support

99% of clients reported an improved quality of life post support

98% overall client engagement rate

38% clients reported a complete cessation of abuse at case closure

Over the last year, referrals to our adult community services began to level out after a steep rise in demand at the peak of the COVID pandemic. We have continued to see a rise in medium risk cases with a fall in the level of high-risk clients we have supported.

Optimistically, we would hope that this could be attributed to strong partnership working and identifying local victims at an earlier point in their journey. Certainly, the number of medium risk cases referred into us by the police has risen; 21% of all referrals to our Outreach and Advocacy service came from Thames Valley Police.

The feedback from our local authority, RBWM, remains very positive against our local authority contract and we were awarded a further 'plus one' on our contract this year, as we successfully completed our fourth year as commissioned DA provider, successfully achieving all agreed KPIs.

Key highlights this year have included:

- Our lead IDVA, Mirka being awarded a Thames Valley Police Partnership Award for going above and beyond and joint working with the Police in the support of a high-risk complex needs client
- A member of the Dash team was accredited as part of the Thames Valley Police train-the-trainer initiative and is conducting domestic abuse awareness training to front-line officers.
- Members of the Advocacy and Outreach team and a service user took part in three virtual conferences help by the Thames Valley Domestic Abuse Steering Group, both presenting and conducting Q & A sessions. Between 300 and 400 people were signed up for each event.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Children's Services

100% children/young people completing their programme of support reported improved wellbeing and coping strategies and an improved understanding of domestic abuse and healthy relationships.

We continued to provide our bespoke one-to-one support to children and young people affected by domestic abuse. The programmes of support have been continually tailored across the year in response to young people's feedback and is very much focussed on the needs of the individual rather than the rigidity of a set programme.

The number of children referred into our children's support programmes increased slightly from the year before and there is still a strong demand for one-to-one work with children who have been affected by domestic abuse. At times, during the year, we were operating a waiting list of 15+ children, although funding received in the latter part of this year enabled us to employ an additional worker which has helped alleviate this issue.

Freedom Programme

Following a successful pilot of a virtual Freedom Programme during the height of the pandemic, we received funding during the year to enable us to roll out a series of both virtual and in-person Freedom Programmes this financial year. 106 clients accessed one of the programmes during the year with 66 clients 'graduating' from the programme by year end.

We ran 9 10-week programmes across the year, two virtual and one face to face at a community venue in Windsor town centre. One of our virtual sessions was run in the evening in response to client feedback and to improve accessibility to this element of service provision.

Healthy relationships workshops

We were able to begin running some in-person Healthy Relationship sessions in schools once again this year and were able to run a total of 22 workshops and assemblies across the year, reaching 601 children and young people.

We've also continued running one to one healthy relationship sessions with children and young people who have been identified as needing some additional support in this area. We've continued using the Expect Respect model as well as our own schools' toolkit to inform these sessions, whilst tailoring content to the circumstances of the individual young person. We've worked with 28 young people on a one-to-on basis across the year.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Helpdesk, Signposting and Brief interventions

We received a total of 1092 calls from first-time callers/enquirers or referrers via our Helpdesk throughout the year. Many of these callers went on to receive further support from a Dash practitioner, however 531 callers were offered a brief intervention to assist them with their safety and onward journey.

We undertake signposting and brief support interventions on a regular basis where callers/referrals would benefit from support from other partner agencies instead of Dash for a variety of reasons. Every caller is still fully assessed in terms of need and risk and a pathway of support will be discussed with the client, which will always involve immediate safety. Referrals may be made on their behalf, to other relevant agencies including counselling, housing or legal support. Our Commissioners are keen that we refer clients to VFES (Victims First Emotional Support) if clients are assessed as standard risk or need longer term emotional support. If a client does not reside in RBWM or South Bucks, we will refer them to their local authority/DA organisation for support or source out of area refuge space on their behalf if this is an identified need.

Training and Development

Our external training this year continued to be a focus for income generation as we incorporated our specialist knowledge and training skills into our fundraising strategy. We have responded to opportunities to provide paid-for and greater depth training to organisations looking to train their staff to the next level. This year we have delivered training to 743 people.

Internal training and development remain integral at The Dash Charity and we deliver regular all-staff training days. We've had two staff members undertake their formal accredited SafeLives IDVA training this year as part of our commitment to invest in personal development and succession planning. All staff receive monthly one to one supervision with their line manager and further to this we offer monthly clinical supervision with an external and clinically qualified supervisor. All staff are subject to yearly appraisals based on personal objectives linked into the charity business plan. Training plans are in place for all staff and meet accreditations and standards upheld by the charity.

Quality Assurance

The charity was one of the first to achieve **Safe Lives Leading Lights** accreditation. The Leading Lights accreditation programme offers specialist services a set of quality standards for supporting victims of domestic abuse. The programme was launched in 2009. We completed our re-accreditation in December 2018 and, due to the pandemic, this was extended to be valid for four years.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The charity is currently registered under **Ofsted's Childcare standards** and is subject to inspection.

In 2014 **National Women's Aid** launched their quality standards, developed in response to the needs of member organisations. The Charity was very proud to be amongst the first members to receive accreditation in 2015, further evidence of the quality services that are provided for supporting victims of domestic abuse. We were also delighted to receive re-accreditation in March 2019 which was valid for three years but this has been extended to five, given the pandemic.

Internally, our service standards are reviewed by the Senior Management team on an annual basis.

Networks and Partnership Working

Our network is extensive and we have built and maintained strong working relationships with key partners including Thames Valley Police, Local Authority Housing and Adult and Children Social Care Teams, Health, including Mental Health (CMHT) and Education. We use a number of methods to network, communicate, raise awareness and promote best practice in supporting victims of domestic abuse.

We sit on a range of local and regional Boards as well as participating in multi-agency meetings to support individual clients such as Child Protection conferences and MARAC and MATAC meetings. The Dash Charity is represented at the following multi-agency forums:

- Slough Domestic Abuse Forum
- RBWM Domestic Abuse Forum
- Thames Valley Domestic Abuse Strategic Group
- RBWM DA Executive Group
- RBWM 'One Borough' networking group
- Thames Valley DA Services Chief Execs Networking Forum
- Women's Aid CEO networking group
- SafeLives CEO networking group

Fundraising and Communications

The fundraising team structure was re-configured to include 1.5 Trusts & Grants writers, a new Community Fundraising Officer and a partnership with fundraising experts Nova Consulting. Nova's role has included mentoring and developing the team, building capacity and expertise. Trustee Ginette Gower continued to support the fundraising team, with her professional background being in marketing and communications.

Our refreshed Fundraising approach sought to increase our focus on our sizeable existing supporter base, developing our Supporter Journey and encouraging regular giving and supporter-led fundraising. We've also spent time analysing our fundraising data for the

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

previous financial years, which will be used to inform a refreshed community fundraising strategy in 2022/23.

A large focus on Trusts and Foundations continued and we also secured some statutory funding through the Department of Levelling Up & Communities and the Ministry of Justice. We continued to work hard to improve the charity's community presence with a number of supporter-led events and activities taking place online and face-to-face.

Our Social Media presence has remained strong with Facebook and Instagram being the main vessels for our PR and marketing.

Our board continued to meet on a bi-monthly basis, with the finance/fundraising sub group also meeting bi-monthly on intermittent months. This allowed us to maintain a tight oversight of the financial picture, respond to changing need and focus and agree remedial actions as appropriate.

Fundraising Practices

We do not have any third-party fundraisers and have not breached any fundraising codes. We are signed up to the Fundraising Regulator and are compliant with their Code of Practice, being committed to high fundraising standards. We have not received any fundraising complaints to date.

Risk review

We have a risk review that is reviewed monthly by the Senior Management Team and also at every Board meeting, to ensure that all aspects of the charity are risk assessed and managed. This regular review has been particularly crucial during the pandemic. These incorporate: operational, funding, people and skills, finance, strategy, environment, competition, management technology, regulation, politics and governance. Specific actions are identified against each risk and monitored monthly.

Risks to clients are managed through monthly case reviews. If risks to clients escalate, a review meeting is conducted, and safety plans are amended and implemented. Risk assessments and partnership working enable us to ensure all risk management is considered.

The Senior Management team monitor our financial income and expenditure monthly, reviewing any potential financial risks. This includes assessing our management accounts as well as our cash flow position to ensure that we have a minimum of three months operating costs in reserve. We have rolling budgets to foresee the charity's financial stability and these are also reviewed monthly, and are prepared for a minimum of eighteen months to give us a long-term picture of our financial viability. Throughout regular Board meetings, risk, finance, expenditure and funding is explored and evaluated at a governance level. Risk is

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

shared on an on-going basis through regular communication meetings with all staff, bi-monthly reports to the Board and clear communication with key stakeholders.

Remuneration

At the end of the financial year 2021/22, the key management personnel team consisted of four staff including, the Chief Executive, Head of Finance, Advocacy and Outreach Manager and Refuge Services Manager. The combined annual salaries of these key personnel is £187,682. Salaries are benchmarked against other similar sized charities, and the salary scales are reviewed every three years, salaries were reviewed in 2020 as part of that process. Individuals' salaries are reviewed after each appraisal annually, although the charity cannot guarantee an annual review. However, we will ensure that all staff salaries are reviewed and increased at least every two years based on a satisfactory annual appraisal result.

Staffing

The Dash Charity staff team is made up of 15 full time and 7 part time members of staff. We currently have in excess of 20 volunteers that primarily support fundraising events.

Preparation, selection, vetting and vigilant maintenance are all central to our safer recruitment policy. All of our staff, students and volunteers are screened before commencing employment or volunteering with us. This means taking up references from former employers, which specifically ask questions about safeguarding, conduct and suitability to work with vulnerable clients. Identity is additionally sought from candidates prior to interview along with relevant training/ education/ qualification certificates. Our recruitment policy and volunteer policy are updated annually to ensure all recent legislation and guidance is included.

Pre-planned interview questions with an interview panel of two staff members are used, as well as various simulation assessments, so we are further able to assess the knowledge, insight and suitability of a candidate.

All volunteers, students and staff have to complete an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before they can commence their duties and they have to undertake safeguarding training along with our introduction to domestic abuse training when they commence their employment.

Financial Review

Total incoming resources for the year were £806,674. Of this £216,390 (27%) was generated from charitable trusts and grants, £162,787 (20%) was generated from client rent and housing benefit £100,000 (12%) the refuge levelling up funds, £117,392 (15%) from

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

local authorities and the remaining £211,005 (27%) from activities in the community and donations.

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £785,360, of which £682,742 (87%) was spent on charitable activities; £102,619 (13%) was spent on the sustainability and development team.

We spent £195,068 (25%) on refuge, £292,472 (38%) on the Advocacy & Outreach team, £182,887 (24%) on Children's Services team.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Reserves

As at 31 March 2022 the charity cash balance was £491,592 equivalent to 7.6 months operating expenditure. Total reserves as at 31 March 2022 was £505,069, equivalent to 7.8 months operating expenditure, which was made up of £49,808 restricted reserves and £455,261 unrestricted reserves that equates to 7.1 months running costs.

We have maintained our reserves level this year at 7.1 months. The Charity's aim is to have 3-6 months reserves level sustained across our future forecasts and to sustain reserve levels to ensure that there could be a smooth exit if this was ever required. Our strong financial management, accurate forecasts and robust risk management will ensure that we work to maintain our reserves level in the coming year.

Financial Review 2020/22

Year	Total Incoming Resources	Charitable Trusts & Grants	% Rate	Client Rent & Housing Benefit	% Rate
2020/21	939,172	387,863	41%	149,823	16%
2021/22	806,674	216,390	27%	162,787	20%
		Local Authorities including the Dept of Levelling Up & Communities	% Rate	Community & Donations	% Rate
		132,392	14%	268,949	29%
		217,392	27%	211,005	26%

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Year	Total Expenditure	Spent on Charitable Activities	% Rate	Spent on Fundraising Team	% Rate
2020/21	769,850	641,916	83%	127,934	17%
2021/22	785,360	682,742	87%	102,619	13%
Spent on Refuge Team	% Rate	Spent on Advocacy Team	% Rate	Spent on Children's Team	% Rate
166,095	22%	343,128	45%	132,693	16%
207,383	26%	292,472	38%	182,887	23%

Year	Cash Balance	Number of Months Going Concern	Total reserves	Number of Months Reserves
2020/21	489,484	7.6	483,755	7.5
2021/22	491,592	7.6	505,069	7.8
		Restricted	Unrestricted	Number of Months Reserves
		60,791	422,964	6.6
		49,808	455,261	7.1

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Going concern

The directors review the financial projections of both operating finance and cashflow on a monthly basis. Following these reviews, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue its activities for the near future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements and accounts. The basis for this conclusion is:

- Continued strong financial governance
- Tight and thorough management control
- Clearly demonstrable public benefit
- Continued development of key relationships including local authority and funders
- Cautious approach to future income levels
- Proactive and agile approach to change

We have a strong and successful relationship with our commissioners at RBWM; this contract still forms the basis of core funding for community service delivery. Whilst the lack of multi-year grants is concerning, the fundraising team are working hard to seek to source and secure such funding on an ongoing basis.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 November 2008 and registered as a charity on 10 December 2008.

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

On 1 April 2009, East Berkshire Women's Aid, a registered charity in England and Wales (charity number 272579), transferred all its assets, liabilities and activities to Berkshire East and South Bucks Women's Aid (BESBWA). As of 15 April 2014, the charity changed its name to The Dash Charity, standing for Domestic Abuse Stops Here.

The Chief Executive, Senior Management Team and Board of Directors followed the procedures advised by the Charity Commission before making appointments for positions. All directors give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 5 of the financial statements.

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

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

The Chief Executive is responsible for the leadership and day-to-day management decisions and fulfilling the long and short-term objectives as per the business plan. The Chief Executive is supported by the Head of Finance who ensures the ongoing financial viability of the Charity, and the two Heads of services- Refuge and Community. All legal documents i.e. leases and contracts are signed by the Board, usually the Chair, after full consultation with the Chief Executive.

Recruitment and appointment of Directors

The Dash Charity recognises that the role of Directors involves important responsibilities, and requires not only great commitment, but also certain skills and experience. Sound governance is vital to enable The Dash Charity to achieve its aims and objectives, and therefore the recruitment of Directors should be carried out with as much care as the recruitment of paid staff, in line with Equal Opportunities policy and procedures.

Our Board has a mixed range of skills and experiences and we currently have six Trustees. Our Board of Directors continue to show full commitment to support the senior management team and govern the Charity effectively.

Specific organisations and individuals with the skills, knowledge or experience identified as above will be targeted for recruitment and more generally, we will advertise through social media and within our networks. If individuals approach The Dash Charity and offer to become a Director they will be required to complete an application form so we can identify what skills they can bring to the organisation, if this fits the current need they will meet with the Chair and the Chief Executive to review their skill set and suitability.

Induction and Training for Directors

All Directors receive a programme of induction, co-ordinated by the Chair and Chief Executive upon appointment. A Directors induction pack is kept up to date and forms the basis of this induction.

All Directors receive our 'introduction to domestic abuse' one day training session and 'effects of domestic abuse on children' one day training session with our Training Lead. All Directors will also complete safeguarding training; we also have a named safeguarding lead Trustee, [REDACTED] who leads on the review of any significant safeguarding concerns raised across the organisation.

Our Directors are invited to our bi-monthly Communications meetings and have direct links to key members of staff for whom they can mentor and offer key skills. As part of the Skills Audit, the training needs of new Directors are identified and a programme of training planned to meet these needs.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Statement of responsibilities of the Directors

The Directors (who are also trustees of The Dash Charity for the purposes of charity law) are responsible for preparing the directors' 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 directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

In so far as the Directors are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The Directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Directors 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.

Members of the Charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the Charity in the event of winding up. The Directors are members of the Charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Directors have no beneficial interest in the Charity.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP were re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the Directors on 29 September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Chair of the Directors

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Dash Charity (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

Other Information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- The information given in the trustees' annual report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management and trustees which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

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

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

Use of our report

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

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Joanna Pittman (Senior statutory auditor)

30 September 2022

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

The Dash Charity

Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

For the year ended 31 March 2022

		2022			2021		
	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Income from:							
Donations and gifts	2a	–	184,799	184,799	6,093	233,682	239,775
Other Trading Activities	2b	–	26,154	26,154	–	35,267	35,267
Investment income		–	52	52	–	145	145
<i>Charitable activities</i>							
Refuge	3a	24,000	261,887	285,887	57,698	149,823	207,521
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy	3b	87,449	117,392	204,841	251,647	132,392	384,039
Children's services	3c	104,941	–	104,941	72,425	–	72,425
Total income		216,390	590,284	806,674	387,863	551,309	939,172
Expenditure on:							
<i>Raising funds:</i>							
Costs of generating income		326	102,293	102,619	4,272	123,662	127,934
<i>Charitable activities</i>							
Refuge		27,234	180,149	207,383	60,596	105,499	166,095
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy		96,566	195,906	292,472	242,367	100,761	343,128
Children's services		103,247	79,640	182,887	51,409	81,284	132,693
Total resources expended	4	227,373	557,988	785,361	358,644	411,206	769,850
Net (expenditure) / income for the year and net movement in funds	5	(10,983)	32,296	21,313	29,219	140,103	169,322
Transfers between funds		–	–	–	–	–	–
Net movement in funds		(10,983)	32,296	21,313	29,219	140,103	169,322
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		60,791	422,964	483,755	31,572	282,861	314,433
Total funds carried forward		49,808	455,260	505,068	60,791	422,964	483,755

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 13a to the financial statements.

The Dash Charity

Balance sheet

Company no. 06758907

As at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	11,077	15,576
		<u>11,077</u>	<u>15,576</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	10	151,748	68,386
Cash at bank and in hand		491,591	489,484
		<u>643,339</u>	<u>557,870</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts due within one year	11	85,213	39,691
Net current assets		<u>558,126</u>	<u>518,179</u>
Total assets less Current liabilities		<u>569,203</u>	<u>533,755</u>
Creditors: amounts due after one year	11a	64,135	50,000
Net assets	12	<u>505,068</u>	<u>483,755</u>
The funds of the charity	13		
Restricted funds		49,808	60,791
Unrestricted funds			
General funds		455,260	422,965
Total charity funds		<u>505,068</u>	<u>483,755</u>

Approved by the Directors on 29 September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Chair of the Directors

The Dash Charity

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net income / expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	21,313		169,322	
Depreciation charges	5,278		4,173	
Interest	(52)		(145)	
Decrease/ (increase) in debtors	(83,362)		(39,027)	
Increase in creditors – excluding bank loan	48,214		(4,757)	
Increase in provisions for bad debt	12,316		–	
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities		3,707		129,566
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Interest and rents from investments	52		145	
Purchase of fixed assets	(779)		(15,760)	
Net cash (used in)/ provided by investing activities		(727)		(15,615)
Cash flows from financing activities:				
HSBC Bank loan	(873)		50,000	
Net cash (used in) / provided by financing activities		(873)		50,000
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		2,107		163,952
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		489,484		325,533
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		491,591		489,484

1. Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

The Dash Charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The registered office address is 551 Fairlie Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 4PY

b) Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The trustees have prepared the accounts on the going concern basis and considered if there are any material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The charity receives a variety of types of income, including grants and donations, and not all income expected for the following financial period is confirmed at the date of signing of the financial statements. Therefore the trustees have considered the likely scenarios for unconfirmed income, taking into account the success rates of previous grant funding applications. The trustees have then considered the worst case scenario, given the current available information, and this does not indicate material uncertainties in the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees have considered the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic specifically and do not consider it to be a source of significant uncertainty which would affect their assessment of the going concern status of the charity. Further discussion of the impact of COVID-19 can be found in the trustees' annual report.

e) Income

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

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

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

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) 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.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services, running refuges, providing child services, advocacy work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

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

j) Allocation of support and governance costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

▪ Cost of generating income	13%
▪ Refuge	25%
▪ Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy	38%
▪ Children's Services	24%

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Where such information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is also provided to potential donors, activity costs are apportioned between fundraising and charitable activities on the basis of area of literature occupied by each activity.

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

▪ Office Equipment	4 years
▪ Furniture & fittings	4 years
▪ Motor Vehicles	4 years

m) Debtors

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

n) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

o) Creditors and provisions

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

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

p) 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.

q) Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contribution. All staff are enrolled as per the HMRC legislation on to the auto enrolment pension scheme.

2. a) Donations and gifts

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2021 Total £
Grants for Fundraising & Core Cost	-	110,500	110,500	6,093	141,696	147,789
Donations from fundraisers	-	32,416	32,416	-	91,986	91,986
Corporates	-	30,306	30,306	-	10,100	10,100
Facebook	-	3,727	3,727	-	-	-
Gift aid	-	7,850	7,850	-	1,042	-
Total	-	184,799	184,799	6,093	244,824	249,875

2. b) Income from other trading activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2021 Total £
Dash Events	-	1,807	1,807	-	2,536	2,536
3rd Party Events	-	11,248	11,248	-	11,858	11,858
Community	-	7,798	7,798	-	203	203
Training	-	5,301	5,301	-	9,528	9,528
Total charity income	-	26,154	26,154	-	24,125	24,125

3. Incoming resources from charitable activities

			2022			2021
a) Refuge	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Rent	-	151,300	151,300	-	139,632	139,632
Service charges	-	10,487	10,487	-	10,191	10,191
Slough Borough Council	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	-
Various Small Grants for Refuge Services	12,000	100	12,100	5,000	-	5,000
MHCLG	-	-	-	40,698	-	40,698
Sobell	12,000	-	12,000	12,000	-	12,000
Total	24,000	261,887	285,887	57,698	149,823	207,521

b) Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy

			2022			2021
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Awards for All	9,948	-	9,948	-	-	-
Berkshire Community Foundation	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
The Mackie Foundation	20,000	-	20,000	-	-	-
Big Lottery	-	-	-	99,787	-	99,787
Comic Relief	-	-	-	24,798	-	24,798
Police Crime Commissioners	37,279	-	37,279	48,950	-	48,950
RBWM DA	-	117,392	117,392	-	132,392	132,392
Various Small Grants for A&O Services	16,430	-	16,430	31,593	-	31,593
Wexham A&E	3,792	-	3,792	36,519	-	36,519
Total	87,449	117,392	204,841	251,647	132,392	384,039

c) Children's services

			2022			2021
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Children in Need	36,091	-	36,091	40,933	-	40,933
Masonic	30,000	-	30,000	-	-	-
Police Crime Commissioners	30,850	-	30,850	-	-	-
UCB King Baudouin Grant	-	-	-	30,492	-	30,492
Various Small Grants for Children's Services	8,000	-	8,000	1,000	-	1,000
Total	104,941	-	104,941	72,425	-	72,425

The Dash Charity

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

4a. Total resources expended (current year)

	Cost of generating income £	Refuge £	Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy £	Children's services £	Governance Costs £	Support Costs £	2022 Total £	2021 £
Staff costs (note 6)	74,147	100,796	203,896	133,362	58,825	62,384	633,410	632,107
Staff training and conferences	335	3,480	1,600	2,266	590	166	8,438	4,566
Volunteers' costs	–	–	–	–	–	609	609	421
Fundraising costs	2,739	–	–	–	–	–	2,739	5,398
Refuge running costs	–	1,158	10	–	–	–	1,168	1,907
Bad debt provision	–	12,316	–	–	–	–	12,316	–
Children activities	–	1,188	211	2,273	–	–	3,672	1,836
Repairs and renewals	–	17,440	–	–	–	–	17,440	7,379
Office costs	4,302	27,634	5,907	2,164	–	16,355	56,363	77,314
Motor expenses	–	1,617	–	63	–	–	1,680	1,910
Travel and subsistence	329	325	1,563	1,508	–	29	3,754	2,317
Communications	247	1,006	935	689	19	5,992	8,887	7,459
Client Support	–	209	2,744	–	–	–	2,953	2,416
Depreciation	–	2,835	–	146	–	2,299	5,280	4,173
Audit and accountancy	–	–	–	–	–	10,277	10,277	10,826
Legal and professional	4,500	–	847	900	–	10,130	16,377	9,821
	86,599	170,004	217,712	143,371	59,435	108,240	785,363	769,850
Support Costs	10,341	24,130	48,260	25,509	–	(108,240)	–	–
Governance cost	5,679	13,250	26,499	14,007	(59,435)	–	–	–
Total resources expended	102,619	207,384	292,472	182,887	–	–	785,363	–
Total expenditure 2021	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	769,850

The Dash Charity

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

4b. Total resources expended (prior year)

	Cost of generating income £	Refuge £	Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy £	Children's services £	Governance Costs £	Support Costs £	2021 Total £
Staff costs (note 6)	87,952	86,907	244,950	96,474	57,283	57,741	631,307
Staff training and conferences	782	1,273	2,234	76	96	105	4,566
Other staff costs	130	232	213	200	–	25	800
Volunteers' costs	–	–	–	–	–	421	421
Fundraising costs	5,398	–	–	–	–	–	5,398
Refuge running costs	–	1,668	–	239	–	–	1,907
Children activities	–	52	195	1,589	–	–	1,836
Repairs and renewals	–	7,261	–	82	–	36	7,379
Office costs	2,963	27,367	30,963	354	361	15,306	77,314
Motor expenses	–	19	77	1,814	–	–	1,910
Travel and subsistence	–	–	2,308	–	9	–	2,317
Communications	–	29	3,469	672	–	3,289	7,459
Client Support	–	90	2,282	44	–	–	2,416
Depreciation	–	2,812	27	–	–	1,334	4,173
Audit and accountancy	–	–	–	–	–	10,826	10,826
Legal and professional	–	–	2,671	440	–	6,710	9,821
	97,225	127,710	289,389	101,984	57,749	95,793	769,850
Support Costs	19,159	23,948	33,527	19,159	–	(95,793)	–
Governance cost	11,550	14,437	20,212	11,550	–	–	57,749
Total resources expended	127,934	166,095	343,128	132,693	57,749	–	827,599
Total expenditure 2020	136,852	180,599	351,563	112,963	–	–	–

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

5. Net (expenditure)/income for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation	5,278	4,173
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
▪ Audit	7,000	7,300
Directors' remuneration	-	-
Directors' reimbursed expenses	-	-
	<u>12,278</u>	<u>11,473</u>

One director received reimbursement of expenses for recruitment cost this year during the year (2021: £nil) or (2022: £275).

6. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Salaries and wages	557,010	560,510
Social security costs	46,622	43,514
Pension contributions	20,829	18,914
Termination Cost	4,743	-
Recruitment	2,908	5,760
Other staff costs	1,298	3,408
	<u>633,410</u>	<u>632,107</u>

No employees earned over £60k in the financial year (2021: £nil) or (2022: £nil).

The total employee salaries of the key management personnel were £207,985 (2021: £233,513). Due to the restructure of the leadership team, we have removed the fundraising manager and taken support from a fundraising consultancy company as they have the skill set to enhance our income generation further.

The staff headcount for the year was 22 (2021: 23), allocated to activities as follows:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Raising funds	3	4
Refuge	4	5
IDVA	8	7
Children Services	4	4
Support and governance	3	3
	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>

7. Related party transactions

In the year trustees made unrestricted donations to the charity totalling £300 (2021: £420).

There are no other related party transactions to disclose for 2022 or for 2021.

8. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Vehicles	Office equipment £	Furniture and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At the start of the year	9,598	7,362	20,000	36,960
Additions in the year	–	–	779	779
At the end of the year	<u>9,598</u>	<u>7,362</u>	<u>20,779</u>	<u>37,739</u>
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	1,600	270	19,514	21,384
Charge for the year	2,400	2,366	513	5,278
At the end of the year	<u>3,999</u>	<u>2,636</u>	<u>20,027</u>	<u>26,662</u>
Net book value				
At the end of the year	<u>5,599</u>	<u>4,726</u>	<u>752</u>	<u>11,077</u>
At the start of the year	<u>7,998</u>	<u>7,092</u>	<u>486</u>	<u>15,576</u>

10. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Other debtors	50	50
Prepayments	11,017	10,911
Accrued income	140,681	57,425
	<u>151,748</u>	<u>68,386</u>

11. Creditors: amounts due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	7,789	8,204
Taxation and social security	12,633	15,202
Other creditors	3,498	3,904
Accruals	26,358	11,528
Loan Repayment	9,992	–
Deferred income (note 12)	24,944	853
	<u>85,213</u>	<u>39,691</u>

11a. Creditors: Long term

	2022 £	2021 £
HSBC Loan	39,135	50,000
Deferred Income for Yr 23/24	25,000	–
	<u>64,135</u>	<u>50,000</u>

The bank loan with HSBC was provided as part of the Coronavirus Bounce Back Loan Scheme. Under the terms of the loan interest is payable at 2.5% per annum with final repayment due 72 months after initial drawdown. No security was required to be provided.

12a. Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	–	11,077	11,077
Net current assets	49,808	444,183	493,991
Net assets at the end of the year	49,808	455,260	505,068

12b. Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	–	15,576	15,576
Net current assets	60,791	407,388	468,179
Net assets at the end of the year	60,791	422,964	483,755

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

13a. Movements in funds (current year)

	At the start of the year as restated £	Income and gains £	Expenditure and losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Refuge					
Sobell	–	12,000	12,000	–	–
Various Small Grants for Refuge Services	23,103	12,000	15,234	–	19,869
	23,103	24,000	27,234	–	19,869
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy					
Awards For All	–	9,948	9,948	–	–
MOJ via PCC	–	37,279	37,279	–	–
The Mackie Foundation	–	20,000	20,000	–	–
Various Small Grants for A&O Services	9,413	20,222	29,339	–	296
	9,413	87,449	96,566	–	296
Children's services					
Children In Need	110	36,091	31,182	–	5,019
Masonic	–	30,000	6,871	–	23,129
MOJ via PCC	–	30,850	30,850	–	–
Various Small Grants for Children's	1,211	8,000	9,211	–	–
UCB King Budouin	25,133	–	25,133	–	–
	26,454	104,941	103,247	–	28,148
Voluntary					
Aviva	917	–	–	–	917
Safe Lives	904	–	326	–	578
Total restricted funds	60,791	216,390	227,373	–	49,808
General funds	422,964	590,284	557,988	–	455,260
Total unrestricted funds	422,964	590,284	557,988	–	455,260
Total funds	483,755	806,674	785,361	–	505,068

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

13b. Movements in funds (prior year)

	At the start of the year £	Income and gains £	Expenditure and losses as restated £	Transfers £	At the end of the year as restated £
Restricted funds:					
Refuge					
MHCLG	-	40,698	36,737	-	3,961
Peter Harrison	10,629	-	10,629	-	-
Sobell	-	12,000	12,000	-	-
Various Small Grants for Refuge Services	16,373	5,000	2,230	-	19,143
	<u>27,002</u>	<u>57,698</u>	<u>61,596</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,104</u>
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy					
A&E Wexham / Frimley	-	36,519	36,519	-	-
Berkshire Community Foundation	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
Big Lottery	-	99,787	99,787	-	-
Comic Relief	-	24,798	24,798	-	-
Ministry of Justice	-	8,902	8,902	-	-
PCC	-	48,950	48,950	-	-
Various Small Grants for A&O Services	132	22,691	13,411	-	9,413
	<u>133</u>	<u>251,648</u>	<u>242,366</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,413</u>
Children's services					
Children In Need	(527)	40,933	40,296	-	110
Various Small Grants for Children's	4,964	1,000	4,754	-	1,211
UCB King Budouin	-	30,492	5,359	-	25,133
	<u>4,437</u>	<u>72,425</u>	<u>50,408</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,454</u>
Voluntary					
Aviva	-	917	-	-	917
KJ Solicitors	-	1,500	1,500	-	-
Prince Phillip	-	2,500	2,500	-	-
Safe Lives	-	1,176	272	-	904
Total restricted funds	<u>31,571</u>	<u>387,863</u>	<u>358,643</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,791</u>
General funds	<u>282,861</u>	<u>551,309</u>	<u>411,206</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>422,964</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>282,861</u>	<u>551,309</u>	<u>411,206</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>422,964</u>
Total funds	<u>314,432</u>	<u>939,172</u>	<u>769,849</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>483,755</u>

Purposes of restricted funds

Awards for All	A&O team DA resilience and recovery
Children in Need	Children & Families IDVA Healthy Living Grant
Masonic	Refuge Sofa & Children's Worker
Ministry of Justice via PCC	A&O Support Worker & Children's Service Worker
Sobell	Therapeutic Worker Refuge
The Mackie Foundation	A&O Team
UCB	Children's Worker
Various Small Grants	Berkshire Community Foundation are our local supporters, who have provided us with some small grants towards our helpline and new garden furniture for our refuges. Other local supporters are Louid Baylis and The Price Phillip Trust. B33

THE DASH CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1127126

Accounts

Company number: 06758907

Charity number: 1127126

The Dash Charity

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

The Dash Charity

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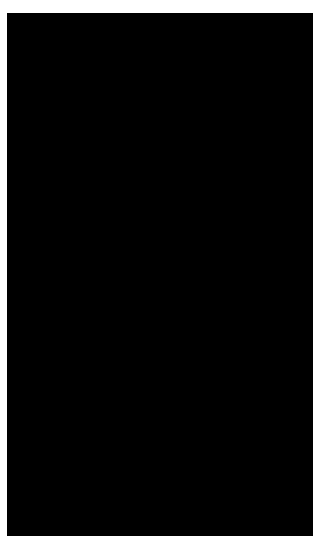
The Dash Charity

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Company number	06758907
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom
Charity number	1127126
Country of registration	England & Wales
Registered office and Operational address	551 Fairlie Road Slough Berkshire SL1 4PY

Directors Directors who are also trustees under charity law, who served during the period and up to the date of this report were as follows:



Interim Chair

Secretary

Left on 29/04/2021

Interim Treasurer

Joined 01/03/2021

Joined 01/03/2021

Key Management Personnel	Alison Bourne	Chief Executive
	Kiran Pathak	Head of Finance & Governance
	Claire Batchelor	Advocacy & Outreach Manager
	Tracey Noble	Refuge Manager

The Dash Charity

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Solicitors

Kidd Rapinet Solicitors
392 Edinburgh Avenue
Slough Trading Estate
Slough
Berkshire
SL1 4UF

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane,
LONDON,
EC1Y 0TL

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

The Directors and Senior Management Team present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Chair & CEO Report & Acknowledgement

Chair Report

What an incredible year 2020/2021 has been for The Dash Charity. Like so many other organisations we started the year thrown into COVID-19 turmoil, none of us knew what to expect and with Government guidance changing on what felt like a weekly basis Dash's ability to cope with change shone through. Our services did not stop or falter enabling us to deliver Refuge, IDVA and Outreach support to more clients than in any other year.

Dash has the most incredible staff team; all departments were asked to continue operations with significant additional complexity. The Trustees and I would like to thank them all for the 200% they gave to whatever was asked of them.

We were especially overwhelmed by the community of Dash supporters and volunteers this year, we would not be here without you, thank you.

Looking forward to the next few years Dash's ambition to safeguard women, men and children from domestic abuse will continue to drive everything we do, we will continue to ensure we deliver best value and quality to all stakeholders. We will also refine, enhance, and benchmark our processes to ensure our service remains as the industry gold standard.

CEO Report

The last financial year was a year like no other for so many of us. The Dash team adapted brilliantly to the changed circumstances. The Refuge team acquired PPE and created updated risk assessments and client Covid agreements. The Advocacy and Outreach Community team, Fundraising team and Finance team all re-located to work from their homes, conducting assessments of ergonomic set-up and equipment required. We acquired a donation of 15 laptops from Fujitsu and were able to purchase new smart phones through successful funding applications.

The lease was given up on the office space in October as it was not being used efficiently due to lockdown/Covid restrictions, releasing funding for necessary additional frontline work. We created a 'wish list' online and received over £2000 of Christmas presents for refuge and community clients and their children.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

We continued with monthly one-to-one supervision calls online as well as the clinical supervision support for the frontline workers. This was particularly important as referrals of adult and children affected by domestic abuse increased exponentially during the pandemic. As designated frontline workers, the services teams were eligible for early vaccinations. The Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead (RBWM) requested us to extend our services for another year on top of the existing contract.

We held an online event to celebrate International Women's Day with over 60 attendees and our new website was also launched to very positive feedback.

We were disappointed to lose the Hospital IDVA tender bid to a London-based Housing Association, after 10 years of providing the service with outstanding feedback from the Hospital frontline staff.

In March we were joined by two new Trustees – a Marketeer and a Family Lawyer. This extends the skill-set of our Board even further and we are very fortunate to have their support.

Our Chair of Trustees, [REDACTED] started her maternity leave in March; previous Chair [REDACTED] took over as Interim Chair and [REDACTED] took over as Interim Treasurer. We are extremely grateful for their support and commitment.

Personally, I am truly inspired and proud of the team at Dash who work tirelessly to ensure that victims of domestic abuse are empowered and have the tools they need to keep themselves and their children safe. Over the years I have seen the charity continue to thrive and aspire to provide the best services possible for the adults and children that need us most.

Looking ahead, we will continue to challenge perceptions of domestic abuse and work with our extensive network of professionals to build trust in our community to seek help and support, and break the cycle of domestic abuse.

Strategic Report

Vision: End Domestic Abuse

Mission: To safeguard women, men and children in our community affected by Domestic Abuse, by offering a range of specialist services that will keep them safe and break the cycle of abuse.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Values:

- **Client & Stakeholder Focus:** Understanding their requirements and striving to meet or exceed their expectations
- **Adaptability to Change:** Being adaptable to changes in the environment; ready and able to modify practices and behaviours
- **Quality:** Maintaining or exceeding service quality and reliability
- **Accountability:** Taking responsibility and seeing matters through to conclusion; seeing the bigger picture, understanding and demonstrating the part you play in the success of the whole organisation
- **Initiating Action:** Taking prompt action to accomplish objectives; taking action to achieve goals beyond what is required; being proactive

Why Dash is needed

The statistics below are a clear indication of the need for our services:

Measures:	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Total number of new referrals to Community services (prior to risk assessment)	730	792	1,072
• Total IDVA clients (high risk)	174	153	138
• Total Outreach clients (medium/standard risk)	215	259	302
• Signposting (see note below)	341	380	632
Total number of children referred into children's therapeutic support	83	79	120
Total number of new referrals to refuge services (prior to risk assessment)	150	157	115
Total number of intakes	39	34	33
Occupancy rate	85%	89%	77%

- Over the last year there has been a 35% increase in the number of new referrals into the Dash Charity Advocacy & Outreach Community service which has included a 10% reduction in IDVA cases (high risk), 17% increase in Outreach cases (medium/standard risk) and a 66% increase in 'signposting'. Signposting means that we may receive referrals that would benefit support from other partner agencies instead of Dash. For this, we would signpost individuals or refer them to an agency that could support them. For instance, this could be solicitors, counselling (e.g. BRAVE). We have never declined clients experiencing DA but will look at risk level

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

and support required. Our Commissioners are keen that we refer clients to VFESS (Victims First Emotional Support) if they are assessed as standard risk or need longer term emotional support. Also, if the client does not reside in RBWM or South Bucks, we will signpost to their local authority for support.

- The number of children being referred into the children's support programmes has increased significantly by 52% which may be attributed to lockdown and agencies looking for extra support for children affected by domestic abuse.
- Virtual children's support and adult support has worked very well over lockdown; adults and children have engaged well and we continue to offer virtual sessions and face to face meetings where possible (clients decide what works well for them). Engagement rates have remained high with virtual sessions. We will continue to offer the choice of face to face or virtual post pandemic.
- We offer three Freedom group support programmes - one face to face, one virtual in the evening and one virtual in the daytime and this continued throughout the pandemic virtually.

Our Strategic Priorities 2020-2021

We have four Strategic Priorities and our business plan outlines our high-level objectives. Detail is disseminated through senior management objectives and cascaded down into service managers' and team members' objectives, and will be reviewed as part of the charity's performance management process.

1. Meeting Needs
2. Campaigning/Awareness
3. Fundraising/Finances
4. People

Work was started on a 'Strategy Refresh' project in September 2020 with support from the Lloyds Foundation Enhance Programme, starting with data-gathering collected from trustees, staff, managers and service users. This is being finalised currently with consultation with the whole Dash team and enabling individual and team objectives to remain current and relevant.

Aims

Our overall aim is to enable positive change for those affected by domestic abuse, by keeping victims safe, breaking the cycle of abuse and allowing families and individuals to thrive. We want to ensure all victims of domestic abuse, both adults and children, receive quality support services tailored around their individual needs, so that they can live their lives free from future relationship abuse.

Our work in the community aims to challenge attitudes, preconceptions and beliefs surrounding domestic abuse. We want to prevent domestic abuse through early intervention, education and awareness. We want our work to support safer, more equal communities, so adults and children can live free from violence and abuse.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

We ensure our services are high quality and tailored around the changing needs of our surrounding communities. With this in mind, our services will:

- Provide a specialist response to victims across varying levels of risk
- Aim to reduce the risk of further violence for each individual
- Intervene at the earliest stage possible
- Prevent domestic abuse through education, training and awareness
- Offer recovery support
- Hold perpetrators to account through the criminal justice system

Activities

Since 1976, The Dash Charity (formerly Berkshire East and South Bucks Women's Aid) has provided emergency temporary accommodation with emotional and practical support for women and their children fleeing domestic abuse. Since 2009, the scope of our work has broadened significantly, now supporting male victims, children and young people affected by domestic abuse in our local communities, and having an extensive community-based offering to families residing within the geographical remit of the organisation.

Our services have been developed over 45 years in consultation with our beneficiaries whose voice is vital in ensuring the services we provide really do work. Each individual situation will always be assessed on its own dynamics and a bespoke plan of support developed which build on strengths, resilience and wishes of each family. We work within a strong network of partner agencies to ensure that a holistic approach is taken to support.

We have 3 refuges that can accommodate up to 14 families at any one time and provide safe accommodation and support for those victims at the highest risk, having to flee their homes to stay safe, often having just a small window of opportunity in which to escape. Women and their children will be supported to recover from their experiences and rediscover their confidence and independence.

We run an Outreach and Advocacy Community Service within our local community, supporting local victims of domestic abuse assessed as medium and high risk of further violence, helping them stay safe and providing practical and intensive support, working alongside them to negotiate their own journey to safety.

We provide one to one support to children who have witnessed domestic abuse and have behavioural or emotional difficulties as a result. We run a crisis helpline for victims and practitioners and deliver training and healthy relationships workshops in schools and youth settings.

Beneficiaries of our services

The beneficiaries of our services are adults and children who have been affected, or are at risk of violence or abuse, at the hands of a partner, ex-partner or family member.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

The geographical remit of The Dash Charity community team is the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and some areas of South Buckinghamshire. Our refuge accommodation is based in Slough and will accept referrals from all over the UK.

Achievements and performance in the delivery of public benefit

Yearly Overview

Our Output – highlights:

- 1072 new referrals were received and the Advocacy and Outreach Community Services supported 440 clients. A further 176 calls were received to Manager/Lead IDVA from ex clients or professionals concerned regarding domestic abuse during Covid and the increase in risk, enquiring how they can support individuals or refer to Dash.
- Children's Services supported 120 children and young people through one to one direct work and 172 young people through healthy relationships workshops. A further 6 children were supported with Healthy relationships (did not meet criteria for therapeutic support as living with alleged perpetrator).
- Refuge Services have supported 33 women and 32 children.
- We have supported 33 women through our in-house Freedom Programmes this year – both online and face-to-face.
- Our Helpline has received 1137 calls; 632 clients were provided with a short-term safety and support and signposting options to other agencies.

We entered the new financial year just at the start of the first Covid-19 'lockdown', with the knowledge and understanding that income generation and achieving high fundraising targets would be a key focus of the year, alongside a clear commitment to maintain our existing front-line provision, ensuring we could meet demand and continue delivering high quality services to our clients. Cases of Domestic Abuse were predicted to rise during the pandemic and this certainly was the case. The refuge services continued face-to-face with additional Covid risk assessments and additional agreements in place with clients. The Advocacy and Outreach Community, Finance and Fundraising teams all transferred to working from their homes, with new equipment being supplied as necessary.

Having reviewed and refreshed our fundraising strategy at the beginning of the year, based on a detailed analysis of our successes in the previous year, we used our learning to formalise our focus for the year ahead, agree financial targets per income stream and understand the level of activity and resource which would need to be dedicated to each area of income generation.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

We made some changes to our management team, with our previous CEO Jayne Donnelly choosing not to return to Dash from her sabbatical, and the subsequent formalising of Alison Bourne as permanent CEO from August 2020.

Our Board has grown from 6 to 8 members, each with varied professional backgrounds and we have skilled and committed front line practitioners who carry out the most incredible and life changing work every day.

Despite a high-pressure year in terms of number of cases referred to us, we are proud to show that we have directly supported so many individuals this year. Additional Covid funding opportunities for Domestic Abuse services were identified and applied for and we were 100% successful in those bids.

Service Provision by team

Refuge Services

87% of women supported saw an overall increase in feelings of safety, confidence, optimism for the future and increase in social networks throughout their stay

We supported 33 women and 32 children through refuge in 2020/21.

Our Refuge houses and in-house staffing team continued to be consistently busy throughout the year. We are particularly proud that we were able to prevent any outbreak of Covid-19 in any of our three refuges, despite being shared accommodation. New risk assessment and service-user agreements were put in place to enable this.

We remained a key partner of the national 'Routes to Support' Network enabling us to source immediate refuge for those we could not support due to lack of space or close proximity of the perpetrator to Dash refuges.

The demographics of the families we accommodate continue to change year-on-year and in 2020/21 we again saw nearly 70% of women accessing refuge having children under 5 years of age, with a number of mothers with small babies, including two new-borns. Of the 32 children, 23 were aged 0-5 years.

This year, key highlights included:

- Recruitment of a full time Refuge IDVA and a return to work from maternity leave part time children's worker.
- Development and delivery by our Children & Families IDVA of a new bespoke 1-1 Parenting programme incorporating elements of the 'Triple P' and 'You, Me and Mum' programmes. 94% of mothers attending reported an improvement in their relationship with their child as a result.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

- Gym and Sing, a weekly in-house Mum and baby/ toddler sensory and singing group.
- Refurbishment of our Mother and baby refuge room, with the added support of a visiting Nursery Nurse and in-house midwifery support from the Crystal Team as required.

Alongside the core support provided by our refuge practitioners, the team are always looking for opportunities to enhance the service offered and we are so grateful for the support of our volunteers this year who have provided us with bedside lamps, rugs and nightlights to make our refuge bedrooms feel homelier. As well as other local voluntary organisations who provide much needed clothing, food, toys and toiletries on a regular basis for our clients. We were especially grateful to be included in the 'Meals from Marlow' initiative which provided all refuge clients with freshly prepared meals throughout the first lockdown and for several months after. Baby Bank continued to be an invaluable resource for providing equipment and clothing for Mums and children staying in refuge. Due to Covid restrictions we limited the number of visitors to refuge this year which meant we were unable to offer appointments with our Hairdresser volunteers.

Advocacy and Outreach Services

98% of clients referred to our service engaged with their IDVA/Outreach Worker

97% of clients reported improved safety post support

97% of clients reported an improved quality of life post support

43% clients reported a complete cessation of abuse at case closure

Focus this year was on sustaining provision and meeting the increased need due to the pandemic. Unique locally in delivering this specialist service, we had to manage capacity carefully to ensure we were able to consistently and safely deliver our services.

The Advocacy and Outreach Community team have continued to be the most utilised of all our services and we have continued to see year on year growth for both self and agency referrals. The feedback from our local authority, RBWM, is positive against our local authority contract and we were awarded a 'plus one' on our contract this year, as we successfully completed year three of our contract, successfully achieving all agreed KPIs.

We continued with our innovative Police Project this year as part of our commitment to identify and address gaps in provision, both locally and on a wider basis:

Police Project – We ran a successful pilot over the previous winter period with our local police to provide out of hours support to police attending emergency call-outs due to DA, together with providing targeted literature for both victim and perpetrator. The outcomes were hugely encouraging with 85% officers using the Dash service, a 97% victim satisfaction rate and 88% victims reporting an improvement in their safety and circumstances at a follow

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

up visit. We also now have a greatly improved working relationship with the Police Safeguarding team.

Children's Services

100% children/young people completing their programme of support reported improved wellbeing and coping strategies and an improved understanding of domestic abuse and healthy relationships.

We continued to provide our bespoke one-to-one support to children and young people affected by domestic abuse. The programmes of support have been continually tailored across the year in response to young people's feedback and is very much focussed on the needs of the individual rather than the rigidity of a set programme.

Healthy relationships workshops

This year, we reached out to 172 children and young people across Windsor & Maidenhead. Face-to-face workshops were not possible to run for the vast majority of the school term times due to the Covid lockdown, although increasing numbers of requests for workshops were received in the last quarter of the year. Some individual sessions were run with children particularly affected by domestic abuse during the pandemic.

Training and Development

Our external training this year continued to be a focus for income generation as we incorporated our specialist knowledge and training skills into our fundraising strategy. We have responded to opportunities to provide paid-for and greater depth training to organisations looking to train their staff to the next level. This year we have delivered training to:

Audience:	Number of trainees:	Subject:
Accredited Divorce Coaches	27	Domestic Abuse Awareness
Reckitt Benckiser Mental Health First Aiders	16	Domestic Abuse Awareness
Slough CVS Volunteers	12	'Spotting the Signs of Domestic Abuse'
Shiseido employees	15	'Spotting the Signs'
Shiseido Mental Health First Aiders	8	'Spotting the Signs'

Internal training and development remains integral at The Dash Charity and we deliver regular staff training days, primarily virtually. All staff receive monthly one to one supervision

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

with their line manager and further to this we offer monthly clinical supervision with an external supervisor. All staff are subject to yearly appraisals and objective plans. Training plans are in place for all staff and meet accreditations and standards upheld by the charity. PR and Marketing.

This year we continued to focus on building our digital presence, through both our new website and social media platforms. We continued to execute our formal communications plan to ensure a consistent and creative approach was taken to raising awareness of our services, demonstrating our impact and engaging new and existing supporters. We saw another significant increase in followers to our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts across the year and subsequently saw an increase in supporters, volunteers and client referrals. Recognising the influence of social media in helping us achieve our organisational goals, we continued to employ a dedicated PR/Comms Practitioner.

As a result of the pandemic, awareness and campaigns have largely been via social media platforms rather than face-to-face meetings as we continue to adjust to the changing face of operating the business.

Quality Assurance

The charity was one of the first to achieve **Safe Lives (formerly CAADA) Leading Lights** accreditation. The Leading Lights accreditation programme offers specialist services a set of quality standards for supporting victims of domestic abuse. The programme was launched in 2009. We completed our re-accreditation in December 2018 and were proud to be awarded Leading Lights status once again which is valid for three years.

The charity is currently registered under **Ofsted's Childcare standards** and is subject to inspection.

In 2014 **National Women's Aid** launched their quality standards, developed in response to the needs of member organisations. The Charity was very proud to be amongst the first members to receive accreditation in 2015, further evidence of the quality services that are provided for supporting victims of domestic abuse. We were also delighted to receive re-accreditation in March 2019 which was valid for three years but this has been extended to four, given the pandemic.

Internally, our service standards are reviewed by the Senior Management team on an annual basis.

Networks and Partnership Working

Our network is extensive and we have built and maintained strong working relationships with key partners including Thames Valley Police, Local Authority Housing and Adult and

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Children Social Care Teams, Health, including Mental Health (CMHT) and Education. We use a number of methods to network, communicate, raise awareness and promote best practice in supporting victims of domestic abuse.

We sit on a range of local and regional Boards as well as participating in multi-agency meetings to support individual clients such as Child Protection conferences and MARAC and MATAC meetings. The Dash Charity is represented at the following multi-agency forums:

- Slough Domestic Abuse Forum
- RBWM Domestic Abuse Forum
- Thames Valley Domestic Abuse Strategic Group
- RBWM DA Executive Group
- Thames Valley DA Services Chief Execs Networking Forum
- Slough and RBWM COVID Response Forums
- Thames Valley DA Steering Group

We are also now members of both the Athena Business networking group in Taplow (monthly meetings), the Bucks Business Network (weekly meetings) and the BNI Jubilee Business Networking Group in Maidenhead (weekly meetings). We also attended a Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) this year as the local Domestic Abuse specialist provider, and are awaiting publication from the Home Office so that the report can be shared. The Dash Charity were part of a 'Rapid Review' as the case was known to us and it is currently in draft copy awaiting review and findings.

Fundraising

This financial year, we had an excellent year in fundraising, building upon the foundations laid by the new fundraising team in previous years. With additional Covid-19 funds being made available by various Government departments, we were able to apply successfully for these to meet the increased demand for our services and support the long-term sustainability of the charity.

Further fundraising and marketing expertise brought into the charity; with Ginette Gower being recruited to the Board of Trustees in February 2021 and a new Head of Fundraising being recruited in November 2020. Both had a wealth of experience in fundraising and marketing disciplines including corporate fundraising and major donor giving.

The refreshed Fundraising strategy sought to additionally focus our fundraising efforts on:

- Developing our training offering further to include corporates, local authorities and legal partners, and extending our reach outside of our locality
- Exploring Major Donor Giving and Corporate Partnerships
- Increasing our supporter base, developing our Supporter Journey and encouraging regular giving and supporter-led fundraising through the implementation of a Customer Relationship Management system (Hubspot)

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Whilst a large focus on Trusts and Foundations continued, we also continued to work hard to improve the charity's community presence with a number of supporter-led events and activities taking place online.

Our board continued to meet on a bi-monthly basis, with the finance/fundraising sub group also meeting bi-monthly on intermittent months. This allowed us to maintain a tight oversight of the financial picture, respond to changing need and focus and agree remedial actions as appropriate.

We reviewed our rolling success rate across the year and calculated a minimum value grants writing target per quarter based upon our assumed success rate; this approach was balanced with the recognition that there was a need to build long term relationships with new and existing funders and explore longer term solutions to the charity's sustainably.

Fundraising Practices

We do not have any third-party fundraisers and have not breached any fundraising codes. We are signed up to the Fundraising Regulator and are compliant with their Code of Practice, being committed to high fundraising standards. We have not received any fundraising complaints to date.

Risk review

We have a charity risk assessment that is reviewed monthly by the Senior Management Team and also at every Board meeting, to ensure that all aspects of the charity are risk assessed and managed. This regular review has been particularly crucial during the pandemic. These incorporate: operational, funding, people and skills, finance, strategy, environment, competition, management technology, regulation, regulations, politics and governance. Each risk has been allocated a nominated staff member who has responsibility for control activity against that risk.

The most significant risks to the sustainability of the charity are as follows:

• Loss of commissioning – loss of RBWM contract.	Build strong relationships; meet/exceed contract targets; utilise national governing bodies; hold 'tender ready meetings
• Threats from Covid-19	Ensure we are following Government guidance; ensure risk assessments are in place for all services
• Not conducting Safeguarding Board training	All Board members to receive Safeguarding training; designated Safeguarding leads receive Level 2 training

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Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Risks to clients are managed through monthly case reviews. If risks to clients escalate, a review meeting is conducted, and safety plans are amended and implemented. Risk assessments and partnership working enable us to ensure all risk management is considered.

The Senior Management team monitor our financial income and expenditure monthly, reviewing any potential financial risks. This includes assessing our management accounts as well as our cash flow position to ensure that we have a minimum of three months operating costs in reserve. We have rolling budgets to foresee the charity's financial stability and these are also reviewed monthly, and are prepared for a minimum of eighteen months to give us a long-term picture of our financial viability. Throughout regular Board meetings, risk, finance, expenditure and funding is explored and evaluated at a governance level Risk is shared on an on-going basis through regular communication meetings with all staff, bi-monthly reports to the Board and clear communication with key stakeholders.

Impact of COVID 19

Services:

As the 2020/21 Financial year came to a close, the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic was becoming clear. We swiftly moved all non-refuge service staff to working from home and risk assessed their environments and acquired new equipment to facilitate this (e.g. desks, laptops, phones).

Collaboratively with key partners, our service teams worked quickly to adapt service provision in order to continue to identify and safely support clients at risk and increase our capacity as we realised COVID-19 would have a dramatic and dangerous impact on those we support. We applied to numerous funders to help us do this and remedies we employed included:

- An increase in the use of virtual platforms to connect with our clients
- An increase in the use of virtual platforms to connect with our clients
- Virtual multi agency meetings and court support
- The continued initiative with the Police to provide remote support to victims wherever there was an emergency call out locally due to DA.

Remuneration

At the end of the financial year 2020/21, the key management personnel team consisted of five staff including, the Chief Executive, Head of Finance, Head of Fundraising, Advocacy and Outreach Manager and Refuge Services Manager. The combined annual salaries' including pensions and benefits of these key personnel is £233.5k. Salaries are benchmarked against other similar sized charities, and the salary scales are reviewed every

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Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

three years, salaries were reviewed in 2020 as part of that process. Individuals' salaries are reviewed after each appraisal annually, although the charity cannot guarantee an annual review. However, we will ensure that all staff salaries are reviewed and increased at least every two years based on a satisfactory annual appraisal result.

Staffing

The Dash Charity staff team is made up of 18 full time and 9 part time members of staff. We currently have in excess of 30 volunteers that work across all services and departments.

Preparation, selection, vetting and vigilant maintenance are all central to our safer recruitment policy. All of our staff, students and volunteers are screened before commencing employment or volunteering with us. This means taking up references from former employers, which specifically ask questions about safeguarding, conduct and suitability to work with vulnerable clients. Identity is additionally sought from candidates prior to interview along with relevant training/education/ qualification certificates. Our recruitment policy and volunteer policy are updated annually to ensure all recent legislation and guidance is included.

Pre-planned interview questions with an interview panel of two staff members are used as well as a desk top computer exercise so we are further able to access the knowledge, insight and suitability of a candidate.

All volunteers, students and staff have to complete an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before they can commence their duties and they have to undertake safeguarding training along with our introduction to domestic abuse training when they commence their employment.

Financial Review

Total incoming resources for the year were £939,172. Of this £387,863 (41%) was generated from charitable trusts and grants, £149,823 (16%) was generated from client rent and housing benefit, £132,392 (14%) from local authorities and the remaining £269,949 (29%) from activities in the community and donations.

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £796,845, of which £641,913 (83%) was spent on charitable activities; £127,932 (17%) was spent on the sustainability and development team.

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

We spent £166,094 (22%) on refuge, £343,126 (45%) on the Advocacy & Outreach team, £132,693 (16%) on Children's Services team.

Reserves

As at 31 March 2021 the charity cash balance was £489,484 equivalent to 7.6 months operating expenditure. Total reserves as at 31 March 2021 was £483,755, equivalent to 7.5 months operating expenditure, which was made up of £60,791 restricted reserves and £422,964 unrestricted reserves that equates to 6.6 months running costs.

We have maintained our reserves level this year at 6.6 months. The Charity's aim is to have 3-6 months reserves level sustained across our future forecasts and to sustain reserve levels to ensure that there could be a smooth exit if this was ever required. Our strong financial management, accurate forecasts and robust risk management will ensure that we work to maintain our reserves level in the coming year.

Financial Review 2020/21

Year	Total Incoming Resources	Charitable Trusts & Grants	% Rate	Client Rent & Housing Benefit	% Rate
2019/20	614,248	232,829	38%	156,110	25%
2020/21	939,172	387,863	41%	149,823	16%
		Local Authorities	% Rate	Community & Donations	% Rate
		97,392	16%	127,177	21%
		132,392	14%	268,949	29%

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Year	Total Expenditure	Spent on Charitable Activities	% Rate	Spent on Fundraising Team	% Rate
2019/20	781,977	645,125	82%	136,852	18%
2020/21	769,850	641,916	83%	127,934	17%
Spent on Refuge Team	% Rate	Spent on Advocacy Team	% Rate	Spent on Children's Team	% Rate
180,599	23%	351,563	45%	112,963	14%
166,095	22%	343,128	45%	132,693	16%

Year	Cash Balance	Number of Months Going Concern	Total reserves	Number of Months Reserves
2019/20	325,533	5.00	314,433	4.83
2020/21	489,484	7.63	483,755	7.54
		Restricted	Unrestricted	Number of Months Reserves
		31,572	282,861	4.34
		60,791	422,964	6.59

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Going concern

The directors review the financial projections of both operating finance and cashflow on a monthly basis. Following these reviews, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue its activities for the near future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements and accounts. The basis for this conclusion is:

- Continued strong financial governance
- Tight and thorough management control
- Clearly demonstrable public benefit
- Continued development of key relationships including local authority and funders
- Cautious approach to future income levels
- Proactive and agile approach to change

Our new fundraising strategy has evolved to build income generation and create a longer term more sustainable position. We have a strong and successful relationship with our commissioners at RBWM; this contract still forms the basis of core funding for community service delivery. Whilst the lack of multi-year grants is concerning, the fundraising team are working hard to seek to source and secure such funding on an ongoing basis.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 November 2008 and registered as a charity on 10 December 2008.

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

On 1 April 2009, East Berkshire Women's Aid, a registered charity in England and Wales (charity number 272579), transferred all its assets, liabilities and activities to Berkshire East and South Bucks Women's Aid (BESBWA). As of 15 April 2014, the charity changed its name to The Dash Charity, standing for Domestic Abuse Stops Here.

The Chief Executive, Senior Management Team and Board of Directors followed the procedures advised by the Charity Commission before making appointments for positions. All directors give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 5 of the financial statements.

The Directors have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

its future activities. In particular, the Directors consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

The Chief Executive is responsible for the leadership and day-to-day management decisions and fulfilling the long and short-term objectives as per the business plan. The Chief Executive is supported by the Head of Finance who ensures the ongoing financial viability of the Charity, the Head of Fundraising who oversees income generation and the two Heads of services- Refuge and Advocacy & Outreach Community. All legal documents i.e. leases, contracts are signed by the Board, usually the Chair, after full consultation with the Chief Executive.

Recruitment and appointment of Directors

The Dash Charity recognises that the role of Directors involves important responsibilities, and requires not only great commitment, but also certain skills and experience. Sound governance is vital to enable The Dash Charity to achieve its aims and objectives, and therefore the recruitment of Directors should be carried out with as much care as the recruitment of paid staff, in line with Equal Opportunities policy and procedures.

Our Board has a mixed range of skills and experiences and we currently have eight Trustees. Our Board of Directors continue to show full commitment to support the senior management team and govern the Charity effectively.

Specific organisations and individuals with the skills, knowledge or experience identified as above will be targeted for recruitment and more generally, we will advertise through social media and within our networks. If individuals approach The Dash Charity and offer to become a Director they will be required to complete an application form so we can identify what skills they can bring to the organisation, if this fits the current need they will meet with the Chair and the Chief Executive to review their skill set and suitability.

Induction and Training for Directors

All Directors receive a programme of induction, co-ordinated by the Chief Executive upon appointment. A Directors induction pack is kept up to date and forms the basis of this induction.

All Directors receive our 'introduction to domestic abuse' one day training session and 'effects of domestic abuse on children' one day training session with our Training Lead. All Directors will also complete safeguarding training; we also have a named safeguarding lead Trustee [REDACTED] who leads on the review of any significant safeguarding concerns raised across the organisation. This role has been passed temporarily to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] went on Maternity Leave in May 2021. In addition, [REDACTED] assumed the

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

role of interim Chair at the same time, and [REDACTED] became interim Treasurer to take over from [REDACTED] who resigned from the Board due to personal reasons.

Our Directors are invited to our bi-monthly Communications meetings and have direct links to key members of staff for whom they can mentor and offer key skills. Some members book days to work from the office too so they can be part of the work and build team relationships.

As part of the Skills Audit, the training needs of new Directors are identified and a programme of training planned to meet these needs.

Statement of responsibilities of the Directors

The Directors (who are also trustees of The Dash Charity for the purposes of charity law) are responsible for preparing the directors' 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 directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

In so far as the Directors are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and

The Dash Charity

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 31 March 2021

- The Directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

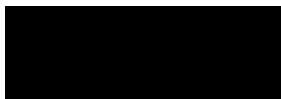
The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the Charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the Charity in the event of winding up. The Directors are members of the Charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Directors have no beneficial interest in the Charity.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the Directors on 12 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Chair of the Directors

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Dash Charity

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Dash Charity (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

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

Other Information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- The information given in the trustees' annual report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management and trustees which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

- Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
- The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

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

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

Use of our report

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

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

The Dash Charity

charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Joanna Pittman (Senior statutory auditor)

2 November 2021

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

The Dash Charity

Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

For the year ended 31 March 2021

		2021			2020		
	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Income from:							
Donations and gifts	2a	6,093	233,682	239,775	–	98,266	98,266
Other Trading Activities	2b	–	35,267	35,267	–	28,911	28,911
Investment income		–	145	145	–	740	740
<i>Charitable activities</i>							
Refuge	3a	57,698	149,823	207,521	59,395	156,110	215,505
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy	3b	251,647	132,392	384,039	110,878	97,392	208,270
Children's services	3c	72,425	–	72,425	62,556	–	62,556
Total income		387,863	551,309	939,172	232,829	381,419	614,248
Expenditure on:							
<i>Raising funds:</i>							
Costs of generating income		4,272	123,662	127,934	4,554	132,298	136,852
<i>Charitable activities</i>							
Refuge		60,596	105,499	166,095	32,310	148,289	180,599
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy		242,367	100,761	343,128	118,666	232,897	351,563
Children's services		51,409	81,284	132,693	90,618	22,345	112,963
Total resources expended	4	358,644	411,206	769,850	246,148	535,829	781,977
Net (expenditure) / income for the year and net movement in funds	5	29,219	140,103	169,322	(13,319)	(154,410)	(167,729)
Transfers between funds		–	–	–	–	–	–
Net movement in funds		29,219	140,103	169,322	(13,319)	(154,410)	(167,729)
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		31,572	282,861	314,433	44,891	437,271	482,162
Total funds carried forward		60,791	422,964	483,755	31,572	282,861	314,433

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 13a to the financial statements.

The Dash Charity

Balance sheet

Company no. 06758907

As at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	<u>15,576</u>	<u>3,989</u>
		<u>15,576</u>	<u>3,989</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	10	68,386	29,359
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>489,484</u>	<u>325,533</u>
		557,870	354,892
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts due within one year	11	39,691	44,448
Net current assets		<u>518,179</u>	<u>310,444</u>
Total assets less Current liabilities		<u>533,755</u>	<u>314,433</u>
Creditors: amounts due after one year	11a	50,000	-
Net assets	12	<u>483,755</u>	<u>314,433</u>
The funds of the charity	13		
Restricted funds		60,791	31,572
Unrestricted funds			
General funds		<u>422,964</u>	<u>282,861</u>
Total charity funds		<u>483,755</u>	<u>314,433</u>

Approved by the Directors on 12 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

 - Chair of the Directors

The Dash Charity

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net income / expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		169,322		(167,729)	
Depreciation charges		4,173		2,418	
Interest		(145)		(740)	
Decrease/ (increase) in debtors		(39,027)		18,039	
Increase in creditors – excluding bank loan		(4,757)		6,247	
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities		129,566		(141,764)	
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Interest and rents from investments		145		740	
Purchase of fixed assets		(15,760)		(1,200)	
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
Net cash (used in)/ provided by investing activities		(15,615)		(460)	
Cash flows from financing activities:					
HSBC Bank loan		50,000		–	
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
Net cash (used in) / provided by financing activities		50,000		–	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		163,952		(142,224)	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>325,533</u>		<u>467,757</u>	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		<u>489,484</u>		<u>325,533</u>	

1. Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

The Dash Charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The registered office address is 551 Fairlie Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 4PY

b) Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The trustees have prepared the accounts on the going concern basis and considered if there are any material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The charity receives a variety of types of income, including grants and donations, and not all income expected for the following financial period is confirmed at the date of signing of the financial statements. Therefore the trustees have considered the likely scenarios for unconfirmed income, taking into account the success rates of previous grant funding applications. The trustees have then considered the worst case scenario, given the current available information, and this does not indicate material uncertainties in the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees have considered the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic specifically and do not consider it to be a source of significant uncertainty which would affect their assessment of the going concern status of the charity. Further discussion of the impact of COVID-19 can be found in the trustees' annual report.

e) Income

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

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

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

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) 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.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services, running refuges, providing child services, advocacy work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

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

j) Allocation of support and governance costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

▪ Cost of generating income	20%
▪ Refuge	25%
▪ Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy	35%
▪ Children's Services	20%

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Where such information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is also provided to potential donors, activity costs are apportioned between fundraising and charitable activities on the basis of area of literature occupied by each activity.

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

▪ Office Equipment	4 years
▪ Furniture & fittings	4 years
▪ Motor Vehicles	4 years

m) Debtors

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

n) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

o) Creditors and provisions

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

p) 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.

q) Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contribution. All staff are enrolled as per the HMRC legislation on to the auto enrolment pension scheme.

2. a) Donations and gifts

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2021 Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2020 Total £
Grants for Fundraising & Core Cost	6,093	141,696	147,789	–	61,287	61,287
Donations from fundraisers	–	91,986	91,986	–	36,979	36,979
Total	6,093	233,682	239,775	–	98,266	98,266

The Dash Charity

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

2. b) Income from other trading activities

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2021 Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Andrew's £5k run	-	-	-	-	271	271
Beat the Boat	-	-	-	-	1,533	1,533
British 10k, Windsor 10k	-	200	200	-	259	259
Burnham Beer Festival	-	-	-	-	213	213
Burnham Donkey Derby	-	-	-	-	203	203
Carols on the Hill	-	-	-	-	414	414
Challenge 2.6 & Power of 45	-	201	201	-	-	-
Charity Football	-	-	-	-	232	232
Christmas Shopping Event & Conversation cards	-	-	-	-	914	914
Claire cake sale	-	-	-	-	980	980
Collection Tins	-	203	203	-	894	894
Colour Obstacle Rush	-	-	-	-	77	77
Cotsworld Challenge	-	-	-	-	490	490
Dash Dive	-	24	24	-	10	10
DHL Match Funding	-	-	-	-	750	750
Distinctly Dysfunctional	-	317	317	-	-	-
DV Training	-	9,528	9,528	-	-	-
Easter Egg Basket – Virtual	-	164	164	-	-	-
Fab Friends Walking	-	-	-	-	2,059	2,059
Gift Aid	-	1,042	1,042	-	2,022	2,022
Grace & Lydia 500km for Dash	-	233	233	-	-	-
Guards Polo Club	-	10,100	10,100	-	-	-
Yoga	-	197	197	-	-	-
Halloween	-	-	-	-	276	276
International Women's Day	-	1,021	1,021	-	1,121	1,121
Isle of Wight Challenge	-	-	-	-	860	860
Izzy V-S Personal Challenge	-	539	539	-	-	-
Kirstin's run a mile a day	-	156	156	-	-	-
Larchfield Toy Sale	-	-	-	-	65	65
Linked In Local Storm Media	-	-	-	-	240	240
Live at the Church	-	-	-	-	72	72
Love Lockdown	-	126	126	-	-	-
Maidenhead Festival	-	-	-	-	190	190
Maidenhead Panto	-	-	-	-	336	336
Maidenhead Pubwatch Pub Crawl	-	-	-	-	350	350
Making a Difference Cards	-	246	246	-	-	-
Marathons (Full & half)	-	-	-	-	1,401	1,401
Mental Health First Aiders Virtual Raffle	-	351	351	-	-	-
Midwives Call for Help	-	877	877	-	-	-
Nationwide cake sale	-	-	-	-	287	287
Pamper Party	-	-	-	-	155	155
Paul L Personal Challenge	-	278	278	-	-	-
Rebel Kid Fashion Shoot	-	185	185	-	-	-
Rita Ora Tickets	-	-	-	-	1,525	1,525
Rock the Moor Cookham	-	-	-	-	47	47
Run the Ribbon	-	6,037	6,037	-	-	-
Shoe sale	-	-	-	-	140	140
Sheppard Family walk	-	540	540	-	-	-
Swallowfield Panto	-	-	-	-	3,151	3,151
Tesco Bucket shake	-	-	-	-	774	774
The Boxset Challenge	-	731	731	-	-	-
The Power of Colour	-	200	200	-	-	-
Three Peaks Challenge	-	-	-	-	741	741
Training	-	-	-	-	4,574	4,574
Virtual Racing	-	668	668	-	-	-
Xmas Tree Virtual	-	1,105	1,105	-	-	-
Wendy House	-	-	-	-	618	618
White Ribbon Day	-	-	-	-	78	78
Windsor Concert / Races	-	-	-	-	586	586
Total charity income	-	35,267	35,267	-	28,911	28,911

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

3. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	2021			2020		
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
a) Refuge						
Rent	–	139,632	139,632	–	145,045	145,045
Service charges	–	10,191	10,191	–	11,065	11,065
B&Q	5,000	–	5,000	–	–	–
Blackwood Engineering Trust	–	–	–	1,000	–	1,000
Building Better Opportunities	–	–	–	5,895	–	5,895
Curia Charitable Trust	–	–	–	500	–	500
Greenhall	–	–	–	2,000	–	2,000
Hedley	–	–	–	1,000	–	1,000
Hodge Foundation	–	–	–	7,500	–	7,500
MHCLG	40,698	–	40,698	–	–	–
Peter Harrison	–	–	–	20,000	–	20,000
Schroder	–	–	–	3,000	–	3,000
Screwfix	–	–	–	5,000	–	5,000
Skipton	–	–	–	1,500	–	1,500
Sobell	12,000	–	12,000	12,000	–	12,000
Total	57,698	149,823	207,521	59,395	156,110	215,505

b) Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy

	2021			2020		
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
b) Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy						
Allen & Overy	–	–	–	5,000	–	5,000
Ascot Fire Brigade Trust	3,000	–	3,000	–	–	–
Berkshire Community Foundation	10,000	–	10,000	10,000	–	10,000
Big Lottery	99,787	–	99,787	–	–	–
Buttle UK	–	–	–	280	–	280
Cala Homes	–	–	–	500	–	500
Card factory	1,200	–	1,200	–	–	–
Comic Relief	24,798	–	24,798	–	–	–
Didymus	5,000	–	5,000	–	–	–
Heart of Bucks	–	–	–	1,500	–	1,500
L&Q	5,000	–	5,000	5,000	–	5,000
Lions Club – Windsor	200	–	200	–	–	–
Nationwide	–	–	–	40,879	–	40,879
Michael Shanly	4,000	–	4,000	–	–	–
Ministry of Justice	8,902	–	8,902	–	–	–
Police Crime Commissioners	48,950	–	48,950	–	–	–
RBWM DA	–	132,392	132,392	5,000	97,392	102,392
RS Brownlies	–	–	–	200	–	200
Souter	–	–	–	2,000	–	2,000
Sunninghill Trust	3,000	–	3,000	–	–	–
TVP	1,291	–	1,291	4,000	–	4,000
Wexham A&E	36,519	–	36,519	36,519	–	36,519
Total	251,647	132,392	384,039	110,878	97,392	208,270

c) Children's services

	2021			2020		
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
c) Children's services						
Children in Need	40,933	–	40,933	37,556	–	37,556
Gledswood Charitable Trust	1,000	–	1,000	–	–	–
Nisa	–	–	–	15,000	–	15,000
UCB King Baudouin Grant	30,492	–	30,492	–	–	–
Sara Charlton Foundation	–	–	–	10,000	–	10,000
Total	72,425	–	72,425	62,556	–	62,556

The Dash Charity

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

4a. Total resources expended (current year)

	Cost of generating income £	Refuge £	Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy £	Children's services £	Governance Costs £	Support Costs £	2021 Total £	2020 £
Staff costs (note 6)	87,952	86,907	244,950	96,474	57,283	57,741	631,307	619,548
Staff training and conferences	782	1,273	2,234	76	96	105	4,566	13,122
Other staff costs	130	232	213	200	-	25	800	976
Volunteers' costs	-	-	-	-	-	421	421	528
Fundraising costs	5,398	-	-	-	-	-	5,398	5,785
Refuge running costs	-	1,668	-	239	-	-	1,907	1,654
Children activities	-	52	195	1,589	-	-	1,836	1,400
Repairs and renewals	-	7,261	-	82	-	36	7,379	5,424
Office costs	2,963	27,367	30,963	354	361	15,306	77,314	88,383
Motor expenses	-	19	77	1,814	-	-	1,910	3,107
Travel and subsistence	-	-	2,308	-	9	-	2,317	11,580
Communications	-	29	3,469	672	-	3,289	7,459	8,990
Client Support	-	90	2,282	44	-	-	2,416	4,841
Depreciation	-	2,812	27	-	-	1,334	4,173	2,418
Audit and accountancy	-	-	-	-	-	10,826	10,826	10,085
Legal and professional	-	-	2,671	440	-	6,710	9,821	4,136
	97,225	127,710	289,389	101,984	57,749	95,793	769,850	781,977
Support Costs	19,159	23,948	33,527	19,159	-	(95,793)	-	-
Governance cost	11,550	14,437	20,212	11,550	-	-	57,749	-
Total resources expended	127,934	166,095	343,128	132,693	57,749	-	827,599	-
Total expenditure 2020	136,852	180,599	351,563	112,963	-	-	-	781,977

4b. Total resources expended (prior year)

	Cost of generating income £	Refuge £	Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy £	Children's services £	Governance Costs £	Support Costs £	2020 Total £
Staff costs (note 6)	108,923	98,728	202,134	87,132	60,424	62,207	619,548
Staff training and conferences	6,925	695	2,757	98	1,323	1,324	13,122
Other staff costs	230	171	428	–	71	76	976
Volunteers' costs	–	–	–	–	–	528	528
Fundraising costs	5,785	–	–	–	–	–	5,785
Refuge running costs	–	1,582	–	72	–	–	1,654
Children activities	–	37	–	1,364	–	–	1,400
Repairs and renewals	–	4,992	–	40	–	392	5,424
Office costs	2,553	29,323	4,683	384	225	51,214	88,383
Motor expenses	–	1,701	11	1,395	–	–	3,107
Travel and subsistence	2,010	271	7,410	783	856	251	11,580
Communications	513	447	1,294	697	129	5,910	8,990
Client Support	–	(405)	4,793	453	–	–	4,841
Depreciation	–	2,393	–	–	–	25	2,418
Audit and accountancy	–	–	–	–	–	10,085	10,085
Legal and professional	–	1,014	(817)	720	–	3,219	4,136
	126,939	140,949	222,693	93,138	63,028	135,231	781,977
Support Costs	6,762	27,046	87,900	13,523	–	(135,231)	–
Governance cost	3,151	12,606	40,968	6,303	(63,028)	–	–
Total resources expended	136,852	180,601	351,561	112,964	–	–	781,977

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

5. Net (expenditure)/income for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation	4,173	2,418
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
▪ Audit	7,300	7,000
Directors' remuneration	-	-
Directors' reimbursed expenses	-	-

No directors received reimbursed expenses for travel costs during the year (2020: £nil).

6. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Salaries and wages	560,510	514,277
Social security costs	43,514	41,148
Pension contributions	18,914	19,016
Redundancy	-	4,193
Recruitment	5,760	7,540
Other staff costs	2,608	33,375
	631,307	619,548

No employees earned over £60k in the financial year (2020: £nil).

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employer's NI of the key management personnel were £233,513 (2020: £208,100). Due to the restructure of the leadership team, we have removed the middle management tier, to ensure services are represented at the senior management level. Last years figures are lower due to the changes having been made half way through last year.

The staff headcount for the year was 23 (2020: 22), allocated to activities as follows:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Raising funds	4	3
Refuge	5	5
IDVA	7	8
Children Services	4	3
Support and governance	3	3
	23	22

The full time equivalent was 2021: 19 (2020: 18).

7. Related party transactions

In the year trustees made unrestricted donations to the charity totalling £420 (2020: £80).

There are no other related party transactions to disclose for 2021 or for 2020.

8. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Vehicles	Office equipment £	Furniture and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At the start of the year	-	9,961	45,490	55,451
Disposal in the year	-	(8,761)	(25,490)	(34,251)
Additions in the year	9,598	6,162	-	15,760
At the end of the year	<u>9,598</u>	<u>7,362</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>36,960</u>
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	-	7,471	43,991	51,462
Eliminated on disposal	-	(8,761)	(25,490)	(34,251)
Charge for the year	1,600	1,560	1,013	4,173
At the end of the year	<u>1,600</u>	<u>270</u>	<u>19,514</u>	<u>21,384</u>
Net book value				
At the end of the year	<u>7,998</u>	<u>7,092</u>	<u>486</u>	<u>15,576</u>
At the start of the year	<u>-</u>	<u>2,490</u>	<u>1,499</u>	<u>3,989</u>

10. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Other debtors	50	50
Prepayments	10,911	24,265
Accrued income	<u>57,425</u>	<u>5,044</u>
	<u>68,386</u>	<u>29,359</u>

11. Creditors: amounts due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	8,204	13,605
Taxation and social security	15,202	9,694
Other creditors	3,904	3,272
Accruals	11,528	10,891
Deferred income (note 12)	<u>853</u>	<u>6,986</u>
	<u>39,691</u>	<u>44,448</u>

11a. Creditors: Long term

	2021 £	2020 £
HSBC Loan	50,000	-
	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>

The bank loan with HSBC was provided as part of the Coronavirus Bounce Back Loan Scheme. Under the terms of the loan interest is payable at 2.5% per annum with final repayment due 72 months after initial drawdown. No security was required to be provided.

12a. Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	–	15,576	15,576
Net current assets	60,791	407,388	468,179
Net assets at the end of the year	60,791	422,964	483,755

12b. Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	–	3,989	3,989
Net current assets	31,572	278,872	310,444
Net assets at the end of the year	31,572	282,861	314,433

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

13a. Movements in funds (current year)

	At the start of the year as restated £	Income and gains £	Expenditure and losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Refuge					
Berkshire Community PCC Foundation	451	-	90	-	361
Blackwood Engineering Trust	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
B&Q	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
DHL	273	-	273	-	-
Greenhall	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
Hedley Foundation	1,000	-	1,000	-	-
Masonic	1,482	-	367	-	1,115
MHCLG	-	40,698	36,737	-	3,961
Peter Harrison	10,629	-	10,629	-	-
Schroder	2,785	-	52	-	2,733
Screwfix	4,712	-	449	-	4,263
Skipton	1,284	-	-	-	1,284
Sobell	-	12,000	12,000	-	-
Swimathon	1,386	-	-	-	1,386
	27,002	57,698	61,597	-	23,103
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy					
A&E Wexham / Frimley	-	36,519	36,519	-	-
Ascot Fire Brigade Trust	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
Berkshire Community Foundation	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
Big Lottery	-	99,787	99,787	-	-
Buttle UK	132	-	-	-	132
Card Factory	-	1,200	1,186	-	14
Comic Relief	-	24,798	24,798	-	-
Didymus	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
L&Q	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Michael Shanly	-	4,000	733	-	3,267
Ministry of Justice	-	8,902	8,902	-	-
PCC	-	48,950	48,950	-	-
Sunninghill Trust	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
TVPA	-	1,291	1,291	-	-
Windsor Lions	-	200	200	-	-
	132	251,647	242,366	-	9,413
Children's services					
Apples & Pears	457	-	-	-	457
Children In Need	(527)	40,933	40,296	-	110
Gledswood Trust	-	1,000	246	-	754
Nisa	4,507	-	4,507	-	-
UCB King Budouin	-	30,492	5,359	-	25,133
	4,437	72,425	50,408	-	26,454
Voluntary					
Aviva	-	917	-	-	917
KJ Solicitors	-	1,500	1,500	-	-
Prince Phillip	-	2,500	2,500	-	-
Safe Lives	-	1,176	272	-	904
Total restricted funds	31,571	387,863	358,643	-	60,791
General funds	282,861	551,309	411,206	-	422,964
Total unrestricted funds	282,861	551,309	411,206	-	422,964
Total funds	314,432	939,172	769,849	-	483,755

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

13b. Movements in funds (prior year)

	At the start of the year £	Income and gains £	Expenditure and losses as restated £	Transfers £	At the end of the year as restated £
Restricted funds:					
Refuge					
Berkshire Community PCCFoundation	462	-	11	-	451
Blackwood Engineering Trust	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Building Better Opportunities	(5,297)	5,895	598	-	-
Curia	-	500	500	-	-
DHL	1,510	-	1,237	-	273
Greenhall	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Hedley Foundation	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Hodge	-	7,500	7,500	-	-
Masonic	1,849	-	367	-	1,482
PCC	1	-	1	-	-
Peter Harrison	-	20,000	9,371	-	10,629
Schroder	-	3,000	215	-	2,785
Screwfix	-	5,000	288	-	4,712
Skipton	-	1,500	216	-	1,284
Sobell	-	12,000	12,000	-	-
Swimathon	1,393	-	7	-	1,386
	(82)	59,395	32,311	-	27,002
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy					
A&E Wexham / Frimley	-	36,519	36,519	-	-
Allen & Overy	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Berkshire Community Foundation	4,233	-	4,233	-	-
BCF (Tampon Tax)	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
Buttle UK	-	280	148	-	132
Cala Homes	-	500	500	-	-
Didymus	708	-	708	-	-
Heart of Bucks	2,979	1,500	4,479	-	-
L&Q	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Nationwide	-	40,879	40,879	-	-
RBWM	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
RS Brownlies	-	200	200	-	-
Souter	-	2,000	2,000	-	-
TVP	-	4,000	4,000	-	-
	7,920	110,878	118,666	-	132
Children's services					
Apples & Pears	805	-	348	-	457
Children In Need	1,732	37,556	39,815	-	(527)
Comic Relief	11,462	-	11,462	-	-
Nisa	-	15,000	10,493	-	4,507
Prince of Wales Trust	2,000	-	2,000	-	-
Prince Phillip Charities Trust	1,500	-	1,500	-	-
Sara Charlton Foundation	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
Seven Stars Foundation	15,000	-	15,000	-	-
	32,499	62,556	90,618	-	4,437
Sustainability & Development					
Awards for All	4,554	-	4,554	-	-
Total restricted funds	44,891	232,829	246,148	-	31,572
General funds	437,271	381,419	535,829	-	282,861
Total unrestricted funds	437,271	381,419	535,829	-	282,861
Total funds	482,162	614,248	781,977	-	314,433

Purposes of restricted funds

A&E Frimley Park	Hospital IDVA
Ascot Fire Brigade trust	A&O Team
Apples & Pears	Children's Activities / Days Out
Aviva	Hub
Berkshire Community	Grant to provide emergency funding to support clients & cost towards a BAME IDVA
Berkshire Community Foundation	A&O team
Big Lottery	A&O Team
Blackwood Engineering Trust	Children's Activities Refuge
B&Q	Refuge Porch
Buttle UK	Dance classes for a child
Card Factory	Doorbells for Clients
Children in Need	Children & Families IDVA Healthy Living Grant
Comic Relief	A&O Team
DHL	Log Cabin for one of the safe houses
Didymus	A&O Team
Greenhall	Refuge Kitchen & Patio
Gledswood Trust	Children's resources
Hedley Foundation	Half term activities (Refuge)
KJ Solicitors	Dash T-shirts
L&Q	Outreach Worker
Masonic	Refuge Sofa
Michael Shanly	Helpline
MHCLG	Refuge Team
Ministry of Justice	A&O Team
Nisa	Children's worker
PCC	A&O Team
Peter Harrison	Refuge Team
Price Phillip Charities Trust	Helpline
Safe Lives	Laptops
Sobell	Therapeutic Worker Refuge
Schroder	Activities Refuge
Screwfix	Refuge Kitchen & Patio

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

Skipton	Christmas Refuge
Sunninghill Trust	Helpline
UCB	Children's Worker
Windsor Lions	Client Support
Swimathon	Swimming lessons for clients in refuge
Thames Valley Police	Police Trial