

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

England & Wales · Charity number 1136465

Details

Other names CHESTER VOLUNTARY ACTION

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [07233113](#)

Registered 2010-06-18

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

Contact

Address The Bluecoat
Upper Northgate Street
Chester
CH1 4EE

Phone 01244401272

Email enquiries@cwva.org.uk

Website <https://cwva.org.uk/>

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS (THE OBJECTS) ARE: 4(1) TO PROMOTE ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC, PRINCIPALLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER AND ITS ENVIRONS (HEREINAFTER CALLED THE AREA OF BENEFIT) AND, IN PARTICULAR, BUILD THE CAPACITY OF THIRD SECTOR ORGANISATIONS AND PROVIDE THEM WITH THE NECESSARY SUPPORT, INFORMATION AND SERVICES TO ENABLE THEM TO PURSUE OR CONTRIBUTE TO ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSE. 4(2) TO PROMOTE, ORGANISE AND FACILITATE CO-OPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING BETWEEN THIRD SECTOR, STATUTORY AND OTHER RELEVANT BODIES IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE ABOVE PURPOSES WITHIN THE AREA OF BENEFIT.4(3) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 4:(A) THIRD SECTOR MEANS CHARITIES, VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISES.(B) CHARITIES ARE ORGANISATIONS WHICH ARE ESTABLISHED FOR EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES. (C) VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISES ARE INDEPENDENT ORGANISATIONS, WHICH ARE ESTABLISHED FOR PURPOSES THAT ADD VALUE TO THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE, OR A SIGNIFICANT SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY, AND WHICH ARE NOT PERMITTED BY THEIR CONSTITUTION TO MAKE A PROFIT FOR PRIVATE DISTRIBUTION. VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISES DO NOT INCLUDE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR OTHER STATUTORY AUTHORITIES.

Activities: At Cheshire West Voluntary Action (CWVA) we are proud to have been supporting the local community since 1914. Our vision is championing the community sector - building trust, influencing, inspiring. We work with community organisations, as well as partners in other sectors, across west Cheshire.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER
- Cheshire West & Chester

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-30	£1,127,205	£1,141,804	£290,335	11
2024-03-30	£808,598	£735,624	£306,931	10
2023-03-30	£699,069	£748,111	£230,399	9
2022-03-30	£537,819	£499,828	£279,441	7
2021-03-30	£603,346	£543,881	£241,450	8

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Victoria Buzza	Chair	2021-02-10
Alistair Kevin Jeffs		2021-07-29
Benjamin David Rigby		2023-11-07
Diane Brown		2023-11-07
Dr Holly White		2020-11-25
Jack Davies		2023-11-07
Shantele Sutherland		2020-03-18

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

England & Wales - Charity number 1136465

Accounts

Charity registration number 1136465 (England and Wales)

Company registration number 07233113

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

Ms D Brown
Ms V Buzza
Mr J Davies
Mr A K Jeffs
Mr B D Rigby
Ms S Sutherland
Dr H White

Charity number (England and Wales)

1136465

Company number

07233113

Registered office

The Bluecoat
Upper Northgate Street
Chester
CH1 4EE

Auditor

Champion Accountants LLP
2nd Floor Refuge House
33-37 Watergate Row
Chester
CH1 2LE

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

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CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

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

Objectives and activities

Cheshire West Voluntary Action's (CWVA) vision is championing the community sector - building trust, influencing, inspiring. This is achieved through four key strategic aims.

- Connecting by building trusted relationships and capacity within and across sectors
- Championing our members and providing opportunities for people's voices to influence change locally, regionally and nationally
- Sharing and growing opportunities for the sector
- Building resilience to respond to key societal issues and crises creatively and appropriately

CWVA has been rooted in the local community since 1914 and continues to offer a wide range of invaluable support for the community sector in Cheshire West.

Our Values

- Passion
- Independence
- Volunteering
- Collaboration
- Inclusiveness

Public benefit

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

Cheshire West Voluntary Action (CWVA) has been supporting voluntary, community, faith groups, and social enterprises (VCFSE sector) across west Cheshire for nearly 110 years. Our role is to enable local organisations to thrive by offering practical support with governance, volunteering, funding, training, networking, and representation. We advocate for the sector through strategic partnerships and create opportunities for our members.

Our Vision

CWVA's vision is to champion the community sector by building trust, influencing change, and inspiring action.

We achieve this by:

- Connecting sectors and building trusted relationships.
- Championing our members and amplifying their voices to influence policy.
- Sharing and expanding opportunities for the sector.
- Building resilience to address societal issues with creativity and care.

Key Areas of Work

Our team of 13, led by Chief Executive, Gary Cliffe, has played a significant role in shaping the local health and social care landscape. As an equal partner in Cheshire West Place, we are recognised for our ability to support early intervention and prevention, helping to reduce the burden on statutory services. However, there is an ongoing need to invest in the sector to deliver these services effectively.

CWVA continues to act as a strategic bridge, representing a diverse range of organisations and enabling a unified conversation with statutory partners. Our work is vital in building the capacity of the sector to respond to increasing demand and prevent people from falling into crisis.

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Achievements and performance

Overview of activity for 2024-25

During 2024-25, CWVA actively supported more than 900 people from 257 organisations, equating to almost 3,300 collective hours of support and nearly 2,000 collective attendances at events, training and one-to-one support sessions. CWVA's reach is far wider, however, through its extensive digital and in-person networks. Below is a breakdown of individual workstreams and the outcomes that have been achieved.

System leadership

As a champion for the community sector, CWVA offers extensive system leadership and a strong voice for the sector, helping make sure it is seen as an equal partner and can influence a wide range of agendas. The CWVA team, supported by member organisations, regularly attend more than 50 meetings and boards to offer system leadership. Alongside the work of CWVA's themed alliances and partnerships, this has opened many opportunities for the community sector. CWVA is now coordinating Community Partnerships, playing a leading role in the borough's work at a neighbourhood level, and is heavily engaged with emerging agendas like devolution, working with the Cheshire and Warrington Infrastructure Partnership (CWIP) to develop a community sector manifesto.

Cheshire and Merseyside Cancer Alliance

CWVA delivers the Cheshire and Merseyside Cancer Alliance in Cheshire West, funding and supporting community engagement projects aimed at promoting early cancer diagnosis. Cancer messaging has been fed into projects in engaging and interactive ways, helping reach under-served communities that can be traditionally more difficult to engage with. The Our Best Chance project, delivered by Live! Cheshire for people with learning disabilities, had a social return on investment (SROI) of £ 4.33 per £1 invested – based on the value of being part of an active social group, and improved confidence among people with disabilities when discussing cancer. The approach of this award-winning Cancer Alliance project, embedding early intervention and prevention messages in communities, is being explored by CWVA more broadly for other projects.

Children, Young People and Families (CYPF) Alliance

During 2024-25, the CYPF Alliance has continued to mature, with a membership of more than 50 community sector organisations. The Alliance has set its vision and strategic priorities, forming sub groups to feed into the main Alliance meetings. A first CYPF Alliance Conference was held, and it played a key role in developing a new neurodevelopment pathway for Cheshire and Merseyside, coordinating the initial coproduction and creating resources to support the launch of the new pathway.

Development offer

More than £340,000 of funding has been distributed by CWVA to the community sector, working with funders like Cadent Gas, Entep Properties Ltd, the Household Support Fund and UK Shared Prosperity (UKSPF). £150,000 of funding distributed on behalf of Cadent Gas delivered a social return on investment (SROI) of £4.48 per £1 invested - based on signposting for other services, reducing the risk of carbon monoxide by fitting alarms, and support with dampness and condensation issues in the household.

CWVA has developed a Vision for Volunteering, helping create a framework for investing time and resources into volunteering, elevating its importance and extending its reach far and wide. The Volunteer Managers Network has been relaunched, creating a space for volunteer managers to come together and drive forward the Vision for Volunteering. CWVA has also been leading a bespoke project with funding from the Westminster Foundation, coproducing a training package for community sector organisations that can support them with encouraging more younger people to volunteer and remove some of the existing barriers.

Training continues to be a key part of CWVA's offer to community sector organisations, delivered by both the CWVA team and external trainers. This programme is delivered in line with the needs of member organisations, covering an extensive range of topics like managing conflict, fundraising, impact, First Aid, safeguarding, food hygiene and much more. 83 per cent of people providing post-training feedback said it was excellent, while 97 per cent said their knowledge in the subject area had improved.

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Mental Health Alliance

Now a couple of years old, the Mental Health Alliance has reviewed its vision and strategic priorities, making sure it continues to meet its members' needs and can influence the local mental health system effectively. The Alliance has helped lever in £240,000 of funding over two years for Cheshire Young Carers and Youth Fed to deliver a mental health coaching project in schools, delivering a social return on investment (SROI) of £8.73 per £1 invested - based on preventing school exclusion, an improvement in confidence and self-awareness among nearly 400 pupils, and the cost of mental health therapy. The Alliance also worked with eight community sector organisations to deliver a Positive Mental Health for Us project, capturing the lived experience of under-served communities and the challenges faced when trying to access mental health services. This project included two in-person events, as well as an online resources, to help professionals in their roles supporting these communities.

West Cheshire Food Partnership

After the transition from the Welcome Network to the West Cheshire Food Partnership, it is aiming towards a Sustainable Food Places bronze accreditation. The Food Partnership brings people and organisations together across sectors, helping make sure everyone in our communities can access the food support they need. A second West Cheshire Food Summit was held to help set the vision for the Food Partnership, with nearly 70 people from 27 different organisations in attendance and 82 per cent of people rating the event as excellent. Food for All reports were developed by several community sector organisations, understanding the barriers to accessing healthy and affordable food, while innovative projects like Brio Bites, delivered by Council company Brio Leisure, have helped create nutritious and affordable pre-packed meals that can be accessed by older people and others who might benefit from them in the local community.

Conclusion

As highlighted in the summary of CWVA's activities, the charity continues to be committed to its vision of championing the community sector - building trust, influencing, inspiring. While these are challenging times for the sector, with increased demand for services at a time when funding is stretched, CWVA has built trusted relationships with partners, helping make sure the sector is seen as an equal partner and well-placed to access future funding and opportunities.

Financial review

During 2024/25, CWVA had an increased income of over £1million which has led to us having a full audit for the first time - which has been an interesting and fruitful exercise (as well as needing hard work and resources). We showed a small deficit but within acceptable parameters of our budget for the year. We again distributed funds on behalf of public sector partners, charitable trusts and private organisations, retaining a modest management fee to support our core operations. These funds enabled frontline VCFSE organisations to sustain essential services amid ongoing financial pressure within communities, particularly around poverty, mental health and access to basic support.

Unrestricted reserves decreased slightly during the year by £5,489 to £276,468, reflecting prudent cost control and sustained partnership income in difficult times. Core income has slowed due to uncertainty around major funding streams, including the conclusion of UK Shared Prosperity Fund allocations. While our reserves remain within policy tolerance, Trustees are alert to future risk and are actively reviewing income diversification and scenario planning. CWVA entered 2025/26 financially stable but cautious, with robust financial controls and governance in place to manage potential funding volatility.

Reserves policy

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

Investment policy

The charity does not have an investment policy. The funds of the charity are held in interest bearing bank accounts to maximise returns.

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Structure, governance and management

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

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

Ms D Brown

Ms V Buzza

Mr J Davies

Mr A K Jeffs

Mr B D Rigby

Ms S Sutherland

Dr H White

Ms L Hesketh

(Resigned 16 October 2024)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

New Trustees are appointed by the Board after advertisement of the vacancies and short listing against the published role description. followed by an interview with three existing trustees. The interviewing group reports to the Board who decide whether or not to appoint. Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association. appointment as a trustee is immediate but it is confirmed by members at the organisation's next Annual General Meeting to serve for a period of three years. after which they may be re-appointed for one further period of three years.

In accordance with the charity's governing document, the Board meets at least four times a year. The Board comprises representatives of voluntary and community organisations and other members with appropriate skill sets. the Board of Trustees forms sub-committees and ad hoc working groups to address particular issues. including finance and governance matters with recommendations. which are considered by the full Board.

New trustees are provided with an induction to the charity to familiarise themselves with the organisation and the context in which it operates. jointly delivered by the Chair and the Chief Executive. New trustees are also provided with a welcome/ induction pack which includes Charily Commission guidance on the roles and responsibilities of trustees: CWVA's Code of Conduct: Declarations of Interests Guidance; CWVA's Governing Document; most recent Annual Accounts und Annual review: and Strategic Plan.

The Charity has a full time Chief Executive who reports to the Board of Trustees and is line managed by the Chair. and a Deputy Chief Executive line managed by the Chief Executive.

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

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of Cheshire West Voluntary Action for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Champion Accountants LLP be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

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


.....
Mr A K Jeffs

Trustee

Date: 17/10/2025

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

Opinion

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

In our opinion, the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the 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.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the 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 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose 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 charity'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

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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, is detailed below.

Extent to which the audit is considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

The responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities, including fraud, lies with the trustees and with those charged with governance. The objectives of our audit in respect of irregularities and fraud are to assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient, appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

Audit procedures

We determine significant applicable laws and regulations through discussion with those charged with governance and our own knowledge of the industry and design audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with those laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements.

We consider the applicable laws and regulations to be the financial reporting framework (FRS 102 and the Companies Act 2006), charity law, employment law, and the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

We consider the control environment and the procedures in place to address identified risks, including management override, non-compliance with laws and regulations and to prevent and detect fraud or irregularity. Our procedures are designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement or error and include: enquiries of management and of staff in key compliance functions; review of reported incidents and reports from regulators; review of minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; review and testing of manual journals, relevant nominals and significant transactions outside the normal course of business; review of financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation; performance of analytical procedures.

We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and due to the inherent limitations of an audit, as described above, the audit cannot be relied upon to detect all instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

Other matters

The financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 were not audited and were subject only to an independent examination. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the comparative figures included within these financial statements. We have obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence that the opening balances do not contain material misstatements that materially affect the current period's financial statements.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Susan Harris MA ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Champion Accountants LLP, Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

2nd Floor Refuge House

33-37 Watergate Row

Chester

CH1 2LE

Date: 24 October 2025

Champion Accountants LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:							
Charitable activities	3	169,886	954,002	1,123,888	529,010	278,564	807,574
Events and training	4	1,460	-	1,460	80	-	80
Investments	5	1,857	-	1,857	944	-	944
Total income		<u>173,203</u>	<u>954,002</u>	<u>1,127,205</u>	<u>530,034</u>	<u>278,564</u>	<u>808,598</u>
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	7	220,860	920,944	1,141,804	511,373	224,251	735,624
Total expenditure		<u>220,860</u>	<u>920,944</u>	<u>1,141,804</u>	<u>511,373</u>	<u>224,251</u>	<u>735,624</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	(1,997)	-	(1,997)	3,558	-	3,558
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>(49,654)</u>	<u>33,058</u>	<u>(16,596)</u>	<u>22,219</u>	<u>54,313</u>	<u>76,532</u>
Transfers between funds		44,165	(44,165)	-	72,381	(72,381)	-
Net movement in funds	10	<u>(5,489)</u>	<u>(11,107)</u>	<u>(16,596)</u>	<u>94,600</u>	<u>(18,068)</u>	<u>76,532</u>
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		<u>281,957</u>	<u>24,974</u>	<u>306,931</u>	<u>187,357</u>	<u>43,042</u>	<u>230,399</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		<u>276,468</u>	<u>13,867</u>	<u>290,335</u>	<u>281,957</u>	<u>24,974</u>	<u>306,931</u>

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

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

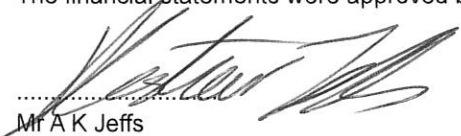
BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	15		-		25
Investments	16		40,869		42,866
			<u>40,869</u>		<u>42,891</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	17	138,841		72,969	
Cash at bank and in hand		248,621		207,622	
		<u>387,462</u>		<u>280,591</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(137,996)		(16,551)	
Net current assets			<u>249,466</u>		<u>264,040</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>290,335</u>		<u>306,931</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	21		13,867		24,974
Unrestricted funds	22		276,468		281,957
			<u>290,335</u>		<u>306,931</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on

17/10/2025


 Mr A K Jeffs
 Trustee

Company registration number 07233113 (England and Wales)

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	25		39,142		(29,873)
Investing activities					
Investment income received		1,857		944	
Net cash generated from investing activities			1,857		944
Net cash generated from financing activities			-		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			40,999		(28,929)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			207,622		236,551
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			248,621		207,622

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Cheshire West Voluntary Action is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Bluecoat, Upper Northgate Street, Chester, CH1 4EE.

1.1 Accounting convention

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

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

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

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

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

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

1.4 Income

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

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

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

Management fees are earned by the charity for the administration of funds on behalf of third party funders. The fees are calculated as a percentage of the funds or as a fixed sum, depending on the project being funded. Fees are recognised when performance conditions have been met.

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

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

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Fixtures and fittings	20% on reducing balance
Computers	20% on reducing balance

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

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

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

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

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

1.10 Financial instruments

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

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

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

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

1.11 Employee benefits

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

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

1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

None are considered to have a significant impact.

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Charitable activities						
Performance related grants	169,886	954,002	1,123,888	529,010	278,564	807,574

4 Income from events and training

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Fundraising events	1,460	80

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Other income	1,857	944

6 Agency Arrangements

The charity acts as an agent in respect of certain funds received for distribution on behalf of third parties. These funds are not recognised as income or expenditure of the charity. The movements on these funds during the year were as follows:

- Funds held at beginning of year: £nil
- Amounts received in year: £60,183.90
- Amounts distributed in year: (£33,815.50)
- Management fee retained by the charity: (£250.00)
- Funds held at end of year: £26,118.40

The charity retained a management fee of £250, which is recognised as income in the Statement of Financial Activities under Income from charitable activities.

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities 2025 £	Charitable activities 2024 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	289,646	237,119
Depreciation and impairment	25	6
Rent	12,311	10,513
Staffing (seconded/agency/contracted staff)	27,939	10,273
Events and training	18,815	24,651
Other direct expenses	13,860	25,880
	<u>362,596</u>	<u>308,442</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 8)	689,882	340,845
Share of support and governance costs (see note 9)		
Support	77,079	82,344
Governance	12,247	3,993
	<u>1,141,804</u>	<u>735,624</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	220,860	511,373
Restricted funds	920,944	224,251
	<u>1,141,804</u>	<u>735,624</u>

8 Grants payable

	Charitable activities 2025 £	Charitable activities 2024 £
Grants to institutions:		
Support for grass roots and community groups	23,084	36,811
Relief of food and fuel poverty	269,863	204,397
Mental health support	136,235	-
Creative food projects	6,000	9,770
Health promotion and engagement	132,550	33,867
Neurodiversity research	56,150	56,000
Creative arts projects	66,000	-
	<u>689,882</u>	<u>340,845</u>

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8 Grants payable

(Continued)

The charity awarded grants to institutions to administer projects directly in furtherance of its charitable objectives. The charity does not provide grants to individuals. Grants were awarded to fund local projects, as described above, and included donations of £125,155 to Youth Federation Limited, £28,000 to Mid Cheshire Hospital Trust, £26,500 to Cheshire Community Action, £23,555 to Healthbox CIC, £23,130 to Dial West Cheshire and £22,500 to Age UK Cheshire. Total grants awarded can be analysed as follows:

Individually material grants - £248,840

Others - £441,042

Total grants payable - £689,882

9 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	41,624	39,064
Publicity and marketing	364	6,524
Motor and travel	1,282	982
Events and training	1,638	1,455
Office expenses	32,171	34,319
Governance costs	12,247	3,993
	<u>89,326</u>	<u>86,337</u>
Analysed between:		
Charitable activities	<u>89,326</u>	<u>86,337</u>

10 Net movement in funds

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	9,913	-
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	25	6
	<u>9,938</u>	<u>6</u>

11 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

12 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

12 Employees (Continued)

Employment costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	287,591	238,043
Social security costs	20,588	17,758
Other pension costs	23,091	20,382
	<u>331,270</u>	<u>276,183</u>

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

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Aggregate compensation	<u>93,005</u>	<u>93,420</u>

13 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	<u>(1,997)</u>	<u>3,558</u>

14 Taxation

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

15 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computers £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2024	54	461	515
Disposals	(54)	(461)	(515)
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2024	51	439	490
Depreciation charged in the year	3	22	25
Eliminated in respect of disposals	(54)	(461)	(515)
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>3</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>25</u>

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

16 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2024	42,866
Valuation changes	(1,997)
	<u>40,869</u>
At 31 March 2025	
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2025	<u>40,869</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>42,866</u>

17 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	82,902	72,969
Prepayments and accrued income	55,939	-
	<u>138,841</u>	<u>72,969</u>

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security		6,461	2,426
Deferred income	19	65,967	-
Trade creditors		58	6,731
Other creditors		54,121	3,794
Accruals		11,389	3,600
		<u>137,996</u>	<u>16,551</u>

19 Deferred income

	2025 £	2024 £
Other deferred income	65,967	-
	<u>65,967</u>	<u>-</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

19	Deferred income	(Continued)	
		2025	2024
		£	£
	Deferred income is included within:		
	Current liabilities	65,967	-
		<u>65,967</u>	<u>-</u>
	Movements in the year:		
	Deferred income at 1 April 2024	-	-
	Resources deferred in the year	65,967	-
		<u>65,967</u>	<u>-</u>
	Deferred income at 31 March 2025	<u>65,967</u>	<u>-</u>
20	Retirement benefit schemes	2025	2024
		£	£
	Defined contribution schemes		
	Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	23,091	20,382
		<u>23,091</u>	<u>20,382</u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

21 Restricted funds

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

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Active Cheshire - Grants	1,200	(1,040)	-	(160)	-
Anne Duchess of Westminster's Fund	-	20,000	(18,000)	(2,000)	-
Bluecoat - Community Grants Fund	270	5,500	(5,084)	(500)	186
Cadent - Centers for Warmth Project	13,765	210,068	(218,953)	(4,880)	-
Cheshire Community Foundation - Thriving Families Programme	-	684	(684)	-	-
CWAc - Household Support Fund	-	75,000	(67,500)	(7,500)	-
CWAc - The Food Partnership	-	70,052	(63,863)	-	6,189
CWAc E&D Mental Health in Under-served Communities project	-	12,000	(12,000)	-	-
CWAc Refugee and Asylum Seeker Team	-	3,000	(201)	(300)	2,499
CWP - MHA Lived Experience Communities Project	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Good Food Movement	5,035	-	(3,000)	(2,035)	-
Half Term Leisure activities for families living in hotels	4,704	-	(3,974)	(730)	-
ICB - Cheshire and Merseyside Cancer Alliance	-	29,950	(28,815)	-	1,135
ICB CWP commissioning Report	-	5,750	(5,750)	-	-
Neurodiversity Project	-	70,000	(63,000)	(7,000)	-
Place - CVD	-	6,000	(5,000)	(1,000)	-
Place - Health Inequalities Funding	-	41,285	(41,285)	-	-
Place - Mental Health Schools Programme	-	85,930	(78,870)	(7,060)	-
Place Community Home First	-	10,000	(4,000)	(4,000)	2,000
Place Income - Community Partnerships	-	134,067	(134,067)	-	-
UKSPF - Capacity Building (via CCA)	-	64,180	(64,180)	-	-
UKSPF CWVA Arts Grants Programme	-	83,000	(76,000)	(7,000)	-
UKSPF Employer Training Project	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
UKSPF UofC Innovation Fund	-	7,927	(7,927)	-	-

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025.

21 Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
	24,974	954,002	(920,944)	(44,165)	13,867
Youth Project	-	2,149	(291)	-	1,858
Moss Farm Capacity Building Consultancy	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
ICB - Winter Pressures Comms	-	3,500	(3,500)	-	-
	24,974	954,002	(920,944)	(44,165)	13,867
Previous year:					
Active Cheshire	-	5,110	(3,200)	(710)	1,200
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	-	10,001	(8,996)	(1,005)	-
Blacon Neighbourhood	-	4,392	(4,387)	(5)	-
Bluecoat Charity (Community Fund)	-	5,500	(3,730)	(1,500)	270
Bluecoat Charity (Training Programme)	593	-	(971)	378	-
Cadent Hydrogen Village Small Grants Programme	2,150	-	-	(2,150)	-
Cadent Winter Warmth Grant Project	-	86,735	(49,500)	(23,470)	13,765
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	18,992	-	(9,614)	(9,378)	-
CWAC Household Support Fund	-	130,000	(114,850)	(15,150)	-
Good Food Movement	-	20,000	(4,965)	(10,000)	5,035
Half Term Leisure activities for families living in hotels	-	5,000	(296)	-	4,704
ICB System P Complex Lives Project	-	10,001	(6,331)	(3,670)	-
The Majory Boddy Charitable Trust	-	1,827	-	(1,827)	-
Westminster Foundation cost of living grants	17,000	-	(15,326)	(1,674)	-
Westminster Foundation holiday grants	4,306	-	(2,086)	(2,220)	-
	43,042	278,566	(224,252)	(72,381)	24,974

(Continued)

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

21 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Active Cheshire – funding comprises support for community food organisations to help families become more active, through the provision of training and grants to purchase a range of play equipment.

Anne Duchess of Westminster's Charity Fund – funding to be distributed to small grassroots community groups to support projects and activities that address mental health and wellbeing, tackle isolation and loneliness, and strengthen community initiatives in disadvantaged areas.

The Chester Bluecoat Charity – represents funding distributed through a community fund to provide small grants of up to £500 for start-up or one-off costs, supporting projects that aim to tackle the root causes of poverty and inequality across the city and surrounding areas.

Cadent Centres for Warmth Grant Project – includes grant funding from Cadent (National company providing gas network). Grants are awarded to those organisations who can deliver significant impact to the most vulnerable residents in Cheshire West while fulfilling Cadent's ambition to keep the community safe, warm and connected.

Cheshire Community Foundation – Thriving Families Programme – funding to provide support and monitoring services to the programme and ensure compliance with programme objectives.

CWac Household Support Fund – represents grants funding from Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWac), distributed to organisations supporting households most in need with food, energy, water bills, and other essential costs.

CWac West Cheshire Food Partnership – funding to host the West Cheshire Food Partnership, a collaborative network of organisations and individuals from across the whole food system in west Cheshire.

CWac E&D Mental Health in Under-served Communities Project – to provide Positive Mental Health For Us project grants to 8 participating organisations.

CWac Refugee and Asylum Seeker Team – to provide support to members delivering Sanctuary Funded projects to embed lived experience into their work.

CWP – MHA Lived Experience Communities Project – funding to provide grants to organisations to develop their work with people with lived experience as part of the Developing Lived Experience Communities Project.

Good Food Movement – is funding from Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWac) for the delivery work around the good food movement project.

Half term leisure activities for families living in temporary accommodation – funding from the Marjory Boddy Charitable Trust to fund family activities, pool vouchers and fuel vouchers during school half terms.

ICB Cheshire and Merseyside Cancer Alliance - to deliver a community engagement project aimed at promoting early cancer diagnosis.

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

21 Restricted funds

(Continued)

ICB CWP Commissioning Report – funding awarded by Voluntary Sector North West to lead on improving VCFSE partnership working, commissioning, investment, and VCFSE delivery models.

Neurodiversity Project -funding from the ICB to work with Children, Young People and Families and their representatives and support networks to coproduce what an inclusive neurodevelopment culture should be in terms of the health and care system.

Place – CVD – grant awarded to Healthbox CIC to deliver a Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) Prevention Project across Cheshire and Ellesmere Port.

Place – Health inequalities – grant awarded to Youth Fed to deliver Mental Health in Schools programme extension across Winsford and Northwich in collaboration with Cheshire Young Carers.

Place – Mental Health Schools programme – for the monitoring and support of a grant awarded to Youth Fed to deliver the Mental Health in Schools Project in Ellesmere Port in collaboration with Cheshire Young Carers.

Place - Community Home First – funding via Cheshire Community Action. CWVA is a partner organisation of the Community Home First Project, and the funding is utilised for programme advancement and strategic engagement.

Place Income – Community Partnerships - funding to host and support seven Community Partnerships across west Cheshire.

UKSPF Capacity Building (via CCA) – funding via Cheshire Community Action for the delivery of training and support to build capacity of the community sector to be more financially resilient.

UKSPF CWVA Arts Grants Programme – funding from Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) for the delivery of grant programmes for grassroots arts and cultural activity and capacity building across Cheshire West and Chester.

UKSPF Employer Training Project – funding awarded by Cheshire West and Chester Council to provide mental health awareness sessions and accredited mental health first aid courses to 60 beneficiaries.

UKSPF Innovation Fund – grant awarded by Cheshire West and Chester Council to support bringing forward investment in the capacity, productivity and efficiency of our organisation through the introduction of new impact technologies and products.

Westminster Foundation – Youth Project – received funding towards the cost of a conference to support the Children Young People and Families Alliance and towards a co-produced youth volunteering campaign.

CHESHIRE WEST VOLUNTARY ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

25 Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	2025 £	2024 £
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(16,596)	76,532
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(1,857)	(944)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	1,997	(3,558)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	25	6
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(65,872)	(25,216)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	55,478	(76,693)
Increase in deferred income	65,967	-
	<u>39,142</u>	<u>(29,873)</u>
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	39,142	(29,873)
Per cash flow statement page	<u>39,142</u>	<u>(29,873)</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

England & Wales - Charity number 1136465

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07233113 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1136465

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024
for
Cheshire West Voluntary Action**

Bennett Brooks & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
St George's Court
Winnington Avenue
Northwich
Cheshire
CW8 4EE

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

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for the year ended 31 March 2024

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Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Charity's objects (the Objects) are:

- (i) To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, principally but not exclusively in the local government area of Cheshire West and Chester and its environs (hereinafter called the "area of benefit") and, in particular, build the capacity of third sector organisations and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose.
- (ii) To promote and facilitate co-operation and partnership working between third sector, statutory and other relevant bodies in the achievement of the above purposes within the area of benefit.

Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when undertaking an annual review of our aims and objectives, and have in particular ensured that future activities and services provided remain focussed on, and contribute to these aims, objectives and our stated purposes.

Our values

Passion Independence Volunteering Collaboration Inclusiveness

Public benefit

The charity's trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the 2006 Act to have regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Cheshire West Voluntary Action (CWVA) has been supporting voluntary, community, faith groups, and social enterprises (VCFSE sector) across west Cheshire for nearly 110 years. Our role is to enable local organisations to thrive by offering practical support with governance, volunteering, funding, training, networking, and representation. We advocate for the sector through strategic partnerships and create opportunities for our members.

Our Vision

CWVA's vision is to champion the community sector by building trust, influencing change, and inspiring action. We achieve this by:

- Connecting sectors and building trusted relationships.
- Championing our members and amplifying their voices to influence policy.
- Sharing and expanding opportunities for the sector.
- Building resilience to address societal issues with creativity and care.

Key Areas of Work

Our team of 13, led by Chief Executive, Gary Cliffe, has played a significant role in shaping the local health and social care landscape. As an equal partner in Cheshire West Place, we are recognised for our ability to support early intervention and prevention, helping to reduce the burden on statutory services. However, there is an ongoing need to invest in the sector to deliver these services effectively.

CWVA continues to act as a strategic bridge, representing a diverse range of organisations and enabling a unified conversation with statutory partners. Our work is vital in building the capacity of the sector to respond to increasing demand and prevent people from falling into crisis.

Development Work

Our development work remains a core part of our offer, which includes free or subsidised training, networking opportunities, governance advice, volunteer management support, and funding assistance. In 2023/24, CWVA managed funding pots totalling more than £450,000, ensuring vital resources reached local organisations.

Mental Health Alliance

In 2023, we launched the Mental Health Alliance, connecting over 50 organisations focused on improving mental health outcomes. The Alliance, supported by a Strategic Lead, has formed thematic groups addressing key areas, including work with underserved communities and supporting in-patient discharge.

Food Strategy - The Welcome Network

The Welcome Network has evolved from a food security project to a broader initiative addressing the wider food system's impact on insecurity. Through the Food for All Plan, CWVA leads the West Cheshire Food Partnership, representing community organisations and fostering collaboration across sectors. The Network manages small grants, supports food-related training, and recently hosted a Food Summit to guide future strategy.

Children, Young Persons and Families Alliance : Currently funded until March 2025, this activity focuses on bringing together VCFSE organisations and to build capacity within the sector to improve services for children, young people and their families. There are some exciting developments happening with much interest from our public sector partners.

Volunteering Development: This role, also funded until 2025, aims to strengthen volunteer strategies across the sector, recognising the vital role volunteers play in service delivery and as a pathway to employment.

Local Voices Framework: This project seeks to foster lived experience involvement in service design in the public sector and within our sector. Next steps include establishing a Local Voices Network and securing additional funding to expand the initiative.

Cancer Awareness: Working with Cheshire and Merseyside Cancer Alliance, CWVA is leading a community engagement project to promote early cancer diagnosis.

Conclusion

CWVA remains committed to its mission of championing the VCFSE sector. Despite challenges such as uncertain future funding, Trustees are confident that with robust financial controls and a clear strategic vision, we are well-positioned to continue supporting local organisations and enhancing community resilience.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

During 2023/24, CWVA managed funds on behalf of private organisations, grant funders, and public sector bodies, earning a small management fee. These funds were distributed to small VCFSE organisations, enabling them to provide vital support to their communities, especially during the ongoing cost-of-living crisis.

Through effective financial management and support from the Local Authority and other partners, our unrestricted reserves increased by £94,599, bringing the total to £281,957, exceeding our 6-9 months reserves policy. Our budget for 2024/25 forecasts a slight further increase, but with uncertainties surrounding future funding, particularly the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Trustees are monitoring this closely. With strong financial controls in place, we are well-positioned to manage potential challenges.

Investment policy and objectives

The charity does not have an investment policy. The funds of the charity are held in interest bearing bank accounts to maximise returns.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07233113 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1136465

Registered office

The Bluecoat
Upper Northgate Street
Chester
Cheshire
CH1 4EE

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

**Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

Trustees

Mrs D Brown (appointed 7.11.23)
Ms V Buzza
J Davies (appointed 7.11.23)
Mrs L Hesketh (appointed 7.11.23)
A K Jeffs
B D Rigby (appointed 7.11.23)
Mrs S Sutherland
Dr H White
Mrs K Dooley (resigned 7.11.23)
S Sandford (resigned 7.11.23)

New Trustees are appointed by the Board after advertisement of the vacancies and shortlisting against the published role description, followed by an interview with three existing trustees. The interviewing group reports to the Board who decide whether or not to appoint. Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, appointment as a trustee is immediate but it is confirmed by members at the organisation's next Annual General Meeting to serve for a period of three years, after which they may be re-appointed for one further period of three years.

In accordance with the charity's governing document, the Board meets at least four times a year. The Board comprises representatives of voluntary and community organisations and other members with appropriate skill sets. The Board of Trustees forms sub-committees and ad hoc working groups to address particular issues, including finance and governance matters with recommendations, which are considered by the full Board.

New trustees are provided with an induction to the charity to familiarise themselves with the organisation and the context in which it operates, jointly delivered by the Chair and the Chief Executive. New trustees are also provided with a welcome / induction pack which includes Charity Commission guidance on the roles and responsibilities of trustees; CWVA's Code of Conduct; Declarations of Interests Guidance; CWVA's Governing Document; most recent Annual Accounts and Annual review; and Strategic Plan.

The Charity has a part time Chief Executive who reports to the Board of Trustees and is line managed by the Chair, and a Deputy Chief Executive line managed by the Chief Executive.

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

The remuneration of staff is determined annually by the trustees.

Independent Examiner

Michael Joseph Snape FCCA
Bennett Brooks & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
St George's Court
Winnington Avenue
Northwich
Cheshire
CW8 4EE

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 8 October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



A K Jeffs - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Cheshire West Voluntary Action**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Cheshire West Voluntary Action ('the Company')

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

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 your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can 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 (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

M Snape

Michael Joseph Snape FCCA

Bennett Brooks & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
St George's Court
Winnington Avenue
Northwich
Cheshire
CW8 4EE

Date: 14 October 2024

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Charitable activities					
Performance related grants	3	529,090	278,564	807,654	699,094
Investment income	2	942	2	944	1,521
Total		<u>530,032</u>	<u>278,566</u>	<u>808,598</u>	<u>700,615</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Performance related grants	4	511,373	224,251	735,624	748,111
Net gains/(losses) on investments		3,558	-	3,558	(1,546)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		22,217	54,315	76,532	(49,042)
Transfers between funds	15	72,381	(72,381)	-	-
Net movement in funds		94,598	(18,066)	76,532	(49,042)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		187,358	43,041	230,399	279,441
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>281,956</u>	<u>24,975</u>	<u>306,931</u>	<u>230,399</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Balance Sheet
31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	25	-	25	30
Investments	12	42,866	-	42,866	39,308
		<u>42,891</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,891</u>	<u>39,338</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	72,969	-	72,969	47,753
Cash at bank and in hand		182,648	24,974	207,622	236,551
		<u>255,617</u>	<u>24,974</u>	<u>280,591</u>	<u>284,304</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(16,551)	-	(16,551)	(93,243)
		<u>239,066</u>	<u>24,974</u>	<u>264,040</u>	<u>191,061</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>281,957</u>	<u>24,974</u>	<u>306,931</u>	<u>230,399</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>281,957</u>	<u>24,974</u>	<u>306,931</u>	<u>230,399</u>
NET ASSETS					
		<u>281,957</u>	<u>24,974</u>	<u>306,931</u>	<u>230,399</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	15			281,957	187,358
Restricted funds				24,974	43,041
				<u>306,931</u>	<u>230,399</u>
TOTAL FUNDS					
				<u>306,931</u>	<u>230,399</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 8 October 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



A K Jeffs - Trustee

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

**Cash Flow Statement
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(29,873)	(48,137)
Net cash used in operating activities		<u>(29,873)</u>	<u>(48,137)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		151	378
Dividends received		793	1,143
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>944</u>	<u>1,521</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
		(28,929)	(46,616)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period			
		<u>236,551</u>	<u>283,167</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period			
		<u><u>207,622</u></u>	<u><u>236,551</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	76,532	(49,042)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	6	8
(Gain)/losses on investments	(3,558)	1,546
Interest received	(151)	(378)
Dividends received	(793)	(1,143)
Increase in debtors	(25,216)	(35,035)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(76,693)	35,907
Net cash used in operations	<u>(29,873)</u>	<u>(48,137)</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.23	Cash flow	At 31.3.24
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	236,551	(28,929)	207,622
	<u>236,551</u>	<u>(28,929)</u>	<u>207,622</u>
Total	<u>236,551</u>	<u>(28,929)</u>	<u>207,622</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

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

Expenditure

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

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income from listed investments	793	1,143
Deposit account interest	151	378
	<u>944</u>	<u>1,521</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		2024	2023
	Activity	£	£
Grants	Performance related grants	807,574	698,106
Events and training	Performance related grants	80	988
		<u>807,654</u>	<u>699,094</u>

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Grant funding of activities (see note 5)	Support costs (see note 6)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Performance related grants	<u>329,982</u>	<u>401,649</u>	<u>3,993</u>	<u>735,624</u>

5. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2024	2023
	£	£
Performance related grants	<u>401,649</u>	<u>438,132</u>

6. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Performance related grants	<u>3,993</u>

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

9. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	238,043	189,298
Social security costs	17,758	16,693
Other pension costs	20,382	15,137
	<u>276,183</u>	<u>221,128</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Charity staff	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Charitable activities			
Performance related grants	356,169	342,925	699,094
Investment income	1,521	-	1,521
Total	<u>357,690</u>	<u>342,925</u>	<u>700,615</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Performance related grants	404,782	343,329	748,111
Net gains/(losses) on investments	<u>(1,546)</u>	-	<u>(1,546)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(48,638)	(404)	(49,042)
Transfers between funds	<u>34,745</u>	<u>(34,745)</u>	-
Net movement in funds	(13,893)	(35,149)	(49,042)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	201,251	78,190	279,441
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>187,358</u>	<u>43,041</u>	<u>230,399</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	54	461	515
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023	51	434	485
Charge for year	-	5	5
At 31 March 2024	51	439	490
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	3	22	25
At 31 March 2023	3	27	30

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 April 2023	39,308
Revaluations	3,558
At 31 March 2024	42,866
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2024	42,866
At 31 March 2023	39,308

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Cost or valuation at 31 March 2024 is represented by:

	Listed investments £
Valuation in 2022	40,854
Valuation in 2023	(1,546)
Valuation in 2024	3,558
	42,866

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	72,969	47,280
Other debtors	-	123
Prepayments and accrued income	-	350
	72,969	47,753

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	6,731	2,047
Social security and other taxes	2,426	15,125
Other creditors	3,794	1,788
Accruals and deferred income	3,600	74,283
	<u>16,551</u>	<u>93,243</u>

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.24
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	187,358	22,218	72,381	281,957
Restricted funds				
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	18,992	(9,614)	(9,378)	-
Bluecoat Charity (Community Fund)	-	1,770	(1,500)	270
Westminster Foundation cost of living grants	17,000	(15,326)	(1,674)	-
Westminster Foundation holiday grants	4,306	(2,086)	(2,220)	-
Cadent Hydrogen Village Small Grants Programme	2,150	-	(2,150)	-
CWAC Household Support Fund	-	15,150	(15,150)	-
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	-	1,005	(1,005)	-
Bluecoat Charity (Training Programme)	-	-	-	-
	593	(971)	378	-
Blacon Neighbourhood	-	5	(5)	-
Active Cheshire	-	1,910	(710)	1,200
Cadent Winter Warmth Grant Project	-	37,235	(23,470)	13,765
Half Term Leisure activities for families living in hotels	-	4,704	-	4,704
Good Food Movement	-	15,035	(10,000)	5,035
ICB System P Complex Lives Project	-	3,670	(3,670)	-
The Majory Boddy Charitable Trust	-	1,827	(1,827)	-
	<u>43,041</u>	<u>54,314</u>	<u>(72,381)</u>	<u>24,974</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>230,399</u>	<u>76,532</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>306,931</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	530,032	(511,372)	3,558	22,218
Restricted funds				
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	-	(9,614)	-	(9,614)
Bluecoat Charity (Community Fund)	5,500	(3,730)	-	1,770
Westminster Foundation cost of living grants	-	(15,326)	-	(15,326)
Westminster Foundation holiday grants	-	(2,086)	-	(2,086)
CWAC Household Support Fund	130,000	(114,850)	-	15,150
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	10,001	(8,996)	-	1,005
Bluecoat Charity (Training Programme)	-	(971)	-	(971)
Blacon Neighbourhood	4,392	(4,387)	-	5
Active Cheshire	5,110	(3,200)	-	1,910
Cadent Winter Warmth Grant Project	86,735	(49,500)	-	37,235
Half Term Leisure activities for families living in hotels	5,000	(296)	-	4,704
Good Food Movement	20,000	(4,965)	-	15,035
ICB System P Complex Lives Project	10,001	(6,331)	-	3,670
The Majory Boddy Charitable Trust	1,827	-	-	1,827
	<u>278,566</u>	<u>(224,252)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,314</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>808,598</u>	<u>(735,624)</u>	<u>3,558</u>	<u>76,532</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	201,251	(48,638)	34,745	187,358
Restricted funds				
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	21,492	(2,500)	-	18,992
Bluecoat Charity (Community Fund)	1,000	500	(1,500)	-
Westminster Foundation cost of living grants	-	23,000	(6,000)	17,000
Westminster Foundation holiday grants	-	4,306	-	4,306
Cadent Hydrogen Village Small Grants Programme	-	5,995	(3,845)	2,150
Torus Foundation (New Leaf Current)	17,220	(17,220)	-	-
Entep Properties	2,500	(2,500)	-	-
CWAC Household Support Fund	13,000	7,000	(20,000)	-
Vivo Care Choices	2,500	(2,000)	(500)	-
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	10,000	(9,000)	(1,000)	-
Healthbox CIC	10,478	(10,478)	-	-
Autism Hub Community Fund	-	1,200	(1,200)	-
Bluecoat Charity (Training Programme)	-	1,293	(700)	593
	<u>78,190</u>	<u>(404)</u>	<u>(34,745)</u>	<u>43,041</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>279,441</u>	<u>(49,042)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>230,399</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	357,690	(404,782)	(1,546)	(48,638)
Restricted funds				
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	-	(2,500)	-	(2,500)
Bluecoat Charity (Community Fund)	5,500	(5,000)	-	500
Westminster Foundation cost of living grants	60,000	(37,000)	-	23,000
Westminster Foundation holiday grants	25,000	(20,694)	-	4,306
Cadent Hydrogen Village Small Grants Programme	23,000	(17,005)	-	5,995
Torus Foundation (New Leaf Current)	-	(17,220)	-	(17,220)
Sanctuary Housing	1,500	(1,500)	-	-
Entep Properties	-	(2,500)	-	(2,500)
CWAC Household Support Fund	188,000	(181,000)	-	7,000
Vivo Care Choices	22,500	(24,500)	-	(2,000)
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	-	(9,000)	-	(9,000)
Healthbox CIC	-	(10,478)	-	(10,478)
Autism Hub Community Fund	12,000	(10,800)	-	1,200
Bluecoat Charity (Training Programme)	-	1,293	-	1,293
	<u>5,425</u>	<u>(4,132)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,293</u>
	<u>342,925</u>	<u>(343,329)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(404)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>700,615</u>	<u>(748,111)</u>	<u>(1,546)</u>	<u>(49,042)</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	201,251	(26,420)	107,126	281,957
Restricted funds				
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	21,492	(12,114)	(9,378)	-
Bluecoat Charity (Community Fund)	1,000	2,270	(3,000)	270
Westminster Foundation cost of living grants	-	7,674	(7,674)	-
Westminster Foundation holiday grants	-	2,220	(2,220)	-
Cadent Hydrogen Village Small Grants Programme	-	5,995	(5,995)	-
Torus Foundation (New Leaf Current)	17,220	(17,220)	-	-
Entep Properties	2,500	(2,500)	-	-
CWAC Household Support Fund	13,000	22,150	(35,150)	-
Vivo Care Choices	2,500	(2,000)	(500)	-
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	10,000	(7,995)	(2,005)	-
Healthbox CIC	10,478	(10,478)	-	-
Autism Hub Community Fund	-	1,200	(1,200)	-
Bluecoat Charity (Training Programme)	-	322	(322)	-
Blacon Neighbourhood	-	5	(5)	-
Active Cheshire	-	1,910	(710)	1,200
Cadent Winter Warmth Grant Project	-	37,235	(23,470)	13,765
Half Term Leisure activities for families living in hotels	-	4,704	-	4,704
Good Food Movement	-	15,035	(10,000)	5,035
ICB System P Complex Lives Project	-	3,670	(3,670)	-
The Majory Boddy Charitable Trust	-	1,827	(1,827)	-
	<u>78,190</u>	<u>53,910</u>	<u>(107,126)</u>	<u>24,974</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>279,441</u>	<u>27,490</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>306,931</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	887,722	(916,154)	2,012	(26,420)
Restricted funds				
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	-	(12,114)	-	(12,114)
Bluecoat Charity (Community Fund)	11,000	(8,730)	-	2,270
Westminster Foundation cost of living grants	60,000	(52,326)	-	7,674
Westminster Foundation holiday grants	25,000	(22,780)	-	2,220
Cadent Hydrogen Village Small Grants Programme	23,000	(17,005)	-	5,995
Torus Foundation (New Leaf Current)	-	(17,220)	-	(17,220)
Sanctuary Housing	1,500	(1,500)	-	-
Entep Properties	-	(2,500)	-	(2,500)
CWAC Household Support Fund	318,000	(295,850)	-	22,150
Vivo Care Choices	22,500	(24,500)	-	(2,000)
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	10,001	(17,996)	-	(7,995)
Healthbox CIC	-	(10,478)	-	(10,478)
Autism Hub Community Fund	12,000	(10,800)	-	1,200
Bluecoat Charity (Training Programme)				
	5,425	(5,103)	-	322
Blacon Neighbourhood	4,392	(4,387)	-	5
Active Cheshire	5,110	(3,200)	-	1,910
Cadent Winter Warmth Grant Project	86,735	(49,500)	-	37,235
Half Term Leisure activities for families living in hotels	5,000	(296)	-	4,704
Good Food Movement	20,000	(4,965)	-	15,035
ICB System P Complex Lives Project	10,001	(6,331)	-	3,670
The Majory Boddy Charitable Trust	1,827	-	-	1,827
	<u>621,491</u>	<u>(567,581)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,910</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,509,213</u>	<u>(1,483,735)</u>	<u>2,012</u>	<u>27,490</u>

Unrestricted funds

The general fund represents the free funds of the charity which are not designed for particular purposes.

Restricted funds

CCF Meeting Place Foundation - includes monies received from Cheshire Community Foundation to plan and deliver a range of co-production sessions in order to develop food security training and train the trainer sessions.

Bluecoat Charity (Community Fund) - represents funding from The Chester Bluecoat Charity to distribute small grants for start-up or one-off costs (up to £500) for projects that aim to tackle the root causes of poverty and inequality throughout the city and the surrounding area.

Westminster Foundation cost of living grants - includes grant funding from the Westminster Foundation cost of living emergency fund to allocate monies to charities and voluntary organisations providing food support for families with children and young people in Chester, the rural surrounds of Chester and Ellesmere Port, most affected by the current cost of living crisis.

Westminster Foundation holiday grants - is from the Westminster Foundation cost of living emergency funding to allocate to charities and voluntary organisations working to meet the needs in school holidays of families with children and young people in Chester, the rural surrounds of Chester and Ellesmere Port, most affected by the current cost of living crisis.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the year ended 31 March 2024

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Cadent Hydrogen Village Small Grants Programme - consists of funding from Cadent (National company providing gas network) Hydrogen Village Small Grants programme to provide top-up funding for capital or revenue costs including overheads, volunteer expenses, project costs for groups in Ellesmere Port only.

Torus Foundation (New Leaf Current) - to deliver the New Leaf project - a voluntary programme supporting unemployed people who need extra help and support to get them into or closer to employment. CWVA left the project in February 2022.

Sanctuary Housing - includes monies from Sanctuary Housing to deliver a volunteer training programme to CWVA members.

Entep Properties - consists of funding from Entep Properties Ltd (local business) to distribute grants of up to £3,000 for existing services/activities or new services/activities in Ellesmere Port only tackling poverty, mental health, long term health conditions, loneliness or isolation.

CWAC Household Support Fund - represents grant funding from Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWAC), distributed to organisations supporting households in most need with food, energy, water bills and other essential costs.

Anne Duchess of Westminster's Charity - includes funding from the Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity for projects or activities addressing mental health and wellbeing, community projects in disadvantaged areas, isolations and loneliness.

Healthbox CIC - consists of funding from Healthbox CIC for staff and comms support provided by CWVA to The Welcome Network.

Autism Hub Community Fund - is funding from Vivo Care Choices to manage the Autism Hub Community Fund and distribute grants to individuals and community groups on behalf of West Cheshire Autism Hub. Funding ended in March 2023.

Bluecoat Charity (Training Programme) - includes funding from The Chester Bluecoat Charity to deliver a training programme for CWVA members.

Blacon Neighbourhood - comprises monies from Groundwork, holding funds on behalf of Blacon Neighbourhood Alliance.

Active Cheshire - comprises funding from Active Cheshire for community food organisations to support families to get more active by providing training and grants to purchase various play equipment.

Cadent Winter Warmth Grant Project - includes grant funding from Cadent (National company providing gas network) Winter Warmth Grant Project. Grants awarded to those organisations who can deliver significant impact to the most vulnerable residents in Cheshire West while fulfilling Cadent's ambition to keep the community safe, warm, and connected.

Half Term Leisure activities for families living in hotels - Funding from the Marjory Boddy Charitable Trust to fund family activities, pool vouchers and fuel vouchers during school half terms.

Good Food Movement - is funding from Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWAC) for the delivery work around the Good Food Movement.

ICB System P Complex Lives Project - includes funding from Warrington Voluntary Action to deliver the Complex Lives project in Cheshire West.

The Marjory Boddy Charitable Trust - comprises monies from The Marjory Boddy Charitable Trust for comms support provided to the Trust by CWVA team member.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

17. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Cheshire West Voluntary Action is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per trustee of the charity.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Investment income		
Income from listed investments	793	1,143
Deposit account interest	151	378
	<u>944</u>	<u>1,521</u>
Charitable activities		
Grants	807,574	698,106
Events and training	80	988
	<u>807,654</u>	<u>699,094</u>
Total incoming resources	808,598	700,615
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	238,043	189,298
Social security	17,758	16,693
Pensions	20,382	15,137
Rent	10,515	10,799
Publicity and marketing	6,524	263
Sundries	-	418
Legal and professional fees	-	29,248
Motor and travel expenses	982	377
Events and training	1,455	7,839
Office expenses	34,317	37,552
Fixtures and fittings	1	1
Computer equipment	5	7
Grants to institutions	401,649	438,132
	<u>731,631</u>	<u>745,764</u>
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	3,071	1,483
Payroll fees	922	864
	<u>3,993</u>	<u>2,347</u>
Total resources expended	<u>735,624</u>	<u>748,111</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>72,974</u>	<u>(47,496)</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

England & Wales - Charity number 1136465

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07233113 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1136465

REVISED

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

for

**Cheshire West Voluntary Action
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

Buxton Accounting LLP
Chartered Accountants
98 Middlewich Road
Northwich
Cheshire
CW9 7DA

Cheshire West Voluntary Action
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for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Charity's objects (the Objects) are:

(i) To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, principally but not exclusively in the local government area of Cheshire West and Chester and its environs (hereinafter called the "area of benefit") and, in particular, build the capacity of third sector organisations and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose.

(ii) To promote and facilitate co-operation and partnership working between third sector, statutory and other relevant bodies in the achievement of the above purposes within the area of benefit.

Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when undertaking an annual review of our aims and objectives, and have in particular ensured that future activities and services provided remain focussed on, and contribute to these aims, objectives and our stated purposes.

Our values

Passion Independence Volunteering Collaboration Inclusiveness

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Each year, CWVA produces an Annual Review to report on our key successes and achievements in the previous year. This is reported to our members at the AGM and subsequently publicised widely through our communication channels and our newly improved website. The Annual Review, once again, highlights CWVA's continued passion and commitment to supporting, promoting and representing the local voluntary and community sector. Over the past 12 months, the team has ensured we have provided the necessary high-quality support and development services to enable local groups to become more efficient and sustainable, as well as supporting them to effectively meet the increasing and changing needs in the local community.

In our unwavering aim to build a robust and vibrant sector, we are proud to deliver a seamless service, offering vital development assistance to established and emerging groups in the west Cheshire area. We bring our members together at regular network meetings, encourage and develop partnerships and ensure high-quality training is available at a low cost. We also help the sector access hundreds of thousands of pounds in funding.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Cheshire West Voluntary Action (CWVA) has been around for nearly 110 years and works with voluntary, community, faith groups and social enterprises, (VCFSE - the community sector) across west Cheshire.

We exist to help local organisations thrive and provide practical support with governance, volunteering, funding, training, networking and much more, representing and advocating for the community sector in strategic partnerships and creating opportunities for our members.

As anticipated we would make a small loss in 22/23 due to the decisions we made to support, for example, a mental health strategic lead. This has been a very successful initiative and will result in huge opportunities for our sector and for CWVA to be at the forefront of the relationship between statutory partners and the VCFSE sector.

Reserves policy

Cheshire West Voluntary Action's trustees have examined the charity's requirement for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. Trustees are committed to developing a level of reserves (6 - 9 months expenditure) that enables the organisation to meet foreseen and unforeseen financial circumstances including, any potential redundancies if we were to close, cash flow difficulties owing to delayed payments or withdrawal of funding at short notice. The size of reserves should be sufficient to enable core services to be maintained in the short term and/or legal requirements in areas such as staffing to be met in the event of such circumstances.

Unrestricted reserves are in line with the reserves policy of between 6 to 9 months of fixed costs.

Our budget for 2023/24 predicts a break-even position but due to some uncertainties could result in a small loss. Trustees are happy that, with good financial controls in place, including monthly management account information, this situation is under control.

Budget 2023/2024

We have fine-tuned our budgeting to ensure that we can provide more accurate and meaningful data to the Board on a bi-monthly basis. Income continues to increase due to CWVA managing some grants (and being paid a management fee) but we estimate an overall break-even budgetary position for the year as we continue to expand our staffing base to match the growing demand for our services and expertise. Our reserves situation means we can use this money to invest in the staff and the marketing we need to enhance to make our offering fit for purpose. As we work more closely with Local Authority and Health Partners, we are in a good financial situation to help secure budgets and opportunities for our members. This is because we have the appropriate reserves to make this extra investment and we have the efficient and well managed financial systems to provide confidence that we can deliver an effective and professional service to members and partners alike.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

WHAT WE DO

What do we do?

We are a small but very busy team of 10, headed up by our Chief Executive Gary Cliffe and CWWA, as a major strategic infrastructure body representing the sector, has been included as equal partner at Cheshire West Place in the integration of health & social care. This has led to an increasing understanding and agreement of Place and Local Authority leaders that the ability of the sector to deliver early intervention and prevention services will enable the "shift left" or the "getting upstream" that is required to impact the increasing demand on statutory services and the heavy cost of managing people in crisis.

The landscape however is a difficult one with ever increasing demand and reducing budgets. It has been recognised that there will need to be a parallel process of investing in the sector to be ready to deliver these services.

CWWA plays a key role in a) acting as the bridge between a diverse group of organisations of all shapes and sizes. This ability for statutory partners to have "one strategic conversation" is of paramount importance if the benefits of the sector are to be realised and b) to be able to increase the capacity of the sector to respond to the needs of the system and to target activities where they will best prevent people slipping into crisis and entering the system in the first place.

Development Work -Development work is part of our core offer including:

- free or subsidised training
- networking opportunities
- specialist funding support
- specific point of contacts around food and mental health
- advice around governance and managing an organisation
- access to CWWA's volunteer platform and support with volunteer management
- ways for organisations to have their say locally, regionally and national
- regular communications so organisations can keep up-to-date with the latest information and advice (e-bulletins)
- support with promoting organisations across CWWA's platforms

In recent years, CWWA has increasingly managed funding pots of other organisations, helping members access much-needed funding streams and making sure funders' money is going to worthwhile causes. This amounted to more £400,000 in 2023. Examples of funding pots managed by CWWA include the Anne Duchess of Westminster Fund, the Building on Recovery Arts Grants programme through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and more.

In numbers.....

The statistics below provides a snapshot of our impact in the last year from July 2022 to July 2023. This includes a lot of our development work and doesn't account for our day-to-day tasks to support our members, plus the communication channels we manage to keep organisations up-to-date with the latest information and resources.

- **2,302** collective hours of development support for CWWA members, plus many more hours of day-to-day tasks.
- Nearly **790** hours of strategic advice for CWWA members and acting as a voice for the community sector in West Cheshire.
- More than **53** hours of support for CWWA members around governance and managing their organisation.
- More than **1,000** hours of training accessed by CWWA members.
- **55** new members welcomed to the CWWA family.
- **226** different organisations offered bespoke development support.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Mental Health Alliance

The **Mental Health Alliance** was launched in 2023 bringing together different organisations from across the community sector that are involved with this area of work. We're connecting the Mental Health Alliance with all appropriate cross-sector strategic and operational groups, focusing particularly on the NHS Transformation programme. By hosting the Alliance and bringing together so many organisations, our collective voice is more powerful.

With its presence in and knowledge of local communities, together with its proven ability to innovate a diversity of provision, the VCSE sector is well-placed to make a significant contribution to the improvement of mental health outcomes across Place. Its impact and potential is clear both for the larger number of residents who experience lower level mental health challenges and the much smaller number with long-term, serious mental illness.

Mental health is included in the NHS Transformation programme, a key aim of which is to stimulate greater involvement of the VCSE sector in integrated delivery. Locally, CWP allocated funds in three main tranches: to stimulate the development of place-based VCSE alliances; to fund lived experience input to its transformation projects; and to inject funding into new provision.

We appointed a Strategic Lead for Mental Health in November 2022, a coordinating input currently unsustainably funded from CWWA's reserves, with two main focus areas:

- To coordinate and develop the Cheshire West alliance, which now has 50 member organisations. As well as offering a valued network, the alliance has launched four main thematic groups spanning work with women, with men, with under-served communities and with children, young people and families. It has also taken on two projects, one in connection with the System P Complex Lives cohort and one supporting in-patient discharge and the prevention of readmission.
- To connect and VCSE resources and build relationships across the sectors, particularly with commission

Food strategy

The Welcome Network was originally set up as a food security project. However, over the 7 years of its existence the focus has evolved and become more all-encompassing by looking at the impact of the wider food system on food insecurity.. Much of staff time is spent positioning the importance of food security at numerous strategic meetings, developing the food partnership sub-groups and leading on the Household Support Fund.

The **Food for All Plan** helps make sure everyone in our communities can access the food support they need. As part of Food for All:

- we take a lead on a West Cheshire Food Partnership and offer a bird's eye view of all things food-
- represent community organisations on a range of partnership boards and meetings and support them with providing and growing food
- make connections and find opportunities for partnership working across the community sector and other sectors
- create opportunities for peer support and training around particular food-related subjects

We recently held a Food Summit for West Cheshire, which was attended by more than 80 people, to help launch Food for All and set our future vision for food.

CWWA are developing the Food Partnership which will have 9 sub-groups including:

- Food security
- School Food
- Mental Health
- Older People

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The practical element of the project includes network meetings which are hosted equitably around the borough. This is a fantastic opportunity to bring together any organisation that has a food offer.

The Welcome Network also manages a small grant pot and holds a budget for food related training. We have also levered in additional funds through the project to support homeless families in hotel accommodation with a food and activity offer.

2) Children & Young Persons Strategic Lead

CWWA have been successful in securing funding from UKSPF for a C&YP strategic lead until March 25. This role will enable CWWA to replicate the success of the Mental Health Alliance and to be able, firstly to galvanise existing sector organisations who provide service in this field and secondly to build the capacity and help develop new services with existing organisations or support the growth of new ones. This post will need supporting from year three onwards.

3) Volunteering development

CWWA have been successful in securing funding from UKSPF for a Volunteering development role until March 25. This role will enable CWWA to support the sector and partners to develop their volunteering strategies. This is a strategically important part of the mix in a model of care that starts with the self and an individual being a part of their local communities. Volunteers doesn't mean free but it does provide so many efficiencies and benefits to society and the individual involved. Volunteering also provides a pathway to employment at a time when recruitment, especially into health and social care is in crisis This post will need supporting from year three onwards.

4) Local Voices Framework

The initial phase of this project run by CWWA and funded by Place (£30K) is reporting to Place Committee in October 23 with the report written by University of Chester following the workshops, 1-2-1 interviews and surveys and proposals for next steps.

These next steps are:

- To bring together a Local Voices Network to share best practice (this has received a lot of interest already from a variety of sources including members who have not engaged much before)
- Put in a funding bid to support a members to recruit, train and support a cohort of individuals with lived experience of mental health (this has already been encouraged)
- Put all the resources/toolkits etc from the University study on our web site and for CWWA to "host" the framework itself
- To offer to support statutory partners (and others) to help in the "how" of co-production. This would be facilitated either by consultants we would point others in the direction of or, if we were given the funding, CWWA could employ someone to provide that service
- There has already been suggested some LA projects where pilots may be appropriate

This project has wide interest from across Place and the Local Authority

Other current projects

In addition to those projects and workstreams there are other activities that may turn into workstreams that may need further investment.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Cancer Alliance - community engagement

CWVA is working in partnership with Cheshire and Merseyside **Cancer Alliance** to deliver a community engagement project aimed at promoting early cancer diagnosis. The aim is to increase awareness about the importance of early detection and empower individuals to seek medical attention promptly, leading to improved treatment outcomes and increased chances of recovery. CWVA will play a pivotal role in this project by providing expertise, support and training to local community sector groups, empowering them to engage with communities effectively and deliver crucial cancer prevention and early detection messages. The funding is secured until March 25

Community Hubs - "Our Place"

CWVA were originally funded to look at how the VCFS could integrate with Care Communities (now called Community Partnerships). This work morphed into a project to look at Community Hubs. We have been working with communities in Winsford and Ellesmere Port and Cheshire Community Action have been subcontracted to work in a rural area. The concept of community hubs is not new but there is high level of recent interest from a number of sources and once again, CWVA find ourselves in the ideal position to bring a few of these ideas together.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure

CWVA is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and has no capital share. The registered office is The Bluecoat, Upper Northgate Street, Chester CH1 4EE.

The Charity currently has 425 member organisations including voluntary, community and faith bodies all eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting. In January 2022, we introduced a small membership fee to organisations with an income below £10,000, which did not change our overall wider membership.

CWVA has a Board of Trustees who are also the directors for the purpose of the company. There are also two sub-groups reporting into the Board, namely the Communication and Marketing sub-group and the Finance sub-group. Appendix A provides further details of the Trustees and the sub-groups.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the principal areas of risk to the organisation and have where appropriate established systems or procedures to monitor and mitigate the risks that the charity faces. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with Health and Safety of staff, volunteers and service users. The Risk register is regularly reviewed and updated and other related procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

Furthermore, the adoption of the PQASSO quality framework for the management of small organisations and working to NAVCA's (National Association of Voluntary and Community Action) and Volunteer England's Quality Standards, ensure a consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity.

CWVA board and staff have a current strategic plan which will take CWVA to 2023-24.

Our main objectives of the current plan are to:

- Provide high quality services to meet the needs of our members
- Represent our members by providing a strong voice across West Cheshire
- Facilitate collaborative working
- Work with local business to help them support the needs of the community
- Ensure Cheshire West Voluntary Action is a well - governed organisation
- Ensure that CWVA's income is from diverse funding sources
- Enable CWVA's employees and volunteers to feel valued, supported and to grow as individuals

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07233113 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1136465

Registered office

The Bluecoat
Upper Northgate Street
Chester
CH1 4EE

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trustees

Mr S Sandford Chair (resigned 7.11.23)
Mrs S Sutherland Director
Dr H White Director
Ms V Buzza Director
Mrs L V Denson Director (resigned 25.1.23)
Mrs K Dooley Director (resigned 7.11.23)
Mr A K Jeffs Director
Mrs D Brown (appointed 7.11.23)
Mr J Davies (appointed 7.11.23)
Mrs L Hesketh (appointed 7.11.23)
Mr B D Rigby (appointed 7.11.23)

New Trustees are appointed by the Board after advertisement of the vacancies and shortlisting against the published role description, followed by an interview with three existing trustees. The interviewing group reports to the Board who decide whether or not to appoint. Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, appointment as a trustee is immediate but it is confirmed by members at the organisation's next Annual General Meeting to serve for a period of three years, after which they may be re-appointed for one further period of three years.

In accordance with the charity's governing document, the Board meets at least four times a year. The Board comprises representatives of voluntary and community organisations and other members with appropriate skill sets. The Board of Trustees forms sub-committees and ad hoc working groups to address particular issues, including finance and governance matters with recommendations, which are considered by the full Board.

New trustees are provided with an induction to the charity to familiarise themselves with the organisation and the context in which it operates, jointly delivered by the Chair and the Chief Executive. New trustees are also provided with a welcome / induction pack which includes Charity Commission guidance on the roles and responsibilities of trustees; CWWA's Code of Conduct; Declarations of Interests Guidance; CWWA's Governing Document; most recent Annual Accounts and Annual review; and Strategic Plan.

The Charity has a part time Chief Executive who reports to the Board of Trustees and is line managed by the Chair, and a Deputy Chief Executive line managed by the Chief Executive. There are 7 staff in total, 3 of whom are full time.

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

The remuneration of staff if determined annually by the trustees.

Independent Examiner

Mr David William Buxton FCA
Buxton Accounting LLP
Chartered Accountants
98 Middlewich Road
Northwich
Cheshire
CW9 7DA

Solicitors

DTM Legal LLP
Archway House
Station Road
Chester
CH1 3DR

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

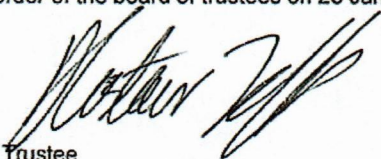
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank plc
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 23 January 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr A K Jeffs - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Cheshire West Voluntary Action**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Cheshire West Voluntary Action ('the Company')

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

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 your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can 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 (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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



Mr David William Buxton FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Buxton Accounting LLP
Chartered Accountants
98 Middlewich Road
Northwich
Cheshire
CW9 7DA

Date: 23/01/2024

Cheshire West Voluntary Action
Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Charitable activities					
Performance related grants	6	355,181	342,925	698,106	526,339
Investment income	5	(26)	-	(26)	10,877
Other income		989	-	989	603
Total		356,144	342,925	699,069	537,819
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Performance related grants	7	402,435	343,329	745,764	499,738
Other		2,347	-	2,347	90
Total		404,782	343,329	748,111	499,828
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)					
Transfers between funds	18	(48,638)	(404)	(49,042)	37,991
		34,745	(34,745)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(13,893)	(35,149)	(49,042)	37,991
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		201,251	78,190	279,441	241,450
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		187,358	43,041	230,399	279,441

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Statement of Financial Position
31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	30	-	30	38
Investments	15	39,308	-	39,308	40,854
		<u>39,338</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,338</u>	<u>40,892</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	16	47,753	-	47,753	12,718
Cash at bank and in hand		193,510	43,041	236,551	283,167
		<u>241,263</u>	<u>43,041</u>	<u>284,304</u>	<u>295,885</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	(93,243)	-	(93,243)	(57,336)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>148,020</u>	<u>43,041</u>	<u>191,061</u>	<u>238,549</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>187,358</u>	<u>43,041</u>	<u>230,399</u>	<u>279,441</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>187,358</u>	<u>43,041</u>	<u>230,399</u>	<u>279,441</u>
FUNDS	18				
Unrestricted funds				187,358	201,251
Restricted funds				43,041	78,190
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>230,399</u>	<u>279,441</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action
Statement of Financial Position - continued
31 March 2023

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 23 January 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mr A K Jeffs - Trustee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A K Jeffs', written over the printed name.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. REVISED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 have been revised.

They

- replace the original financial statements;
- are now the statutory financial statements;
- are prepared as they were at the date of the original financial statements and not as at the date of revision and accordingly do not deal with events between those dates.

The financial statements were revised to account for transfers between restricted and unrestricted funds which had not been included in the original financial statements. The total net assets of the charity were unaffected by these transfers.

2. CHARITY INFORMATION

Cheshire West Voluntary Action is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Bluecoat, Upper Northgate Street, Chester, CH1 4EE.

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

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

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charitable company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Income

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

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

Voluntary income including donations, gifts and legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Such income is only deferred when the donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods, or, where the donor has imposed conditions that must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Income from commercial activities is recognised on a recoverable basis.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Income

Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions is recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided). Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources expended

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

Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the management and governance of the Charity along with the management of its various projects and activities and include both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity costs categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capital, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Irrecoverable VAT

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category or resources expended for which it was incurred.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

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

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

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income / (expenditure) for the year.

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Other accounting policies

Going concern

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

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Financial instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Other accounting policies

Employee benefits

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

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

4. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

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

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

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other fixed asset invest - FII	(1,546)	9,756
Income from listed investments	1,143	1,121
Deposit account interest	377	-
	<u>(26)</u>	<u>10,877</u>

6. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		2023	2022
	Activity	£	£
Grants	Performance related grants	<u>698,106</u>	<u>526,339</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities (see note 8) £	Totals £
Performance related grants	<u>307,632</u>	<u>438,132</u>	<u>745,764</u>

8. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2023 £	2022 £
Performance related grants	<u>438,132</u>	<u>272,961</u>

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs £
Other resources expended	<u>2,347</u>

10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

12. STAFF COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	189,298	140,886
Social security costs	16,693	11,091
Other pension costs	15,137	11,271
	<u>221,128</u>	<u>163,248</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Charity employees	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

12. STAFF COSTS - continued

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Charitable activities			
Performance related grants	281,351	244,988	526,339
Investment income	10,877	-	10,877
Other income	603	-	603
Total	292,831	244,988	537,819
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Performance related grants	332,940	166,798	499,738
Other	90	-	90
Total	333,030	166,798	499,828
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(40,199)	78,190	37,991
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	241,450	-	241,450
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	201,251	78,190	279,441

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	54	461	515
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022	50	427	477
Charge for year	1	7	8
At 31 March 2023	51	434	485
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2023	3	27	30
At 31 March 2022	4	34	38

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

15. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 April 2022	40,854
Valuation changes	<u>(1,546)</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>39,308</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2023	<u>39,308</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>40,854</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Cost or valuation at 31 March 2023 is represented by:

	Listed investments £
Valuation in 2022	9,757
Valuation in 2023	<u>(1,546)</u>
Cost	<u>31,097</u>
	<u>39,308</u>

Investments are included at a quoted market price within the accounts.

16. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	47,280	12,245
Other debtors	123	123
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>350</u>	<u>350</u>
	<u>47,753</u>	<u>12,718</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR				
	2023	2022		
	£	£		
Trade creditors	2,047	1,710		
Social security and other taxes	15,125	6,711		
Other creditors	1,788	-		
Accrued expenses	1,945	1,915		
Deferred income	72,338	47,000		
	<u>93,243</u>	<u>57,336</u>		
18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS				
	At 1.4.22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.23
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	201,251	(48,638)	34,745	187,358
Restricted funds				
Torus Foundation (New Leaf Current)	17,220	(17,220)	-	-
Entep Properties	2,500	(2,500)	-	-
CWAC Household Support Fund	13,000	7,000	(20,000)	-
Vivo Care Choices	2,500	(2,000)	(500)	-
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	10,000	(9,000)	(1,000)	-
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	21,492	(2,500)	-	18,992
Bluecoat Charity (Community Fund)	1,000	500	(1,500)	-
Healthbox CIC	10,478	(10,478)	-	-
Autism Hub Community Fund	-	1,200	(1,200)	-
Bluecoat Charity (Training Programme)	-	1,293	(700)	593
Westminster Foundation - Cost of Living Grants	-	23,000	(6,000)	17,000
Westminster Foundation - Holiday Grants	-	4,306	-	4,306
Cadent - Hydrogen Village Small Grants Programme	-	5,995	(3,845)	2,150
	<u>78,190</u>	<u>(404)</u>	<u>(34,745)</u>	<u>43,041</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>279,441</u>	<u>(49,042)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>230,399</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	356,144	(404,782)	(48,638)
Restricted funds			
Torus Foundation (New Leaf Current)	-	(17,220)	(17,220)
Sanctuary Housing	1,500	(1,500)	-
Entep Properties	-	(2,500)	(2,500)
CWAC Household Support Fund	188,000	(181,000)	7,000
Vivo Care Choices	22,500	(24,500)	(2,000)
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	-	(9,000)	(9,000)
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	-	(2,500)	(2,500)
Bluecoat Charity (Community Fund)	5,500	(5,000)	500
Healthbox CIC	-	(10,478)	(10,478)
Autism Hub Community Fund	12,000	(10,800)	1,200
Bluecoat Charity (Training Programme)	5,425	(4,132)	1,293
Westminster Foundation - Cost of Living Grants	60,000	(37,000)	23,000
Westminster Foundation - Holiday Grants	25,000	(20,694)	4,306
Cadent - Hydrogen Village Small Grants Programme	23,000	(17,005)	5,995
	<u>342,925</u>	<u>(343,329)</u>	<u>(404)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>699,069</u>	<u>(748,111)</u>	<u>(49,042)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	241,450	(40,199)	201,251
Restricted funds			
Torus Foundation (New Leaf Current)	-	17,220	17,220
Entep Properties	-	2,500	2,500
CWAC Household Support Fund	-	13,000	13,000
Vivo Care Choices	-	2,500	2,500
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	-	10,000	10,000
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	-	21,492	21,492
Bluecoat Charity (Community Fund)	-	1,000	1,000
Healthbox CIC	-	10,478	10,478
	-	78,190	78,190
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>241,450</u>	<u>37,991</u>	<u>279,441</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	292,831	(333,030)	(40,199)
Restricted funds			
Torus Foundation (New Leaf Current)	17,220	-	17,220
Entep Properties	25,000	(22,500)	2,500
CWAC Household Support Fund	129,400	(116,400)	13,000
Vivo Care Choices	25,898	(23,398)	2,500
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	10,000	-	10,000
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	21,492	-	21,492
Bluecoat Charity (Community Fund)	5,500	(4,500)	1,000
Healthbox CIC	10,478	-	10,478
	<u>244,988</u>	<u>(166,798)</u>	<u>78,190</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>537,819</u>	<u>(499,828)</u>	<u>37,991</u>

19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

20. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The company is controlled by the board of directors, on behalf of the members of the company.

21. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

Operating leases represent leases of rent to third parties. The lease of premises now operates on a rolling basis following the end of the previous three year lease. Rent payments relating to operating leases held during the year amounted to £10,066 (2022: £9,861).

22. CAPITAL

The company being limited by guarantee does not have a capital divided in to shares. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before he or she ceases to be a member, and for such amounts as may be required not exceeding for members one pound.

If the company is wound up or dissolved and after all its debts and liabilities have been satisfied there remains any property it shall not be paid or distributed among the members of the company, but shall be given or transferred to some other charity or charities having Objects similar to the Objects which prohibits the distribution of its or their income and property to an extent at least as great as within the Memorandum of the Cheshire West Voluntary Action, chosen by the Members of the Charity at or before the time of dissolution and if that cannot be done then to some other charitable object.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Investment income		
Other fixed asset invest - FII	(1,546)	9,756
Income from listed investments	1,143	1,121
Deposit account interest	377	-
	<u>(26)</u>	<u>10,877</u>
Charitable activities		
Grants	698,106	526,339
Other income		
Events and training	989	603
	<u>989</u>	<u>603</u>
Total incoming resources	699,069	537,819
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages and salaries	189,298	140,886
Employer's national insurance	16,693	11,091
Pensions	15,137	11,271
Rent, rates and water	10,799	11,421
Publicity and marketing	263	1,515
Sundries	418	283
Motor and travel expenses	377	134
Office expenses	37,552	28,142
Events and training	7,839	1,448
Legal and professional fees	29,248	18,350
Fixtures and fittings depreciation	1	1
Computer equipment depreciation	7	8
Grants to institutions	438,132	272,961
	<u>745,764</u>	<u>497,511</u>
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy fees	2,347	2,317
	<u>2,347</u>	<u>2,317</u>
Total resources expended	748,111	499,828
Net (expenditure)/income	(49,042)	37,991
	<u><u>(49,042)</u></u>	<u><u>37,991</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

England & Wales - Charity number 1136465

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07233113 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1136465

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022
for**

**Cheshire West Voluntary Action
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

Buxton Accounting LLP
Chartered Accountants
98 Middlewich Road
Northwich
Cheshire
CW9 7DA

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

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Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Charity's objects (the Objects) are:

(i) To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, principally but not exclusively in the local government area of Cheshire West and Chester and its environs (hereinafter called the "area of benefit") and, in particular, build the capacity of third sector organisations and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose.

(ii) To promote and facilitate co-operation and partnership working between third sector, statutory and other relevant bodies in the achievement of the above purposes within the area of benefit.

Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when undertaking an annual review of our aims and objectives, and have in particular ensured that future activities and services provided remain focussed on, and contribute to these aims, objectives and our stated purposes.

Our values

Passion Independence Volunteering Collaboration Inclusiveness

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Each year, CWWA produces an Annual Review to report on our key successes and achievements in the previous year. This is reported to our members at the AGM and subsequently publicised widely through our communication channels and our newly improved website. The Annual Review, once again, highlights CWWA's continued passion and commitment to supporting, promoting and representing the local voluntary and community sector. Over the past 12 months, the team has ensured we have provided the necessary high-quality support and development services to enable local groups to become more efficient and sustainable, as well as supporting them to effectively meet the increasing and changing needs in the local community.

In our unwavering aim to build a robust and vibrant sector, we are proud to deliver a seamless service, offering vital development assistance to established and emerging groups in the west Cheshire area. We bring our members together at regular network meetings, encourage and develop partnerships and ensure high-quality training is available at a low cost. We also help the sector access hundreds of thousands of pounds in funding.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

As anticipated a surplus for the year has been achieved in line with the hard work of the Board of Trustees and all the team at CWVA.

The unrestricted reserves have increased from £241,450 (at 31 March 2021) to £279,441 (at 31 March 2022) which given the challenging general conditions is a very good year end result.

The projected position for the year ended 31 March 2023 is a small loss due to the investment we are making in staff which is underpinned by a strong vision and good planning to make us fit for purpose for the next 5 years.

Reserves policy

Cheshire West Voluntary Action's trustees have examined the charity's requirement for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. Trustees are committed to developing a level of reserves (6 - 9 months expenditure) that enables the organisation to meet foreseen and unforeseen financial circumstances including, any potential redundancies if we were to close, cash flow difficulties owing to delayed payments or withdrawal of funding at short notice. The size of reserves should be sufficient to enable core services to be maintained in the short term and/or legal requirements in areas such as staffing to be met in the event of such circumstances.

At the end of March 2022 our unrestricted reserves stood at £279,441 and with annual fixed costs of approximately £200,000 together with the planned small surplus in the year this situation is comfortable and shows good financial management.

Budget 2022/2023

We have fine-tuned our budgeting to ensure that we can provide more accurate and meaningful data to the Board on a bi-monthly basis. Income continues to increase due to CWVA managing some grants (and being paid a management fee) but we estimate an overall break-even budgetary position for the year as we continue to expand our staffing base to match the growing demand for our services and expertise. Our reserves situation means we can use this money to invest in the staff and the marketing we need to enhance to make our offering fit for purpose. As we work more closely with Local Authority and Health Partners, we are in a good financial situation to help secure budgets and opportunities for our members. This is because we have the appropriate reserves to make this extra investment and we have the efficient and well managed financial systems to provide confidence that we can deliver an effective and professional service to members and partners alike.

Reserves policy

Cheshire West Voluntary Action's trustees have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. Trustees are committed to developing a level of reserves (6 - 9 months expenditure) that enables the organisation to meet unforeseen financial circumstances including, cash flow difficulties owing to delayed payments or withdrawal of funding at short notice. The size of reserves should be sufficient to enable core services to be maintained in the short term and / or legal requirements in areas such as staffing to be met in the event of such circumstances.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

FUTURE PLANS

Business Plan 2022 - 2023

Each year, CWVA review and refine our Business Plan and the core strategic priorities for the organisation. For 2022-23 we now have eight strategic priorities having refreshed some of our existing ones in line with our growing offer for CWVA members.

Priority One: Championing the community sector

We will provide a strong voice for our members by championing and representing the community sector across the borough, sub regionally at a range of meetings, forums, boards and partnerships. We will be part of strategic discussions and consultations with key partners, including the Council. Local NHS bodies, local and national funders, Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and other regional and national bodies such as Voluntary Sector North West (VSNW), National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) and National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO).

Actions

- Continue adapting our Communication Strategy to make sure it meets the needs of all our stakeholders
- Promote the work of the sector and CWVA to a local, regional and national audience.
- Strengthen collaborative relationships in the community sector.
- Develop the Sector Leadership Group (SLG) further to provide strategic leadership and coordination of the community sector.
- Find further opportunities to strengthen the Cheshire and Warrington Infrastructure Partnership.
- Put a strong process in place to capture the needs of the sector and make sure we represent it effectively.

Priority two: Enhancing the CWVA offer

We will continue building the capacity the community sector has through a range of high-quality services that meet the needs of existing and new members. We will provide a wide range of member benefits and support services, allowing them to grow and prosper.

Actions

- Actively engage with new and existing members and improve the member experience through our Membership Support Officer.
- Increase the number of opportunities to network and access peer support
- Commit to encouraging partnerships and collaborations across the sector to help address the inequalities in west Cheshire.
- Increase the number of dedicated communications for members.
- Embed specialist infrastructure support into the wider CWVA offer (see priority three).
- Continue using CWVA's new volunteering platform as an interactive and flexible approach to potential volunteers and members wanting to engage with volunteers.
- Develop and new Skillshare offer (see priority four).
- Improve our training offer further (see priority seven)
- Demonstrate the value of the sector in west Cheshire.

Priority three: Specialist Infrastructure

We will develop the CWVA specialist infrastructure offer to make sure we are more flexible and responsive to the challenges and changes the community sector is facing. We want our offer to be relevant and meet the needs of the communities we support. With what we have learned during the COVID-19 pandemic, we have decided to focus on food projects and will take a light touch approach to support around the mental health and environmental agendas.

Actions:

- Research and develop the CWVA offer for food groups, making sure all the specialist knowledge in the CWVA team is used.
- Develop a Food Strategy that will support an effective and joined up food offer across west Cheshire.
- Find funding opportunities and broker partnerships and collaborations.
- Act as a single point of contact for all food groups.
- Represent food groups at a range of strategic meetings.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

- Develop a sub-regional food partnership.

Priority four: A new Skillshare offer

Restructure the Skillshare offer to maximise engagement with skilled people and organisations across west Cheshire who are offering pro-bono support that meets the needs of our members.

Actions:

- Make sure all offers of support are led by the needs of our membership.
- Reengage with all previous Skillshare volunteers.
- Develop effective communications around Skillshare.
- Increase the number of Skillshare volunteers by drawing on the skills from all sectors, including the community sector itself, public sector and private sector.
- Capture the impact of the Skillshare offer to demonstrate the value of pro-bono support.

Priority five: Levering funds into the local economy

We want to support our members find and access a diverse range of funding that will bring resources into our local economy. We will strive to make sure the community sector is a key stakeholder in all commissioning decisions.

Actions

- Offer bespoke funding searches.
- Act as a critical friend to review applications and bids
- Support the development of and launch of a Compact, which is an agreement about ways the community and public sectors can work together.
- Increase direct contact with and influence public sector decision makers and commissioners (Council Cabinet and Directors, health bodies and Local Enterprise Partnership).
- Prioritise several strategic funding bids across the sector.
- Host regular funding sessions and Meet the Funder events.
- Produce regular communications highlighting funding opportunities.
- Maintain the current funding section on our website.
- Develop the Funders Forum further as a place where we can champion the community sector.
- Manage and distribute small grants on behalf of local funders.

Priority six: Embedding volunteering across west Cheshire

We will support, champion and promote volunteering. We want to harness the enthusiasm, commitment and dedication shown by volunteers during the COVID-19 pandemic, inspire the community to continue volunteering in the longer term and encourage CWVA members to embed volunteers into their services further.

Actions:

- Develop a Volunteering Strategy for west Cheshire.
- Offer a single point of contact for all volunteering related queries.
- Reduce the barriers stopping people volunteering by increasing the number of opportunities for everyone.
- Improve the volunteering experience through dedicated support around good practice in volunteer management.
- Develop a peer support group for those responsible for volunteers.
- Run a large-scale volunteering campaign, including the Annual Volunteer Awards.
- Continue developing and improving our volunteering platform to make it easier for people to find and apply for meaningful opportunities.
- Support volunteering initiatives such as micro volunteering.

Priority seven: Upskilling and supporting staff and volunteers

Actions

- Carry out a comprehensive skills audit to find any gaps where staff and volunteers need support.
- Develop a programme of sessions for both staff and volunteers.
- Draw on the skills that already exist in our sector.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

- Develop and deliver a range of in-house sessions.

Priority eight: Strengthening CWVA

We want to make sure we continue meeting our charitable objectives by being a well-governed and sustainable organisation.

Actions

- Carry out the revised Charity Code of Governance.
- Develop a diverse Board of Trustees with a wide range of skills, expertise and experience to reflect the community we support and the changing landscape of the sector.
- Actively seek strategic collaborations and partnerships to look at what is needed locally and how we can collectively find solutions.
- Generate a diverse income.
- Produce a five-year Fundraising and Financial Plan.

Health and social care agenda

In addition, the engagement with the wider health and social care integration agenda and the pressure upon these sectors remains a major priority for CWVA and the wider community sector to engage with, influence and help shape and deliver solutions. A number of practical objectives around this agenda have, therefore, been identified for CWVA to progress during 2022/23 and these are as follows:

- Making sure the sector is involved in decisions about how, and then where, money is allocated at an early stage
- Ensuring co-production is a reality where those involved in delivering and receiving services are also included at an early stage
- Ensuring meaningful allocations of funding to our members (and not just small grants)
- Following up discussions about CWVA disseminating smaller pots where a grant approach may be appropriate (to enable smaller organisations to be paid to deliver).
- Upskilling the sector to be able to take advantage of commissioned contracts/services
- Enabling and facilitating more member collaborations to enable a holistic solution to be offered across CW&C that can be easily contracted with.
- Pulling together data to show the breadth, depth & of activities, outputs and outcomes therefore making the sector easier to contract with.
- Providing innovative solutions to health issues
- Ensuring consistent VCFS support for Care Communities (we are suggesting one paid member of CWVA staff).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure

CWVA is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and has no capital share. The registered office is The Bluecoat, Upper Northgate Street, Chester CH1 4EE.

The Charity currently has 425 member organisations including voluntary, community and faith bodies all eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting. In January 2022, we introduced a small membership fee to organisations with an income below £10,000, which did not change our overall wider membership.

CWVA has a Board of Trustees who are also the directors for the purpose of the company. There are also two sub-groups reporting into the Board, namely the Communication and Marketing sub-group and the Finance sub-group. Appendix A provides further details of the Trustees and the sub-groups.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the principal areas of risk to the organisation and have where appropriate established systems or procedures to monitor and mitigate the risks that the charity faces. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with Health and Safety of staff, volunteers and service users. The Risk register is regularly reviewed and updated and other related procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

Furthermore, the adoption of the PQASSO quality framework for the management of small organisations and working to NAVCA's (National Association of Voluntary and Community Action) and Volunteer England's Quality Standards, ensure a consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity.

CWWA board and staff have a current strategic plan which will take CWWA to 2022-23.

Our main objectives of the current plan are to:

- Provide high quality services to meet the needs of our members
- Represent our members by providing a strong voice across West Cheshire
- Facilitate collaborative working
- Work with local business to help them support the needs of the community
- Ensure Cheshire West Voluntary Action is a well - governed organisation
- Ensure that CWWA's income is from diverse funding sources
- Enable CWWA's employees and volunteers to feel valued, supported and to grow as individuals

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07233113 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1136465

Registered office

The Bluecoat
Upper Northgate Street
Chester
CH1 4EE

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Trustees

Mr G N Cliffe Director (resigned 29.7.21)

Mr S Sandford Chair

Mrs S Sutherland Director

Dr H White Director

Ms V Buzza Director

Mrs L V Denson Director

Mrs K Dooley Director

Mr A K Jeffs Director (appointed 29.7.21)

New Trustees are appointed by the Board after advertisement of the vacancies and shortlisting against the published role description, followed by an interview with three existing trustees. The interviewing group reports to the Board who decide whether or not to appoint. Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, appointment as a trustee is immediate but it is confirmed by members at the organisation's next Annual General Meeting to serve for a period of three years, after which they may be re-appointed for one further period of three years.

In accordance with the charity's governing document, the Board meets at least four times a year. The Board comprises representatives of voluntary and community organisations and other members with appropriate skill sets. The Board of Trustees forms sub-committees and ad hoc working groups to address particular issues, including finance and governance matters with recommendations, which are considered by the full Board.

New trustees are provided with an induction to the charity to familiarise themselves with the organisation and the context in which it operates, jointly delivered by the Chair and the Chief Executive. New trustees are also provided with a welcome / induction pack which includes Charity Commission guidance on the roles and responsibilities of trustees; CWA's Code of Conduct; Declarations of Interests Guidance; CWA's Governing Document; most recent Annual Accounts and Annual review; and Strategic Plan.

The Charity has a part time Chief Executive who reports to the Board of Trustees and is line managed by the Chair, and a Deputy Chief Executive line managed by the Chief Executive. There are 7 staff in total, 3 of whom are full time.

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

The remuneration of staff is determined annually by the trustees.

Independent Examiner

Mr David William Buxton FCA

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Buxton Accounting LLP

Chartered Accountants

98 Middlewich Road

Northwich

Cheshire

CW9 7DA

Solicitors

DTM Legal LLP

Archway House

Station Road

Chester

CH1 3DR

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

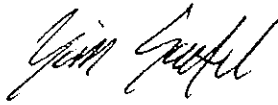
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank plc
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 19 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr S Sandford - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Cheshire West Voluntary Action**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Cheshire West Voluntary Action ('the Company')

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

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 your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of 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 (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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



Mr David William Buxton FCA
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Buxton Accounting LLP
Chartered Accountants
98 Middlewich Road
Northwich
Cheshire
CW9 7DA

19 December 2022

Cheshire West Voluntary Action
Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Charitable activities					
Performance related grants		281,351	244,988	526,339	600,927
Investment income	4	10,877	-	10,877	2,269
Other income		603	-	603	150
Total		<u>292,831</u>	<u>244,988</u>	<u>537,819</u>	<u>603,346</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Performance related grants	6	332,940	166,798	499,738	542,638
Other		90	-	90	1,243
Total		<u>333,030</u>	<u>166,798</u>	<u>499,828</u>	<u>543,881</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(40,199)	78,190	37,991	59,465
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		241,450	-	241,450	181,985
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>201,251</u></u>	<u><u>78,190</u></u>	<u><u>279,441</u></u>	<u><u>241,450</u></u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Statement of Financial Position
31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	13	38	-	38	47
Investments	14	40,854	-	40,854	31,097
		<u>40,892</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,892</u>	<u>31,144</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	15	12,718	-	12,718	22,962
Cash at bank and in hand		204,977	78,190	283,167	267,469
		<u>217,695</u>	<u>78,190</u>	<u>295,885</u>	<u>290,431</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(57,336)	-	(57,336)	(80,125)
		<u>160,359</u>	<u>78,190</u>	<u>238,549</u>	<u>210,306</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>201,251</u>	<u>78,190</u>	<u>279,441</u>	<u>241,450</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>201,251</u>	<u>78,190</u>	<u>279,441</u>	<u>241,450</u>
NET ASSETS					
		<u>201,251</u>	<u>78,190</u>	<u>279,441</u>	<u>241,450</u>
FUNDS					
	17			201,251	241,450
Unrestricted funds				78,190	-
Restricted funds					
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>279,441</u>	<u>241,450</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

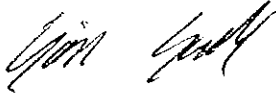
- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Statement of Financial Position - continued
31 March 2022

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 19 December 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr S Sandford - Trustee

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1. CHARITY INFORMATION

Cheshire West Voluntary Action is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Bluecoat, Upper Northgate Street, Chester, CH1 4EE.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

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

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charitable company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Income

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

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

Voluntary income including donations, gifts and legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Such income is only deferred when the donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods, or, where the donor has imposed conditions that must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Income from commercial activities is recognised on a recoverable basis.

Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions is recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided). Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources expended

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

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Resources expended

Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the management and governance of the Charity along with the management of its various projects and activities and include both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity costs categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capital, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Irrecoverable VAT

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category or resources expended for which it was incurred.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

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

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

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income / (expenditure) for the year.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Going concern

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

Cash and cash equivalents

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Going concern

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

Financial instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

Employee benefits

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

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

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

3. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

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

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

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other fixed asset invest - FII	9,756	-
Income from listed investments	1,121	1,098
Interest receivable	-	1,171
	<u>10,877</u>	<u>2,269</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Grants	526,339	600,927

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities (see note 7) £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Performance related grants	<u>224,550</u>	<u>272,961</u>	<u>2,227</u>	<u>499,738</u>

7. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2022	2021
	£	£
Performance related grants	<u>272,961</u>	<u>377,573</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Other resources expended	90
Performance related grants	<u>2,227</u>
	<u>2,317</u>

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>9</u>	<u>12</u>

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

11. STAFF COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	140,886	120,925
Social security costs	11,091	6,497
Other pension costs	<u>11,271</u>	<u>11,965</u>
	<u>163,248</u>	<u>139,387</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
Charity employees	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Charitable activities			
Performance related grants	442,251	158,676	600,927
Investment income	2,269	-	2,269
Other income	150	-	150
Total	444,670	158,676	603,346
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Performance related grants	378,960	163,678	542,638
Other	1,243	-	1,243
Total	380,203	163,678	543,881
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	64,467	(5,002)	59,465
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	176,983	5,002	181,985
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	241,450	-	241,450

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	54	461	515
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2021	49	419	468
Charge for year	1	8	9
At 31 March 2022	50	427	477
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2022	4	34	38
At 31 March 2021	5	42	47

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

14. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 April 2021	31,097
Valuation changes	9,757
	<u>40,854</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>40,854</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2022	<u>40,854</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>31,097</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Cost or valuation at 31 March 2022 is represented by:

	Listed Investments £
Valuation in 2022	9,757
Cost	31,097
	<u>40,854</u>

Investments are included at a quoted market price within the accounts.

15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	12,245	22,489
Other debtors	123	123
Prepayments and accrued income	350	350
	<u>12,718</u>	<u>22,962</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,710	1,214
Social security and other taxes	6,711	2,557
Accrued expenses	1,915	1,825
Deferred income	47,000	74,529
	<u>57,336</u>	<u>80,125</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	241,450	(40,199)	201,251
Restricted funds			
Torus Foundation (New Leaf Current)	-	17,220	17,220
Entep Properties	-	2,500	2,500
CWAC Household Support Fund	-	13,000	13,000
Vivo Care Choices	-	2,500	2,500
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	-	10,000	10,000
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	-	21,492	21,492
The Chester Bluecoat Charity	-	1,000	1,000
Healthbox CIC	-	10,478	10,478
	-	78,190	78,190
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>241,450</u>	<u>37,991</u>	<u>279,441</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	292,831	(333,030)	(40,199)
Restricted funds			
Torus Foundation (New Leaf Current)	17,220	-	17,220
Entep Properties	25,000	(22,500)	2,500
CWAC Household Support Fund	129,400	(116,400)	13,000
Vivo Care Choices	25,898	(23,398)	2,500
Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity	10,000	-	10,000
CCF Meeting Place Foundation	21,492	-	21,492
The Chester Bluecoat Charity	5,500	(4,500)	1,000
Healthbox CIC	10,478	-	10,478
	244,988	(166,798)	78,190
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>537,819</u>	<u>(499,828)</u>	<u>37,991</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	176,983	64,467	241,450
Restricted funds			
Westminster Foundation - Digital Response	5,002	(5,002)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>181,985</u>	<u>59,465</u>	<u>241,450</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	444,669	(380,202)	64,467
Restricted funds			
Westminster Foundation - Digital Response	-	(5,002)	(5,002)
Brightlife Asset Mapping Sport England - Families Together Project	54	(54)	-
Primary Care Cheshire	25,294	(25,294)	-
Cheshire Used Furniture Enterprise Torus Foundation (New Leaf September)	27,385	(27,385)	-
Vivo Fund	4,784	(4,784)	-
CWAC DEFRA	16,960	(16,960)	-
	25,000	(25,000)	-
	59,200	(59,200)	-
	<u>158,677</u>	<u>(163,679)</u>	<u>(5,002)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>603,346</u>	<u>(543,881)</u>	<u>59,465</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

19. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The company is controlled by the board of directors, on behalf of the members of the company.

20. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

Operating leases represent leases of rent to third parties. The lease of premises now operates on a rolling basis following the end of the previous three year lease. Rent payments relating to operating leases held during the year amounted to £9,861 (2021: £4,452).

21. CAPITAL

The company being limited by guarantee does not have a capital divided in to shares. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before he or she ceases to be a member, and for such amounts as may be required not exceeding for members one pound.

If the company is wound up or dissolved and after all its debts and liabilities have been satisfied there remains any property it shall not be paid or distributed among the members of the company, but shall be given or transferred to some other charity or charities having Objects similar to the Objects which prohibits the distribution of its or their income and property to an extent at least as great as within the Memorandum of the Cheshire West Voluntary Action, chosen by the Members of the Charity at or before the time of dissolution and if that cannot be done then to some other charitable object.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Investment income		
Other fixed asset invest - FII	9,756	-
Income from listed investments	1,121	1,098
Interest receivable	-	1,171
	<u>10,877</u>	<u>2,269</u>
Charitable activities		
Grants	526,339	600,927
Other income		
Events and training	603	150
Total incoming resources	<u>537,819</u>	<u>603,346</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages and salaries	140,886	120,925
Employer's national insurance	11,091	6,497
Pensions	11,271	11,965
Rent, rates and water	11,421	4,452
Publicity and marketing	1,515	-
Sundries	283	230
Motor and travel expenses	134	94
Office expenses	28,142	17,122
Events and training	1,448	606
Legal and professional fees	18,350	1,998
Fixtures and fittings depreciation	1	1
Computer equipment depreciation	8	11
Grants to institutions	272,961	377,573
	<u>497,511</u>	<u>541,474</u>
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy fees	2,317	2,407
Total resources expended	<u>499,828</u>	<u>543,881</u>
Net income	<u>37,991</u>	<u>59,465</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

England & Wales - Charity number 1136465

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07233113 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1136465

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

for

**Cheshire West Voluntary Action
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

Buxton Accounting LLP
Chartered Accountants
98 Middlewich Road
Northwich
Cheshire
CW9 7DA

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

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Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Charity's objects (the Objects) are:

(i) To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, principally but not exclusively in the local government area of Cheshire West and Chester and its environs (hereinafter called the "area of benefit") and, in particular, build the capacity of third sector organisations and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose.

(ii) To promote and facilitate co-operation and partnership working between third sector, statutory and other relevant bodies in the achievement of the above purposes within the area of benefit.

Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when undertaking an annual review of our aims and objectives, and have in particular ensured that future activities and services provided remain focussed on, and contribute to these aims, objectives and our stated purposes.

Our values

Passion Independence Volunteering Collaboration Inclusiveness

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Each year, CWVA produces an Annual Review to report on our key successes and achievements in the previous year. This is reported to our members at the AGM and subsequently publicised widely through our communication channels and our newly improved website. The Annual Review, once again, highlights CWVA's continued passion and commitment to supporting, promoting and representing the local voluntary and community sector. Over the past 12 months, the team has ensured we have provided the necessary high-quality support and development services to enable local groups to become more efficient and sustainable, as well as supporting them to effectively meet the increasing and changing needs in the local community.

In our unwavering aim to build a robust and vibrant sector, we are proud to deliver a seamless service, offering vital development assistance to established and emerging groups in the west Cheshire area. We bring our members together at regular network meetings, encourage and develop partnerships and ensure high-quality training is available at a low cost. We also help the sector access hundreds of thousands of pounds in funding.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

As anticipated a surplus for the year has been achieved in line with the hard work of the Board of Trustees and all the team at CWVA.

The unrestricted reserves have increased from £176,983 (at 31 March 2020) to £241,450 (at 31 March 2021) which given the challenging general conditions is a very good year end result.

The projected position for the year ended 31 March 2022 is a small surplus due to the investment we are making in staff and activities such as marketing which is underpinned by a strong vision and good planning to make us fit for purpose for the next 5 years.

Reserves policy

Cheshire West Voluntary Action's trustees have examined the charity's requirement for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. Trustees are committed to developing a level of reserves (6 - 9 months expenditure) that enables the organisation to meet foreseen and unforeseen financial circumstances including, any potential redundancies if we were to close, cash flow difficulties owing to delayed payments or withdrawal of funding at short notice. The size of reserves should be sufficient to enable core services to be maintained in the short term and/or legal requirements in areas such as staffing to be met in the event of such circumstances.

At the end of March 2021 our unrestricted reserves stood at £241,450 and with annual fixed costs of approximately £200,000 together with the planned small surplus in the year this situation is comfortable and shows good financial management.

Budget 2021/2022

We have fine-tuned our budgeting for 2021 and can provide more accurate and meaningful data to the Board. Income is going to increase due to CWVA managing some grants (and being paid a management fee) but we estimate an overall surplus of £25,000. Our reserves situation means we can use this money to invest in the staff and the marketing we need to enhance to make our offering fit for purpose. As we work more closely with Local Authority and Health Partners we are in a good financial situation to help secure budgets and opportunities for our members. This is because we have the appropriate reserves to make this extra investment and we have the efficient and well managed financial systems to provide confidence that we can deliver an effective and professional service to members and partners alike.

Reserves policy

Cheshire West Voluntary Action's trustees have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. Trustees are committed to developing a level of reserves (6 - 9 months expenditure) that enables the organisation to meet unforeseen financial circumstances including, cash flow difficulties owing to delayed payments or withdrawal of funding at short notice. The size of reserves should be sufficient to enable core services to be maintained in the short term and / or legal requirements in areas such as staffing to be met in the event of such circumstances.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

FUTURE PLANS

Business Plan 2021 - 2022

Priority one: Championing the Voluntary and Community Sector

We will provide a strong voice for our members by championing and representing the voluntary and community sector across the borough, sub-regionally and regionally at a range of key meetings, forums, boards, and partnerships. We will be part of strategic discussions and consultations with key partners, including the Council, local NHS bodies, local and national funders, Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and other regional and national bodies including Voluntary Sector North West (VSNW) National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) and National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO).

Actions

1. Revise our Communication Strategy to ensure that it meets the needs of our stakeholders.
2. Promote the work of the sector and CWVA to a local, regional and national audience.
3. Strengthen collaborative relationships within the voluntary and community sector.
4. Further develop the Sector Leadership Group (SLG) to provide strategic leadership and coordination for the voluntary and community sector in west Cheshire.
5. Identify further opportunities to strengthen the Cheshire and Warrington Infrastructure Partnership.
6. Develop a robust process to capture the needs of the sector to enable effective representation.

Priority Two: Enhancing the CWVA Offer

Continue to build the capacity of the voluntary, community sector through a range of high-quality services that meet the needs of existing and new members through the delivery of a wide range of member benefits and support services enabling our members to grow and prosper.

Actions

1. Recruit a dedicated Membership Support Officer to actively engage with new and existing members and improve member experience.
2. Increased opportunities to network and access peer support.
3. A commitment to encouraging partnerships and collaborations across the sector to help address the inequalities that exist within our borough.
4. Increased communications.
5. Embed specialist infrastructure support into the wider CWVA offer (see priority 3).
6. Improved interactive platform for potential volunteers and for members wanting to engage volunteers.
7. Develop a new SkillShare offer (see priority 4).
8. Improved training offer (see priority 7).
9. Demonstrate the value of the Voluntary and Community Sector in West Cheshire.

Priority Three: Specialist Infrastructure

Develop the CWVA specialist infrastructure offer to ensure that we are more flexible and responsive to the challenges and changes that the voluntary and community sector are facing. We want to ensure that our offer is relevant to the needs of the communities which we support. As a consequence of Covid-19, we have decided to focus on food projects and will also undertake a light touch approach to Mental Health and the Green Agenda.

Actions

1. Research and develop the CWVA offer for food groups, ensuring all the CWVA team specialisms are engaged.
2. Develop a food strategy that will support an effective and joined up food offer across the borough.
3. Identify funding opportunities and broker partnerships and collaborations.
4. Be a single point of contact for all food groups.
5. Provide representation for food groups at a range of strategic meetings.
6. Develop a sub-regional food partnership.

Priority Four: A New SkillShare Offer

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Restructure the SkillShare offer to maximise engagement with the local skilled individuals offering pro-bono support that meets the needs of our members.

Actions

1. Ensure all offers of support are led by the needs of our membership.
2. Re-engage with all previous SkillShare volunteers.
3. Develop an effective communication strategy.
4. Increase the number of SkillShare volunteers by drawing on the skills that exist across all sectors including the Voluntary and Community Sector, Public Sector and Private Sector.
5. We will capture the impact of the SkillShare offer to demonstrate the value of pro-bono support.

Priority Five: Levering Funds into the Local Economy

We want to support our members to identify and access a diverse range of funding which will bring resources into our local economy. We will strive to ensure that the Voluntary and Community Sector is a key stakeholder in all commissioning discussions.

Actions

1. Offer bespoke funding searches.
2. Act as a critical friend to review applications and bids.
3. Support in the development and launch of a Compact for 2021.
4. Increase direct contact with and influence public sector decision makers and commissioners (Council Cabinet and directors, health bodies, Local Enterprise Partnership).
5. Prioritise a number of strategic funding bids across the sector.
6. Host regular funding surgeries and Meet the Funder events.
7. Produce regular comms highlighting funding opportunities.
8. Maintain a current funding section on our website.
9. Further develop the Funders Forum as a place in which to champion the local Voluntary and Community sector.
10. Manage and distribute small grants on behalf of local funders.

Priority Six: Embedding Volunteering across the Borough

We will support, champion, and promote volunteering. We want to harness the enthusiasm, commitment and dedication demonstrated by volunteers during Covid-19. We want to inspire the community to continue volunteering beyond the pandemic and for CWVA members to further embed volunteers into their services.

Actions

1. We will develop a volunteering strategy for west Cheshire.
2. Offer a single point of contact for all volunteering related queries.
3. We will reduce the barriers in accessing volunteering by increasing opportunities for all.
4. Improve the volunteering experience through dedicated good practice in volunteer management support.
5. Develop a peer support group for those responsible for volunteers.
6. Run large scale volunteering campaigns including the annual awards.
7. Improve our volunteering platform to make it easier identify and apply for meaningful opportunities.
8. Support volunteering initiatives, such as Time Credits and micro-volunteering

Priority Seven: Upskilling and Supporting Staff and Volunteers

We will support in the personal and professional development of the sector through a programme of learning and wellbeing sessions.

Actions

1. Conduct a comprehensive skills audit to identify any skills gaps in staff and volunteers.
2. Develop a programme of sessions for both staff and volunteers.
3. Draw on the skills that already exist in our sector.
4. Develop and deliver a range of in-house sessions.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Priority Eight: Strengthening Cheshire West Voluntary Action

To ensure we continue to meet our charitable objectives CWVA needs to be a well governed and sustainable organisation.

Actions

1. Undertake the revised Charity Code of Governance.
2. Develop a diverse board of trustees with a wide range of skills, expertise and experience to reflect the community we serve and the changing landscape of the sector.
3. Actively seek strategic collaborations and partnerships to identify local need and collectively find solutions.
4. Generate a diverse income.
5. Produce a 5-year fundraising and financial plan.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure

CWVA is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and has no capital share. The registered office is The Bluecoat, Upper Northgate Street, Chester CH1 4EE. The Charity currently has 651 member organisations including voluntary, community and faith bodies all eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting. CWVA has a Board of Trustees who are also the directors for the purpose of the company. There are also two sub-groups reporting into the Board, namely the Communication and Marketing sub-group and the Finance sub-group. Appendix A provides further details of the Trustees and the sub-groups.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the principal areas of risk to the organisation and have where appropriate established systems or procedures to monitor and mitigate the risks that the charity faces. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with Health and Safety of staff, volunteers and service users. The Risk register is regularly reviewed and updated and other related procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

Furthermore, the adoption of the PQASSO quality framework for the management of small organisations, and working to NAVCA's (National Association of Voluntary and Community Action) and Volunteer England's Quality Standards, ensure a consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. CWVA board and staff have a current strategic plan which will take CWVA to 2021.

Our main objectives of the current plan are to:

- Provide high quality services to meet the needs of our members
- Represent our members by providing a strong voice across West Cheshire
- Facilitate collaborative working
- Work with local business to help them support the needs of the community
- Ensure Cheshire West Voluntary Action is a well - governed organisation
- Ensure that CWVA's income is from diverse funding sources
- Enable CWVA's employees and volunteers to feel valued, supported and to grow as individuals

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07233113 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1136465

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

Registered office

The Bluecoat
Upper Northgate Street
Chester
CH1 4EE

Trustees

Mr D Bull Retired Local Gov Officer (resigned 31.12.20)
Mr G N Cliffe Director (resigned 29.7.21)
Mr P J Makinson Solicitor (resigned 31.12.20)
Mr S Sandford Chair
Mrs S Sutherland Director
Dr H White Director (appointed 27.11.20)
Ms V Buzza Director (appointed 10.2.21)
Mrs L V Denson Director (appointed 29.4.20)
Mrs K Dooley Director (appointed 29.4.20)

New Trustees are appointed by the Board after advertisement of the vacancies and shortlisting against the published role description, followed by an interview with three existing trustees. The interviewing group reports to the Board who decide whether or not to appoint. Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, appointment as a trustee is immediate but it is confirmed by members at the organisation's next Annual General Meeting to serve for a period of three years, after which they may be re-appointed for one further period of three years.

In accordance with the charity's governing document, the Board meets at least four times a year. The Board comprises representatives of voluntary and community organisations and other members with appropriate skill sets. The Board of Trustees forms sub-committees and ad hoc working groups to address particular issues, including finance and governance matters with recommendations, which are considered by the full Board.

New trustees are provided with an induction to the charity to familiarise themselves with the organisation and the context in which it operates, jointly delivered by the Chair and the Chief Executive. New trustees are also provided with a welcome / induction pack which includes Charity Commission guidance on the roles and responsibilities of trustees; CWVA's Code of Conduct; Declarations of Interests Guidance; CWVA's Governing Document; most recent Annual Accounts and Annual review; and Strategic Plan.

The Charity has a part time Chief Executive who reports to the Board of Trustees and is line managed by the Chair, and a Deputy Chief Executive line managed by the Chief Executive. There are 7 staff in total, 3 of whom are full time.

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

The remuneration of staff is determined annually by the trustees.

In addition the Board has a Relief Committee responsible for overseeing the administration of the organisation's Relief Fund, a resource for dealing with emergency need through small grants to individuals through support / advice agencies.

Independent Examiner

Mr David William Buxton FCA
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Buxton Accounting LLP
Chartered Accountants
98 Middlewich Road
Northwich
Cheshire
CW9 7DA

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Solicitors

DTM Legal LLP
Archway House
Station Road
Chester
CH1 3DR

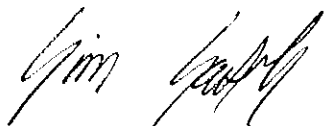
Bankers

The Co-operative Bank plc
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 22 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr S Sandford - Trustee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Sandford', written in a cursive style.

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Cheshire West Voluntary Action**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Cheshire West Voluntary Action ('the Company')

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

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 your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of 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 (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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



Mr David William Buxton FCA
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Buxton Accounting LLP
Chartered Accountants
98 Middlewich Road
Northwich
Cheshire
CW9 7DA

22 December 2021

Cheshire West Voluntary Action
Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	4	-	-	-	16,779
Charitable activities					
Performance related grants	6	442,251	158,676	600,927	293,069
Investment income	5	2,269	-	2,269	1,091
Other income		150	-	150	11,142
Total		444,670	158,676	603,346	322,081
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Performance related grants	7	378,960	163,678	542,638	284,656
Other		1,243	-	1,243	2,285
Total		380,203	163,678	543,881	286,941
Net gains/(losses) on Investments		-	-	-	(1,012)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		64,467	(5,002)	59,465	34,128
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		176,983	5,002	181,985	147,857
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		241,450	-	241,450	181,985

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Statement of Financial Position
31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	47	-	47	59
Investments	15	31,097	-	31,097	31,097
		<u>31,144</u>	-	<u>31,144</u>	31,156
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	16	22,962	-	22,962	327
Cash at bank and in hand		267,469	-	267,469	162,755
		<u>290,431</u>	-	<u>290,431</u>	163,082
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	(80,125)	-	(80,125)	(12,253)
		<u>210,306</u>	-	<u>210,306</u>	150,829
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>210,306</u>	-	<u>210,306</u>	150,829
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>241,450</u>	-	<u>241,450</u>	181,985
NET ASSETS					
		<u>241,450</u>	-	<u>241,450</u>	181,985
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	18			241,450	176,983
Restricted funds				-	5,002
TOTAL FUNDS					
				<u>241,450</u>	<u>181,985</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

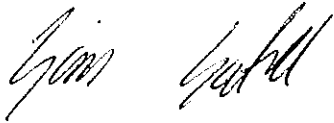
Cheshire West Voluntary Action

**Statement of Financial Position - continued
31 March 2021**

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22 December 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mr S Sandford - Trustee

Handwritten signature of Mr S Sandford in cursive script.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1. CHARITY INFORMATION

Cheshire West Voluntary Action is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Bluecoat, Upper Northgate Street, Chester, CH1 4EE.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

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

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charitable company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Income

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

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

Voluntary income including donations, gifts and legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Such income is only deferred when the donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods, or, where the donor has imposed conditions that must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Income from commercial activities is recognised on a recoverable basis.

Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions is recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided). Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources expended

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

Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the management and governance of the Charity along with the management of its various projects and activities and include both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Resources expended

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity costs categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capital, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Irrecoverable VAT

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category or resources expended for which it was incurred.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

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

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

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% on reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income / (expenditure) for the year.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Going concern

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

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Financial Instruments

Cheshire West Voluntary Action
Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Going concern

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

Employee benefits

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

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

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

3. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

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

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

4. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Donations	-	16,779

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2021 £	2020 £
Income from listed investments	1,098	1,077
Interest receivable	1,171	14
	<u>2,269</u>	<u>1,091</u>

6. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Grants	600,927	293,069

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities (see note 8) £	Support costs (see note 9) £	Totals £
Performance related grants	<u>163,901</u>	<u>377,573</u>	<u>1,164</u>	<u>542,638</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

8. GRANTS PAYABLE		
	2021	2020
	£	£
Performance related grants	<u>377,573</u>	<u>32,917</u>

9. SUPPORT COSTS			
			Governance costs
			£
Other resources expended			<u>1,243</u>
Performance related grants			<u>1,164</u>
			<u>2,407</u>

10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):		
	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>12</u>	<u>19</u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

12. STAFF COSTS		
	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>120,925</u>	180,270
Social security costs	<u>6,497</u>	12,256
Other pension costs	<u>11,965</u>	13,073
	<u>139,387</u>	<u>205,599</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
Charity employees	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	16,779	-	16,779
Charitable activities			
Performance related grants	140,271	152,798	293,069
Investment income	1,091	-	1,091
Other income	11,142	-	11,142
Total	169,283	152,798	322,081
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Performance related grants	134,907	149,749	284,656
Other	2,285	-	2,285
Total	137,192	149,749	286,941
Net gains/(losses) on investments	(1,012)	-	(1,012)
NET INCOME	31,079	3,049	34,128
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	145,904	1,953	147,857
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	176,983	5,002	181,985

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	54	461	515
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2020	48	408	456
Charge for year	1	11	12
At 31 March 2021	49	419	468
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2021	5	42	47
At 31 March 2020	6	53	59

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

15. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed Investments £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	<u>31,097</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2021	<u>31,097</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>31,097</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Investments are included at a quoted market price within the accounts.

16. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	22,489	204
Other debtors	123	123
Prepayments and accrued income	350	-
	<u>22,962</u>	<u>327</u>

17. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	1,214	3,914
Social security and other taxes	2,557	6,514
Accrued expenses	1,825	1,825
Deferred income	74,529	-
	<u>80,125</u>	<u>12,253</u>

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	176,983	64,467	241,450
Restricted funds			
Westminster Foundation - Digital Response	5,002	(5,002)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>181,985</u>	<u>59,465</u>	<u>241,450</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	444,669	(380,202)	64,467
Restricted funds			
Westminster Foundation - Digital Response	-	(5,002)	(5,002)
Brightliffe Asset Mapping	54	(54)	-
Sport England - Families Together Project	25,294	(25,294)	-
Primary Care Cheshire	27,385	(27,385)	-
Cheshire Used Furniture Enterprise	4,784	(4,784)	-
Torus Foundation (New Leaf September)	16,960	(16,960)	-
Vivo Fund	25,000	(25,000)	-
CWAC DEFRA	59,200	(59,200)	-
	<u>158,677</u>	<u>(163,679)</u>	<u>(5,002)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>603,346</u>	<u>(543,881)</u>	<u>59,465</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	145,904	31,079	176,983
Restricted funds			
Westminster Foundation - Digital Response	-	5,002	5,002
Relief Fund	1,953	(1,953)	-
	<u>1,953</u>	<u>3,049</u>	<u>5,002</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>147,857</u>	<u>34,128</u>	<u>181,985</u>

Cheshire West Voluntary Action

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	169,283	(137,192)	(1,012)	31,079
Restricted funds				
Westminster Foundation - Digital Response	20,009	(15,007)	-	5,002
Brightlife Asset Mapping	24,626	(24,626)	-	-
Torus Foundation (New Leaf Current)	13,494	(13,494)	-	-
Relief Fund	-	(1,953)	-	(1,953)
Sport England - Families Together Project	30,306	(30,306)	-	-
Primary Care Cheshire	29,875	(29,875)	-	-
Cheshire Community Foundation	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Sanctuary Housing	6,638	(6,638)	-	-
Cheshire Used Furniture Enterprise	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
Torus Foundation (New Leaf September)	2,850	(2,850)	-	-
	<u>152,798</u>	<u>(149,749)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,049</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>322,081</u>	<u>(286,941)</u>	<u>(1,012)</u>	<u>34,128</u>

19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

20. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The company is controlled by the board of directors, on behalf of the members of the company.

21. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

Operating leases represent leases of rent to third parties. The leases are negotiated over terms of 3 years and rentals are fixed for 3 years. Rent payments relating to operating leases held during the year amounted to £4,452 (2020: £9,861).

Cheshire West Voluntary Action
Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

22. CAPITAL

The company being limited by guarantee does not have a capital divided in to shares. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before he or she ceases to be a member, and for such amounts as may be required not exceeding for members one pound.

If the company is wound up or dissolved and after all its debts and liabilities have been satisfied there remains any property it shall not be paid or distributed among the members of the company, but shall be given or transferred to some other charity or charities having Objects similar to the Objects which prohibits the distribution of its or their income and property to an extent at least as great as within the Memorandum of the Cheshire West Voluntary Action, chosen by the Members of the Charity at or before the time of dissolution and if that cannot be done then to some other charitable object.

Cheshire West Voluntary Action
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	-	16,779
Investment income		
Income from listed investments	1,098	1,077
Interest receivable	1,171	14
	<u>2,269</u>	<u>1,091</u>
Charitable activities		
Grants	600,927	293,069
Other income		
Events and training	150	11,142
	<u>603,346</u>	<u>322,081</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages and salaries	120,925	180,270
Employer's national insurance	6,497	12,256
Pensions	11,965	13,073
Rent, rates and water	4,452	13,634
Publicity and marketing	-	4,455
Sundries	230	2,229
Motor and travel expenses	94	3,093
Office expenses	17,122	4,306
Events and training	606	2,845
Legal and professional fees	1,998	15,558
Fixtures and fittings depreciation	1	2
Computer equipment depreciation	11	18
Grants to institutions	377,573	28,927
Grants to individuals	-	3,990
	<u>541,474</u>	<u>284,656</u>
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy fees	2,407	2,285
	<u>543,881</u>	<u>286,941</u>
Total resources expended	<u>543,881</u>	<u>286,941</u>
Net income	<u>59,465</u>	<u>35,140</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements