

**My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company**

Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

"Charity Commissioners Copy"
Charity No. 1137319

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

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My Sister's Place
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Company Information

Trustees	Rebecca Samuels Helen Mather Jennifer Shield Ema Thornhill Amanda Senior Anna Rawling Melanie Butler Lindsey Hazle Rachel Smith	- Chair – resigned 8 November 2023 Chair – appointed 17 January 2024 - Treasurer - Member – resigned 12 July 2023 - Member - Member – resigned 8 November 2023 - Member – appointed 1 April 2023 - Member – appointed 1 April 2023 - Member – appointed 20 November 2024
Chief Officer	Lesley Storey	
Company Number	07233811	
Charity Number	1137319	
Registered Office	121-123 Borough Road Middlesbrough TS1 3AN	
Bankers	Virgin Money 7 Linthorpe Road Middlesbrough TS1 1RF	
Auditors	Anderson Barrowcliff Limited 3 Kingfisher Court Bowesfield Park Stockton on Tees TS18 3EX	

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Report of The Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees present their report together with financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The annual report serves the purpose of both a Trustees' Report and Directors' Report under Company Law.

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019.

The Trustees are Directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are shown on page 1.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES INCLUDING PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The charity's objects as set out in its Articles of Association are:

- To promote for the public benefit and with a view to public protection and the preservation of order, the provision of services directed towards the prevention of domestic violence.
- The support of women and children who have suffered or are in danger of suffering disadvantage, exploitation and/or violence from perpetrators known to them.
- To advance the education of voluntary and statutory agencies and the public in all aspects of domestic violence against women by known men, its causes, remedies and provision.

My Sister's Place are a specialist trauma informed Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) service with over 22 years of experience based in Middlesbrough. Commitment to excellence in all areas of our services is underpinned by nationally recognised accreditations from the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP), Women's Aid, Safe Lives and RESPECT. We are one of the few VAWG services in the UK who are BACP Accredited and were early adopters of trauma informed practice. We provide holistic, therapeutic, practical support to victims through their journey out of abuse and support survivors to make life-changing decisions around personal safety, housing, finances, criminal and civil justice, fighting to keep children, immigration justice and threats of deportation. We also give mental health support for the psychological recovery from the impacts of interpersonal trauma and abuse.

Our services are accessible to diverse communities with unique demographics and locally defined needs. We have an in-depth understanding of the issues, challenges and health inequalities affecting families we work with. Our services meet the needs of survivors who have some of the highest levels of risk, poverty, and multiple disadvantages nationally. The area in which we work has high levels of violent crime/sexual exploitation and communities who are marginalised and may not traditionally present to mainstream services e.g., LGBT+, Black and Minoritised Communities, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) communities, survivors with complex needs, individuals with drug and alcohol dependency, poor mental health and learning/physical disabilities. In addition, we support those who have experienced Female Genital Mutilation, domestic slavery and trafficking.

Our expert teams of adult and children's therapists, Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs), Young Peoples Domestic Violence Advocates (CYP-IDVAs) and Economic Abuse Support Workers (EASW's), offer individual targeted support services to adults and children aged 4yrs and over with multiple and complex needs. Working from a trauma informed perspective, we assess and manage all levels of risk, identify support needs, safeguard, generate options / choices through specialist provision, advocate to ensure justice for victims/survivors and work proactively within multi-agency landscapes to improve survivors' safety and keep their voices at the centre of our work.

My Sister's Place
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Report of The Trustees
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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES INCLUDING PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT - continued

Our Aim

To encourage, enable and empower, we believe that given the right resources everyone has the capacity to thrive

Our Vision

To create safer communities where everyone can live free from domestic abuse and sexual violence

Our Mission

To provide high quality, innovative, end to end services, which enable individuals and families to move from surviving to thriving.

Our Values

My Sisters Place stands for a place of safety, hope and change.

- A place of **SAFETY** for those seeking escape from domestic abuse
- The right level of practical help and emotional support to aid recovery and build **HOPE**
- The possibility of a life **CHANGE** towards a better future

Volunteers

My Sister's Place is supported by 5 volunteers who provide a range of services, including co-facilitation of the Freedom Group and Stepping Stones peer support group, reception and administration duties, fundraising, and social media campaigns.

In addition, 207 volunteers have been trained as ASK Me Ambassadors, attending awareness training sessions in the community to spread knowledge of domestic abuse and provide people with a source of assistance.

On average, volunteers dedicate 8-10 hours of their time each week, which is invaluable to My Sisters Place and allows paid employees to focus on high-risk clients.

How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit

Our main activities and who we try to help are detailed below. Our charitable activities focus on supporting those who have experienced domestic violence and are undertaken to further our charitable purpose for the public benefit.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Demand for our services continues to remain high. In 2023-2024 we received 5,206 requests for support.

We envisage that demand will continue to rise, and our challenge is to ensure that we are appropriately resourced to provide high quality services to all those who need them.

We have started to put into practice our 3-year strategic plan. This document sets out our strategic intentions and ambitions over the next three years to ensure that our organisation is successful, viable and delivers results. The context in which we operate remains; challenging budget cuts, cost of living crisis, welfare reform and the commissioning of non-specialist services and taking In-House services remain a real threat to our organisation. In addition, the uncertainty of Brexit and the absence of a long-term health, social and economic recovery plan from the coronavirus pandemic will create further unknown challenges which we must be prepared to face.

My Sister's Place
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Report of The Trustees
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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE – continued

In the development of this strategy two themes came through strongly from all stakeholders. Firstly, My Sisters Place (MSP) needs to be able to provide support to those women and their children who trust no other services and need to directly access our drop-in. Secondly, we need to increase our support to those victims of economic abuse who are increasingly falling through gaps. MSP has pivoted resources to addressing economic abuse over the last two years. We have had significant success in delivering trauma informed welfare rights services and we have been successful in obtaining funding from The Lottery to expand this service further over the next three years.

Gendered poverty is a significant issue in Cleveland and we have some of the highest rates of child poverty in the country with many of our clients being in dire need. Before we can address the issues of trauma caused by abuse we often need to ensure food, fuel and basic essential items such as toiletries are provided.

The need to focus on early intervention and prevention is also an issue and the tension between the two demands is currently out of balance and we need to re-focus. We recognise that in order to prevent domestic abuse we must focus on holding perpetrators to account and support evidenced based interventions which change perpetrator behaviour and improve safety for victims.

My Sisters Place has the skills and expertise to deliver perpetrators interventions through our Respect accredited Route 2 project. However, the landscape is complex and we have paused and are undertaking a stakeholder analysis of what our place is in this dynamic landscape.

Over the course of this plan, we will begin a new journey as we develop services for male victims and LGBTI victims of abuse. We want to ensure that we can offer high quality gender responsive provision and therefore we are committed to continuing to develop our male victim services in a collaborative and co-produced way. Our vision is that this service will be standalone under the MSP structure.

As a testament to the excellent work carried out by our IDVA team we were successful in achieving the Safe Lives Leading Lights accreditation for another 3 years, this along with the recently renewed Women's Aid accreditation outlines the fantastic work that the team are achieving.

Addressing Economic Abuse:

Our Economic Abuse Team is having a significant impact on mitigating the impact of economic abuse. During 2023/24 the team worked with 177 clients supported them to:

- Make benefit claims and appeal decisions.
- Find accommodation, apply for funding for removal costs, household items, clothing, income boosts, rent arrears, bonds.
- Apply to Chance for Children (Buttle grants) for items to help children recover.
- Apply for reduced water rates saving families money.
- Look for volunteering opportunities and training courses.
- Budget advice and management.
- Open bank accounts.
- Make referrals to Payplan through a dedicated portal who work with vulnerable clients to help clear debts and refer to Surviving Economic Abuse to write off debts accrued by perpetrators.
- Apply to FurbdIT for reconditioned Ipads and phones to keep people digitally connected.
- Issued prepaid Vodafone SIM cards.

My Sister's Place
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Report of The Trustees
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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

During 2023 - 2024 we were successful in generating additional funding to be directed towards families in need – see table below.

Funding received from	Amount
Smallwood Trust	£26,712
Open Philanthropy	£15,592
Benefit backdates	£21,532
Grants (VRF, Buttle, FurbidIT)	£13,984
Ongoing yearly entitlements awarded	£89,344
Reduction in water rates annually	£4,680

Safeguarding

Our Safeguarding Leads continue to add capacity to our Management Team and work towards strengthening our training, policies, procedures, and staff supervision. This dedicated in-house safeguarding specialism allows MSP staff to ensure children and adults connected to our organisation are safeguarded and appropriately supported.

We have a dedicated Safeguarding email address which also supports professionals to reach out regarding concerns about clients in a timely and direct manner. In the past year we have responded to 2417 email enquiries received to the safeguarding inbox, which would otherwise have been sent to Reception, Service Manager or the IDVA team.

Training and Consultancy

Northern Training Consortium

In February 2024 we collaborated with other VAWG services to develop the Northern training consortium (NTC). This is a collaborative training enterprise by northern women's sector organisations IDAS (Independent Domestic Abuse Services), My Sister's Place, The Pankhurst Trust, Wearside Women in Need, Leeds Women's Aid, and Halo Project. We successfully tendered to deliver a large National training programme funded by the Ministry of Justice. MSP created a package of trauma-informed training for ISVAs (Independent Sexual Violence Advisers) which is now being rolled out.

We have provided four final Social Work student placements over the past year, enabling the next generation of Social Workers to adopt a victim-focused view of domestic abuse as they enter practice. We have received outstanding feedback regarding our student placements, and our staff team have benefitted from the additional support students can offer. Following this success, we have been commissioned by Teesside University to provide domestic abuse teaching on their Social Work BA course. We also have Therapy Placements students embedded into our delivery model for trauma counselling enabling us to deliver increased sessions and have a comparatively short waiting time.

TRAINING



My Sister's Place
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Report of The Trustees
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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

As part of our ongoing commitment to improving links between partner agencies, our Safeguarding Leads have completed bespoke training in domestic abuse and trauma-informed practice with many organisations across Middlesbrough and continue to roll this out across the community. Services reached include:

- NHS – School Nursing, Health Visitors, Perinatal Mental Health
- Police – Vulnerability Unit (PVP) and frontline officers-delivered trauma informed policing
- Children's Social Care
- Adult Social Care
- Recovery Connections (Opiate Service)
- Hart Gables (LGBTQ+ Service)

Children and Young People - Preventing Abuse

Our Children and Young Person's service is suitable for young people aged 13 – 24 years who are experiencing domestic abuse in their own interpersonal relationship. We offer 1-1 support to enable young people to make informed choices around their relationship; to increase safety from domestic abuse and work through their feelings to identify the impact the abuse is having on their lives. The direct work is client led, an approach that allows young people to explore the relationship between power and control abuse and toxic relationships, developing their understanding of healthy and unhealthy relationships. Assistance is given for young people to help recognise signs of domestic abuse and unhealthy relationships and to allow them to develop an awareness of how to respond to domestic abuse.

The (CYP) project reached 1531 children and young people within Middlesbrough. Activities included 1-1 support, workshops which challenged gendered assumptions and explored equality, consent and healthy relationships within primary, secondary school and college.

As part of our 3-year strategy we aim to develop our Children and Young Persons service.

MSP Counselling and Therapeutic Services – Annual Report – 2023 to 2024

My Sisters Place Counselling and Therapeutic Services continued to deliver effective therapy to survivors accessing the service supported by consistent, robust, and evidenced therapeutic outcomes throughout 2023 to 2024.

Service and Delivery

In the adult counselling service **185 survivors** completed a course of therapy with **73%** seeing significant improvements in their physical and psychological health and well-being with **86%** of survivors who were experiencing suicidal or self-harming thoughts seeing a reduction in risk as a result of accessing therapeutic support. The service continued to meet the needs of marginalized groups with **4% of clients** from the LGBTQ+ community and **10% of clients** from Black and minoritised communities access the service and 4 male survivors accessed therapy.

Waiting Times

The service worked hard to keep waiting times low to ensure access to therapy was available 'at the point of most need' and achieved an average waiting time from receipt of referral to therapy start of only **52 days**.

Sessions Delivered

Survivors attended **2027** sessions and on average attended 75% of sessions booked. The service received **603** referrals and completed **246** therapeutic assessments, prior to therapy commencing, to ensure the therapeutic needs of survivors were front and centre and that therapy was tailored and individualised to those needs.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Brief Interventions Project

The project provides practitioners, within our main support service, access to immediate brief interventions for clients they are supporting. Brief short-term interventions are provided to help stabilise and contain at the point of most need for clients experiencing high levels of anxiety and trauma. The BI Project provided support to an additional 134 clients and delivered a further 146 sessions.

Quality and Standards

BACP Accreditation Renewal Successful

The service continues to meet BACP Service quality and practice standards and following our renewal submission and a site visit from the BACP assessors, accreditation was successfully renewed for another 5 years. Following the assessment assessors offered the following feedback:

'Thank you for submitting an excellent ARR(5) application: all criteria have been met and accreditation has been renewed for a further five years. Your responses to all the criteria are full, expansive and the referencing is well organised. You have given a plethora of evidence for each criterion. This has enabled a straightforward assessment of your service, and the assessor commends your submission for its quality and comprehension. Thank you for the giving of your time and full engagement during the visit. It would seem all staff are working hard to maintain a high standard of ethical and professional service. Our discussion highlighted some areas of celebration within the service, from both managers and practitioners e.g. clients being front and centre of any decisions; the responsiveness of the service to offer targeted support to clients; the new Brief Intervention service; surviving then thriving through covid; and the amazing waiting list of 48 days! An incredible achievement indeed.'

Time Training

TIME Training delivered to IDVA services within Cambridgeshire and bespoke modules locally with a further 75 practitioners trained in trauma informed practice

ME TIME Children and Young Peoples Therapy Service

ME TIME Therapy Service continued to build on effective referral pathways by providing access to trauma informed therapy to the most vulnerable children and young people involved within the safeguarding arena. The service continued to recognise and support the holistic needs of the family by providing a range of short-, medium- and longer-term interventions for children and young people 4-18yrs in addition to pathways for parents to access therapeutic support to build their own resources and further support their children's whilst they access the ME TIME service.

The service received **86 referrals** and delivered **490 direct** one-to-one and group sessions to children and young people aged **4-18yrs**. In addition, **170 therapeutic assessments** were completed prior to therapy commencing to ensure the needs of children and young people were understood and their voices heard. **9 parents** were supported through our ME TIME Parent pathway or received trauma specific support via our Healing Together One to One for Parents providing therapy while their children were accessing ME TIME and the ME TIME Service extended its provision to parents offering it Healing Together One to One for parents with 6 parents accessing this trauma specific work with the service offering a further **80 sessions** of parent work.

Route 2

This service is currently not operating due to funding streams closing. However, we are optimistic about the future. We will continue to explore commissioning pathways in order to expand the services we offer to a wider catchment area and seek to ensure that Route2 can return to providing the quality service that is highlighted in its reputation.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE – continued

IRIS Middlesbrough

We have had 63 referrals to IRIS this year and we are seeing a rise in risk levels and complexity of cases. Work has been conducted to develop a robust business case which has been presented to the Integrated Care Board, funding applications have also gone into Legal and General.

Equality and Diversity

At MSP Equality means; to treat everyone at work in a fair manner according to their individual needs and Diversity means; to value individual differences in the workplace. We want everyone to be able to come to work, feeling their best, feeling supported and feeling equal and we will continue to review how we embed this within MSP by recording and monitoring equality and diversity data and by asking and listening to our staff on how we can improve. Staff training on Equality and Diversity is very important to us and therefore training is mandatory for all staff to complete upon induction to MSP and we continuously look for additional training. We are working with other specialists such as Disability Right's UK to enhance our skills in the fields of neuro diversity and disability.

We are a **Trans positive organisation** warmly welcoming Trans/Non-Binary Survivors. Over the last few years, we have strengthened our understanding and community networking through **HART** Gables a local LGBT specialist service. Our **Ask Me** Ambassadors and volunteers project has enabled us to have deep conversations about what gaps exist in local provision and what we need to do with communities to ensure no victim is left behind. Poverty and financial abuse came out as the leading issue of concern. As a result of this work, we are also establishing a young person's peer support group to ensure the voices of CYP are heard. We are working towards seeding a men's survivors support group and supporting several small groups who are self-organising from our Black and Minoritised Community.

Partnership and Community

No single agency can tackle VAWG alone and successful partnerships are key to tackling the problem. At MSP we are actively engaged in developing partnerships and firmly embedded in the local community and are a trusted hyper local service. Approx. 80% of our staff and volunteers are local people who have a lived experience of abuse in some form. We are a part of the community, and we are from the community, therefore our knowledge and skill base of local need has deep authentic roots. Our staff also work from local GP surgeries, community hubs, and schools further extending our reach.

We are strategically and operationally involved in MARAC (The Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) an information sharing and action planning meeting for victims of domestic abuse who are at risk of serious harm or death. MSP share chairing MARAC with the Police. In the last six months we have safeguarded **239** MARAC cases. We attend Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination 'MATAC', meetings led by Cleveland Police, along with key partners, which assesses and plans a bespoke set of interventions to target and disrupt serial perpetrators and/or support them to address their behaviour. In the last six months we have prepared for and attended MATACs for **42** perpetrators. Multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA's) are in place to ensure the successful management of violent and sexual offenders. We prepare for and attend around **5 cases per month**. In the **last week we attended 10 Child Safeguarding Conferences**.

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Report of The Trustees
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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE – continued

Funding Strategy

MSP have diversified our funding base delivering on behalf of the Local Authority, The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPPC), Public Health and a range of grant funders including the Big Lottery and Lloyds Bank Foundation. We have secured six years funding through Smallwood Trust as a grant partner offering direct grants to women to meet their immediate needs and directly address barriers to leaving.

As we move forward with our new strategic approach outlined in our 3 Year Plan our intention is to increase our independence and move away from a reliance on OPCC and LA funding streams – (currently 50% of our income) by generating unrestricted income.

We intend to increase income through our consultancy and training offer which is developing and expanding. This year we began delivering Statutory Domestic Homicide Reviews for Local Authorities. This is a market with significant demand and is under supplied. We are undertaking an internal cost saving exercise and reviewing external provider contracts to reduce overheads.

Fundraising activity: Fundraising has been extremely challenging this year and the combined issues of recovery from the pandemic and cost of living crisis have reduced our opportunities to deliver community events.

The charity does not carry out significant fundraising activities.

All fundraising activities were monitored internally as part of staff supervision and scrutinised by our Business & Finance Director in line with finance policies and procedures. No complaints were received with regards to fundraising activities carried out in this period.

Impact Measurement: The impact of domestic violence is wide ranging; to address this varied need My Sister's Place prioritises 3 main outcome areas that are relevant to all age groups and are tracked using our Oasis: On Track Case Management system:-

- Safety – Using a nationally recognised multi-agency risk assessment and management system to assess, manage and reduce the risk of further harm to women and children.
- Social Justice – My Sister's Place provides advocacy in a range of settings including criminal and civil justice, money advice, housing and immigration. The impact of this is tracked through support plans via on track.
- Health and Wellbeing - We recognise the negative impact on both physical and mental health and our counselling service addresses the immediate emotional needs and offers pathways through the recovery process. We measure the impact of these interventions through CORE-IMS and the Short Warwick Edinburgh scale.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES POLICY

My Sister's Place ends this financial year with a deficit of £57,812. Plans are in place to increase income generation as part of a sustainability strategy which includes training income and the development of a dispersed property portfolio.

The charity's reserves policy is to aim to have an amount in free reserves to cover 3 to 6 months of expenditure. The trustees feel that this amount is sufficient to allow the charity to affect a smooth exit, should this ever be required. Free reserves are unrestricted funds which are not designated.

At 31 March 2024, included in the unrestricted reserves of £951,926 were designated funds of £399,426 set out to cover future expenditure. At the year-end free reserves were £213,814. At the year-end restricted reserves were £50,469.

My Sister's Place
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Report of The Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES POLICY - continued

Included within the unrestricted reserves are designated reserves which have been set aside for specific areas of spend by the trustees, this is to ensure that these future projects are protected and will not be so heavily reliant on securing grant funding in order to pursue activities which the trustees feel will further the charity's objectives. £399,426 is designated to allow property investment which will enable the charity to provide secure immediate furnished accommodation for our most vulnerable service users.

Principal Risks

My Sister's Place maintains and reviews its risk register in line with the organisation risk management policy. All major risks have been reviewed and systems have been established to manage these risks.

Principal risks continue to be -

Staff Recruitment and Retention: Staff are extremely tired following an intense period in our history that shows no signs of abating. This is a national issue not only in the charity Sector but across all sectors of employment. Local Authorities and Police forces have been allocated governmental funding to tackle VAWG and staff are being drawn to the public sector as the terms and conditions are better. Charities simply cannot compete. This continues to be raised at a national level with the DA Commissioner and the Home Office.

Capacity: Lack of capacity to deliver services and develop new projects. This issue has and continues to be raised with our commissioners.

Covid Recovery and Cost of Living: Continued pressure from the external environment impacts on our ability to implement services. We are working with our partners to mitigate the risks as far as possible.

My Sister's Place Trading Limited

My Sister's Place Trading Limited is a 100% subsidiary of the charity which was incorporated on 30 April 2018 and started to trade that year.

The trading arm is currently not active.

Plans for the Future

MSP strategic direction of travel in the next three years is set out in our Strategic Plan.

Strategic Priorities - We have set three key Strategic Priorities creating a framework which outlines what we want to achieve, what difference this will make and how we will measure our success;

Early Intervention and Prevention

Our intention is to adopt and promote a public health, whole systems approach to preventing VAWG to generate lasting change in our community.

Inclusive Services and Recovery

Our intention is to continue to deliver high quality, trauma informed and end to end services for those impacted by VAWG, and to expand these services ensuring they are inclusive for all. MSP were an early adopter of trauma informed practice - our therapeutic model is Nationally recognised, and we want to continue to invest in this.

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FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES POLICY - continued

Sustainable Organisation

Our intention is to lead an effective, well governed, and sustainable organisation which recognises and values our people.

Our underpinning themes which cut across all strategic priorities are: Co-production, Partnership, Gender Based perspective.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, incorporated on 23 April 2010 and is governed under its Articles of Association. The company registered as a charity on 6th August 2010. On 1st April 2011 the company took over the assets and activities of My Sister's Place Women's Advice Centre, an unincorporated charity which was established in 2002.

Recruitment and Appointment, Induction and Training of Trustees

Trustees are appointed at a meeting of the charity's board on the basis of nominations received by the board. Trustees are selected by the board based on their eligibility, personal competence, specialist skills and relevant experience. New trustees receive an induction in the workings of the charity and ongoing training needs are identified by individual board members and through annual skills analysis. The charity insurance includes trustee indemnity cover. All trustees appointed by the board must retire at the next AGM and stand for re-election.

Organisational Structure

The Board of Management, consisting of trustees and officers, meet at least quarterly to decide matters of policy and strategy. Day to day management is delegated to Chief Officer and her team.

The charity has a salary framework detailing the skills abilities and responsibilities for all roles and related pay bands which includes key management personnel.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees (who are also Directors of My Sister's Place for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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Report of The Trustees
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TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT - continued

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

In so far as the Trustees are aware:-

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

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 the Trustees and authorised to sign on their behalf.

J Shield

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Jennifer Shield - Treasurer

27/01/2025
Dated:

My Sister's Place
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Report of the Independent Auditor to the Members of My Sister's Place

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of My Sister's Place (the parent company) and its subsidiary for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, Consolidated Balance Sheet, Charity Balance Sheet, Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:-

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group and parent company's ability to continue as a going concern for the 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 directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information in the Report of the Trustees but does not include the financial statements and our Report of the Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether 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.

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and its Subsidiary Company

Report of the Independent Auditor to the Members of My Sister's Place

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors 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 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:-

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Report of the Independent Auditor to the Members of My Sister's Place

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

Based on our understanding of the charity, we have considered applicable laws and regulations which may be fundamental to the group's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We considered management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to the posting of inappropriate manual journal entries to manipulate financial performance, management bias in significant accounting estimates and any significant one-off or unusual transactions.

We discussed among the audit engagement team the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements.

Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Enquiry of entity staff in tax and compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.
- Challenging estimates and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates.
- Revenue recognition; agreeing a sample of revenue transactions to gain assurance over the occurrence and accuracy of revenue and also to ensure revenue has been recognised in the correct period.

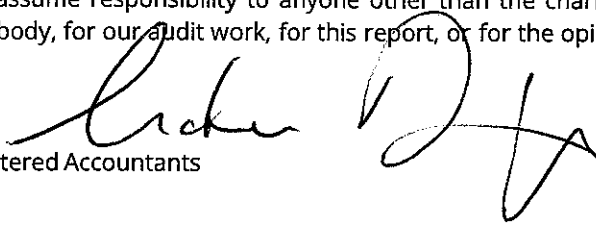
Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. The risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed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

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

Use of our report

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

Andrew Dewing FCA (senior statutory auditor)
For and on behalf of Anderson Barrowcliff Limited Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
3 Kingfisher Court
Bowesfield Park
Stockton on Tees
TS18 3EX
Date: 29/1/2025



**My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company**

**Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

		2024			2023
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations & legacies	2	68,878	-	68,878	79,780
Charitable activities	3	15,000	1,155,985	1,170,985	1,088,508
Other trading activities	4	64,891	8,612	73,503	54,172
Investments - interest received		2,921	-	2,921	298
Total Income		151,690	1,164,597	1,316,287	1,222,758
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	7,390	-	7,390	75
Charitable activities	6	162,638	1,204,071	1,366,709	1,255,105
Total Expenditure		170,028	1,204,071	1,374,099	1,255,180
Net income/(expenditure)/net movement in funds		(18,338)	(39,474)	(57,812)	(32,422)
Funds brought forward	12	970,264	89,943	1,060,207	1,092,629
Fund balance carried forward		951,926	50,469	1,002,395	1,060,207

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	8		338,686		338,812
Current Assets					
Debtors	10	94,403		293,437	
Cash at bank and in hand		635,913		565,041	
		<u>730,316</u>		<u>858,478</u>	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	66,607		137,083	
Net Current Assets			663,709		721,395
Net Assets			<u>1,002,395</u>		<u>1,060,207</u>
Funds					
Restricted funds	12		50,469		89,943
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted income funds	12	552,500		562,880	
Designated funds	12	399,426		407,384	
			<u>951,926</u>		<u>970,264</u>
Total Funds			<u>1,002,395</u>		<u>1,060,207</u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

J Shield

.....
J Shield- Treasurer and director

27/01/2025

The accounts were approved by the Board on and signed on its behalf by the above.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	8		338,686		338,812
Investments	9		1		1
			<u>338,687</u>		<u>338,813</u>
Current Assets					
Debtors	10	142,148		341,182	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>587,687</u>		<u>516,815</u>	
		729,835		857,997	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>66,127</u>		<u>136,603</u>	
Net Current Assets			<u>663,708</u>		<u>721,394</u>
Net Assets			<u><u>1,002,395</u></u>		<u><u>1,060,207</u></u>
Funds					
Restricted funds	12		50,469		89,943
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted income funds	12	552,500		562,880	
Designated funds	12	<u>399,426</u>		<u>407,384</u>	
			<u>951,926</u>		<u>970,264</u>
Total Funds			<u><u>1,002,395</u></u>		<u><u>1,060,207</u></u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

J Shield

.....
J Shield- Treasurer and director

27/01/2025

The accounts were approved by the Board on and signed on its behalf by the above.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	<u>Notes</u>	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Cash generated from operations	18	77,594	(178,999)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		2,921	298
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(9,643)	(1,173)
Net cash used in investing activities		(6,722)	(875)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		70,872	(179,874)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		565,041	744,915
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		635,913	565,041

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) General Information and Basis of Preparation

My Sister's Place is a private company limited by guarantee and registered in England. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are as an independent 'One Stop Shop' for women who are suffering, or have suffered, domestic violence.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

(b) Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its wholly owned subsidiary, My Sister's Place Trading Limited.

(c) Income Recognition

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations and grants to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation or grant and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Donated facilities and donated professional services are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity. For example, the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure.

Investment income is earned through holding cash in deposit accounts and is recognised when it is earned.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the notes to the accounts.

The grants are recognised using the accrual model.

There is no netting off of expenditure within the accounts.

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(d) Expenditure Recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following headings:-

- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities. It includes both costs which can be directly allocated to activities and those costs of an indirect nature.
- Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel and payroll.
- Governance costs are those incurred in connection with compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

(e) Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life.

Depreciation has been charged at:-

Improvements to freehold property	- 4% straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	- 25% straight line

Freehold Property is not depreciated. Although this is not in accordance with FRS 102 section 17.18 the properties are always kept in a state of good repair and the Trustees believe that the market value is in excess of cost.

(f) Debtors and Creditors Receivable/Payable Within One Year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price.

(g) Cash at Bank

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

(h) Pension Costs

The charity operates a fully insured contributory defined contribution pension scheme for all employees. The company contributions are charged to the SOFA in the period to which they relate.

(i) Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(j) Operating Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the SOFA on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

(k) Termination payments

Termination payments are recognised in the SOFA in the period they are paid.

(l) Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

(m) Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

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

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

(n) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

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

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

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

2 DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024			2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising and sundry donations	42,347	-	42,347	40,080
The Big Give	13,428	-	13,428	-
Donated premises	12,000	-	12,000	12,000
Middlesbrough Lottery	1,103	-	1,103	-
Smallwood cost of living income	-	-	-	6,500
Amazon Grant	-	-	-	1,000
Sara Chalton Fund	-	-	-	20,000
Our Womens Voices Donations	-	-	-	200
	68,878	-	68,878	79,780

The donated premises are the estimated market value rent of the property donated to the charity by Middlesbrough Council.

In 2023 £73,280 of the donations related to unrestricted funds and £6,500 related to restricted funds.

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024			2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
WWIN Sisters Projects	-	-	-	23,616
Counselling Henry Smith	-	66,400	66,400	-
WWIN - NHS Charities Partnership	-	53,522	53,522	42,689
Big Lottery Fund - Counselling & Building Capabilities	-	115,543	115,543	43,958
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	-	-	2,250
The Big Give	-	-	-	491
Police & Crime Commissioner - Route 2	-	-	-	46,189
Sundry grants	-	-	-	90
Smallwood Trust	-	60,650	60,650	25,000
PCC Perpetrator project	-	58,298	58,298	96,234
Leathersellers	15,000	9,008	24,008	32,659
MBC Recovery grant/admin support	-	24,030	24,030	24,060
NatWest Safe Lives Circle Fund	-	-	-	5,000
MBC Services (CYP) Lot 3	-	80,931	80,931	80,931
MBC Services Lot 2	-	253,465	253,465	253,466
Masons	-	17,153	17,153	10,164
IRIS	-	25,145	25,145	35,621
PCC IDVA/ISVA	-	212,470	212,470	205,710
Scope	-	62,911	62,911	-
MBC x 2 IDVAS	-	36,509	36,509	-
MBC Safer Streets	-	-	-	46,372
MBC Victim Survivor	-	17,474	17,474	-
PCC- CURV funding	-	-	-	31,295
ASK me	-	28,236	28,236	11,765
Navigator accommodation	-	34,240	34,240	50,800
Training Income	-	-	-	20,148
Total	15,000	1,155,985	1,170,985	1,088,508

In 2023 £1,015,827 of the income from charitable activities related to restricted funds and £72,681 related to unrestricted funds.

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

4 INCOME FROM TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2023 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Ticket income	110	-	110	-
Smallwood	-	-	-	300
ASK me conference	-	-	-	290
IWD Event	4,717	-	4,717	-
Corporate supporters	438	-	438	530
Access to work income	-	8,612	8,612	-
Training income	40,741	-	40,781	7,940
Housing Benefit	15,881	-	15,881	38,197
Harbour	-	-	-	3,666
Recharge income	-	-	-	2,715
Other	3,004	-	3,004	534
Total	<u>64,891</u>	<u>8,612</u>	<u>73,503</u>	<u>54,172</u>

In 2023 £620 of income from trading activities related to restricted income and £53,552 related to unrestricted income.

5 RAISING FUNDS EXPENDITURE

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	4,198	-
Fundraising costs	3,192	75
Total	<u>7,390</u>	<u>75</u>

In 2023 all of the expenditure related to unrestricted funds.

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

6 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Direct costs		
Staff costs	946,722	867,702
Travel, training & supervision	12,374	15,374
Computer & telephone costs	54,789	49,273
Property costs	12,329	22,644
Property works	8,237	7,456
Project costs	12,720	10,983
Client costs	45,231	40,555
Professional fees & supervision	6,914	4,899
Depreciation	9,768	8,278
Gift in kind - rent	12,000	12,000
	1,121,084	1,039,164
Support costs		
Staff costs	117,924	111,102
Travel & training	-	7,024
Postage, stationery & general admin costs	19,639	24,739
Premises costs	38,498	20,506
Bookkeeping costs	41,250	34,778
Consultancy	7,228	2,660
Bad debts	6,890	-
	231,429	200,809
Governance costs		
Accountancy - Audit fee	6,600	6,600
- Other services	7,596	8,532
Legal costs	-	-
	1,366,709	1,255,105

In 2023 £185,805 of expenditure on charitable activities related to unrestricted funds and £1,069,300 related to restricted funds.

7 STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	944,266	864,305
Social Security costs	76,416	74,386
Pension	39,223	40,114
Other staff costs – settlement payment	8,939	-
	1,068,844	978,805

No employees received emoluments of more than £60,000.

The average number of employees during the year was 44 (2023: 38).

Key Management Personnel Costs

The total amount of employee's remuneration received by key management personnel including employers National Insurance and pension contributions is £69,425 (2023: £69,104). The charitable company considers its key management personnel to be Chief Officers.

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

7 STAFF COSTS - continued

Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

No trustees received any remuneration or expenses during the year (2023: Nil).

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into during this or the previous year.

8 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS – GROUP & CHARITY

	Land & Buildings £	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2023	399,513	29,377	428,890
Additions	-	9,643	9,643
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	399,513	39,020	438,533
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2023	61,587	28,492	90,079
Charge for year	7,958	1,810	9,768
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	69,545	30,302	99,847
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Book Value			
31 March 2024	329,968	8,718	338,686
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
31 March 2023	337,927	885	338,812
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

9 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Investments held by the charity represent the entire share capital of its trading subsidiary, My Sister's Place Trading Limited (registered number 11337607). The nature of the company's activities was the operation of a charity shop which closed in the prior year. It is now dormant. Further details are given in note 16.

10 DEBTORS

	Charity 2024 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2023 £	Group 2023 £
Trade debtors	71,376	71,376	287,864	287,864
Prepayments and accrued income	23,027	23,027	5,573	5,573
Intercompany balance	47,745	-	47,745	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	142,148	94,403	341,182	293,437
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

11 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Charity 2024 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2023 £	Group 2023 £
Trade creditors	-	-	182	182
Social security and other taxes	17,112	17,112	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	41,692	42,172	136,421	136,901
Other creditors	7,323	7,323	-	-
	<u>66,127</u>	<u>66,607</u>	<u>136,603</u>	<u>137,083</u>

Deferred income includes:-

	Charity 2024 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2023 £	Group 2023 £
Brought forward	122,921	122,921	163,959	163,959
Deferred in the year	28,192	28,192	122,921	122,921
Released in the year	(122,921)	(122,921)	(163,959)	(163,959)
Carried forward	<u>28,192</u>	<u>28,192</u>	<u>122,921</u>	<u>122,921</u>

The deferred income relates to income received this year, which relates to 2024/2025, mainly in respect of salary costs and work not yet performed:-

	£
MBC Victim Survivor	12,480
Leathersellers	5,000
Masons	10,712
	<u>28,192</u>

My Sister's Place
and its Subsidiary Company

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

12 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 31.3.23	Incoming	Outgoing	At 31.3.24
	£	Resources	Resources	£
		£	£	
Restricted Funds				
Smallwood	4,335	60,650	(44,295)	20,690
Nat West	1,132	-	(713)	419
Counselling - Big Lottery Inclusive	-	115,543	(115,543)	-
Counselling - Henry Smith	-	66,400	(66,400)	-
The Big Give	69,084	-	(69,084)	-
MBC CYPs Lot 3	-	80,931	(80,931)	-
MBC Lot 2	12,622	253,465	(241,701)	24,386
Scope	-	62,911	(62,911)	-
Route 2	270	-	(270)	-
Iris	-	25,145	(25,145)	-
MBC Admin support	-	24,030	(24,030)	-
IDVA/ISVA	-	212,470	(212,470)	-
Perp project	-	58,298	(58,298)	-
Masons	-	17,153	(17,153)	-
Navigator Accommodation	-	34,240	(34,240)	-
Leathersellers-Jubilee fund	-	9,008	(9,008)	-
Access to work	-	8,612	(8,612)	-
MBC x2 IDVAS	-	36,509	(36,509)	-
Victim Survivor	-	17,474	(12,500)	4,974
WWIN Homeless Link Project	-	53,522	(53,522)	-
ASK ME	-	28,236	(28,236)	-
Reach PLC Pride of Britain Funding	2,500	-	(2,500)	-
Restricted Funds Total	89,943	1,164,597	(1,204,071)	50,469
	At 31.3.23	Incoming	Outgoing	At 31.3.24
	£	Resources	Resources	£
		£	£	
Designated Funds				
Perpetrators Project	22,772	-	-	22,772
Development of New Areas of Work	27,341	-	-	27,341
Building Fund	357,271		(7,958)	349,313
	407,384	-	(7,958)	399,426
General unrestricted funds	562,880	151,690	(162,070)	552,500
Total unrestricted funds	970,264	151,690	(170,028)	951,926
Total funds	1,060,207	1,316,287	(1,374,099)	1,002,395

My Sister's Place
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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

PURPOSES OF RESTRICTED FUNDS

Smallwood Trust - To provide small grants to women needing support, including management and support costs.

NatWest - to provide financial support through grants to victims of economic abuse and to help survivors move forward.

Big Lottery Fund - A five-year grant with part funding towards Counselling, IDVA and Support Services

CURV funding - (Cleveland unit for the Reduction of Violence) to reduce hospital admission for assaults in knife or sharp object and reduce non-domestic homicides focusing on people under the age of 25 years old.

The Big Give - A special funding round of the Big Give raising money for a mother and Daughter Therapy service

MBC Services (CYP) Lot 3 - Local authority funding for Middlesbrough services, funding IDVAs and Counselling staff for Children and Young People Service

MBC Services Lot 2 - Local authority funding for Middlesbrough services, funding IDVAs, Counselling staff and Sanctuary Service

Police & Crime Commissioner (Route 2) - To support perpetrator work through Route 2 project

Sundry Grants - Various small grants for basic provisions for women in need

IRIS - Funding for an Iris Educator Advocate for the Middlesbrough IRIS project

MBC Grant Support/Admin Support - Local authority funding towards admin costs

Police & Crime Commissioner (IDVA) - To provide Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy

PCC Perpetrator Project - Funding for DA Complex Needs worker and therapeutic service staff plus admin and management costs to deliver the Perpetrator project

MBC Safer Streets - Funding for VAWG Ask Me Ambassador scheme, IDVA Stalking and Personal Safety funding for vulnerable women and girls

Masons - A 3-year grant to fund a therapist for CYP service

Navigator Scheme - The money received from Middlesbrough Public Health via MHCLA to provide a Domestic Abuse Navigator, dispersed accommodation and personalisation fund for women facing barriers to safe housing.

WWIN - NHS Charities Partnership - In partnership with Wearside Women in Need (lead partner) to provide a Counselling community partnership programme for North East and Cumbria.

Leathersellers - funding towards the Brief Intervention Duty Project.

ASK ME - training is a free domestic abuse awareness training programme that is delivered in community spaces for all community members. The aim of the training is to deliver a quality programme that allows community members to come together and create rich discussion, group participation and activities based on the foundations that underpin domestic abuse and why it is important to understand these.

My Sister's Place
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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Scope - To support disabled people and unpaid carers and build resilience, promote wellbeing and participation, and reduce isolation after Covid.

Henry Smith – Grant totaling £203,500 towards three years' salary and on costs of a Senior Therapist and a Domestic Abuse Counsellor at a project providing therapeutic services for people affected by domestic abuse in Middlesbrough.

Access to work – Access to work is a publicly funded employment support program that aims to help more disabled people start and stay in work. MSP helped staff by purchasing equipment and then claimed back from DWP.

Victim & Survivor Engagement Work – Part time staffing costs for a pilot project working alongside Middlesbrough Council for Domestic Abuse victims in Middlesbrough.

My Sister's Place
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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

PURPOSES OF DESIGNATED FUNDS

The Perpetrators Fund was designated by the trustees for a project which started in May 2016, setting aside £50,000 to bridge funding gaps. During the year, none of this funding was used.

The development of new areas of work: This represents proceeds from the sale of the Albert Centre and is to be used towards premises, investments and other development areas. In the year ended 31 March 2019 two properties were purchased for a total of £118,598 to provide homes for victims of domestic abuse. This money was taken from this fund.

The Capital Fund is to fund capital charges for fixtures, fittings and equipment. The surplus on the housing project has been transferred into this fund.

The Buildings Fund represents that element of reserves which relates to the charity's premises.

The designated funds are expected to be spent in the next three to five years in line with the strategic plan.

13 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS – GROUP

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	338,686	-	338,686
Net current assets	613,240	50,469	663,709
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	951,926	50,469	1,002,395
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

14 PENSION COSTS

The Company operates a contributory pension scheme. It is a defined contributions scheme and contributions are charged to the SOFA as they accrue. The charge for the year was £43,021 (2023: £40,114).

15 LEASING COMMITMENTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Operating leases which expire:		
Within 1 year	217	434
Between 1 & 5 years	325	325
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	542	759
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Payments in the year amounted to £217 (2023: £434).

My Sister's Place
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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

16 SUBSIDIARY COMPANY

The charity owns 100% of the share capital of My Sister's Place Trading Limited (company number 11337607). The subsidiary was incorporated on 30 April 2018. It is used for non-primary purpose trading activities. A summary of the results of the subsidiary is shown below.

	£
Turnover	-
Expenses	-
	<hr/>
Net loss	-
	<hr/>
	£
Assets	48,091
Liabilities	48,091
	<hr/>
Share capital	1
	<hr/>

17 RESULTS OF THE PARENT COMPANY

	£
Total incoming resources	1,316,287
Movement in funds	(57,812)

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

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(57,812)	(32,442)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	9,768	8,278
Interest received	(2,921)	(298)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	199,034	(89,463)
Decrease in creditors	(70,475)	(65,094)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	77,594	(178,999)
	<hr/>	<hr/>