



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended

31 March 2024

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newcastlewomensaid.org.uk

Newcastle Women's Aid, Second Floor, Hadrian House,
Higham Place, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8AF



Registered Charity 1139393
Registered Company 01413723

CONTENTS

	PAGES
Directors/Trustees Annual Report	3 - 7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Notes to Financial Statements	10-15
Independent Examiners Report	16



Trustee/Directors Annual Report

The Trustees/Directors are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name:	Newcastle Women's Aid
Registered Charity:	1139393
Registered Company:	07413723
Registered & Operational Address:	2 nd Floor, Hadrian House, Higham Place, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7AF
Bankers:	Unity Trust Bank Plc, 9 Brindley Place, Birmingham B1 2HB Barclays Bank Plc, 49/51 Northumberland Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7AF
Directors/Trustees:	Cara Smith (Chairperson) Judith Farquharson BEM (Treasurer) Cyndi Barrow Justine Massingham (Vice Chair) Dr Stephanie Manson-Brown
CEO and Company Secretary:	Elaine Langshaw
Auditor:	Ruth Tomlinson ACMA CGMA

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Newcastle Women's Aid was established and registered as a charity on 24 June 1976. The organisation is now a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 20 October 2010 and registered as an incorporated charity on 21 December 2010. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

Appointment of Trustees/Directors

The Directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as Trustees. The Board of Trustees consists of not less than 3 and not more than 9 members who will be elected at the Annual General Meeting. In addition, they may appoint not more than 3 co-opted members. All members of the Board retire from office at the Annual General Meeting after they came into office but may be re-elected or re-appointed.

Trustee Induction and Training

New trustees meet with the Manager and the Board of Trustees. All new trustees receive copies of all relevant documentation including Memorandum and Articles of Association, organisation management chart, financial data and information relating to their role, the scope and responsibility of the Board and the system of delegated authority together with information about the cycle of meetings and the opportunities for meeting staff.

Organisation

The Board administers the charity. The Board meets bi-monthly and, if necessary, more regularly. A Manager is appointed by the Board to manage the day-to-day operation of the charity. There is a system of delegated authorities in place to determine which decisions can be undertaken by the manager.

Risk Management

The Charity created a risk register in 2003 and a full review was undertaken during 2018. Risk assessment is an important and critical step in protecting the organisation, staff, trustees, visitors and service users as well as complying with the law. The process used by Newcastle Women's Aid clearly identifies risks, evaluates the likelihood and impact of any risk, ensures adequate resources are available to deal with the risks and regularly monitors and reviews risks.

Objectives and Activities

The Objects of the charity are the relief, protection and support of persons, including children, who have suffered or are in danger of suffering domestic abuse through the provision of advice, support, representation and other services and to create awareness together with advance education in all aspects of domestic abuse including its causes, prevention and the relief of its consequences.

The central aim of the charity is to provide independent, specialist support to women and girls who are affected by domestic violence and abuse.

The main objectives of the organisation are:

- To provide advice, information, practical support, representation and mediation to women and girls affected by domestic abuse
- To provide flexible support to women in the community affected by domestic abuse by offering intensive support to minimise the risk of repeat victimisation and assisting women to remain in their own homes.
- To liaise with other agencies and participate in forums to raise awareness of domestic violence and to influence police /practice and service provision across Newcastle upon Tyne
- To offer preventative group work programmes to women

Newcastle Women's Aid

NWA provide the Help, Options, Protection and Empowerment (HOPE) project which offers a sequence of specialist support interventions including:

- Telephone advice and support
- Domestic Abuse Flexible Support (DAFS) a programme of individual personal support, needs and risk assessment, safety and support planning
- Domestic Abuse Group Programme
- Recovery Group Programme
- Women's Peer Support Group
- Holistic Therapies
- Information, advice and support including free telephone helpline
- Education and public awareness within schools, colleges and other services
- Indirect support for children through empowering Mum to safeguard herself and her children together with a creche facility to aid uninterrupted support for women
- Website offering an excellent reference resource alongside advice and information.

The Domestic Abuse Flexible Support Service (DAFs) is a community-based outreach service where women are offered appointments at our safe, accessible and centrally located offices. This service supports women in the community who may not want or need to access refuge accommodation. DAFs provides practical help on safety, legal issues, benefits, re-housing and other issues as identified by the client. The programme also provides emotional support around domestic abuse the client may have sustained.

NWA Group programmes include Freedom to Make Changes. This programme explores in detail the ranges of tactics perpetrators of abuse may use to gain control over a victim. The programme equips victims with knowledge, and understanding about how to keep themselves and their children safe from abuse in the future. Much positive feedback has been received from clients and the programme remains popular and successful. NWA has also developed the Free to Be Me Recovery programme in consultation with clients which is also proving to be successful

NWA regularly review our Aims and Objectives to ensure we remain focused on our stated purposes and operate within Charity Law.

Achievements and Performance

- 640** Referrals were received by NWA for a wide range of complex advice and support
- 358** Referrals were given telephone advice on safety, housing, legal and safeguarding
- 117** Referrals were provided with comprehensive telephone advice and support
- 103** Referrals received 1:1 specialist support from our DAFs project
- 27** Women received maintenance support following completion of their support package
- 35** Women and girls referred into group programmes
- 81% of all referrals received multiple support interventions within HOPE project**

Demographics

Newcastle 407 Gateshead 42 Northumberland 28 North Tyneside 39

South Tyneside 11 Rest of UK 113

NWA are National Quality Standard Accredited by Women's Aid Federation of England.

Newcastle Women's Aid

Financial Review

With a difficult economic climate and a global pandemic, the organisation has developed services to generate a positive financial outcome and has achieved prudent expenditure through cost efficiencies.

Newcastle Women's Aid has continued to receive funding from a range of large and small charitable sources voluntary and statutory agencies as well as donations from individuals and businesses.

In 2017 NWA restructured its services following a decision by Newcastle City Council to build a new refuge. Trustees found new premises a new service was established without the facility of a refuge. Initially the organisations reserves were used to fund two full-time staff but since that time funding has been achieved to expand the service and employ an additional two staff.

Investment Powers and Policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association the charity has the power to invest in any way the Trustees wish. Trustees have operated a policy of investing some of the funds in an interest-bearing deposit account.

Reserves Policy

Newcastle Women's Aid believes it is prudent to have a policy on the holding, accumulation and management of its reserves.

Trustees/Directors, when taking account of the relevant risks to income streams and the planned activities over the next year, feel the most appropriate level of reserves for the organisation to hold would be twelve months of running costs which are £150,000. This figure will need to be reviewed in line with increased activity and the demand placed upon the organisation.

This level of funds would also allow for staff salaries, rent, utilities and other general running costs to be paid until such time as an alternative income is secured, or, in the worst-case scenario, for the organisation to be wound up. It would also allow for redundancy notices to be issued to staff and for staff to find alternative and appropriate support for clients. This policy is considered to be in the best interests of the service users, staff and trustees/directors of the charity.

Plans for the Future

The charity plans to continue to maintain its presence in their centrally located offices and will deliver and develop services to victims of domestic abuse as outlined within the Aims and Objectives.

Statement of Trustees/Directors Responsibilities:

The trustees/directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Companies Act 2006 and the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Charity Law requires trustees, at the end of each financial year, to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the incomings and outgoings of the charity.

In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently, making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent. The trustees must also prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities.

The trustees/directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy, at any given time, the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The trustees/directors are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or any other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of Trustees/Directors

Justine Massingham

Justine Massingham

Acting Chair, Trustee and Director

Newcastle Women's Aid

Dated: 26 June 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

12 months period ended 31 March 2024

		Year Ended 31/3/24 Unrestricted Funds £	Year Ended 31/3/24 Restricted Funds £	Year Ended 31/3/24 Total Funds £	Year Ended 31/3/23 Total Funds £
<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>	<i>Note</i>				
Donations, grants & other income	2	33,616	124,337	157,953	31,395
Interest receivable	3	2,176	-	2,176	394
Incoming funds from Charitable Activities:					
Grants and Contracts	4	-	-	-	105,443
Total Incoming Funds		35,792	124,337	160,129	137,232

Resources Expended

Charitable Activities

DAFs Domestic Abuse Support	5	-	79,851	79,851	77,961
Domestic Abuse Support/Training	5		51,430	51,430	38,154
Governance Costs	6	53,958	-	53,958	20,942
Total Resources Expended		53,958	131,281	185,239	137,057

Net Income/(outgoing) Resources for the year Before transfers

	(18,166)	(6,944)	(25,110)	175
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-

Net Income/(outgoing) Resources for the Year	(18,166)	(6,944)	(25,110)	175
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Reconciliation of Funds

Balance Brought Forward	107,633	304,280	411,841	411,666
Balance Carried Forward	89,467	297,264	386,731	411,841

Balance Sheet

As at date shown

		As at 31 March 2024	As at 31 March 2023
	<i>Note</i>		
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		399,532	413,403
		399,532	413,403
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due Within one year	8	(2,801)	(1,562)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		386,731	411,841
NET ASSETS		386,731	411,841
FUNDS			
Restricted Income Funds	9	297,264	304,208
Unrestricted Income Funds	10	89,467	107,633
TOTAL FUNDS		386,731	411,841

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the 12 months ended 31 March 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with:

- The requirements of the Companies Act 2006
- Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102)
- The Charities Act 2011 following directions given by the Charities Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act)

INCOMING RESOURCES

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be qualified with reasonable accuracy.

The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants and donations and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Grants where entitlement is not conditional on delivery of a specific performance by the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Investment income is included when it is receivable.

Rent income is recorded when it is receivable.

Incoming resources from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

Income received by way of donation or grant for the purchase of a fixed asset is credited to the restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Depreciation on the fixed assets purchased with these funds is charged against the restricted fund.

FUNDS ACCOUNTING

Funds held by the charity are either:

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

Designated funds. These are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds. These are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity.

Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Newcastle Women's Aid

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred.

Expenditure includes VAT and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Costs of generating voluntary income funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with the compliance to the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include all costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on staff time across project work, generating funds and governance.

FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

Tangible fixed assets costing £100 or more were capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expense of acquisition.

The Trustees have agreed to write off the balance of fixed asset cost as a result of recognising the condition of the existing premises together with the equipment and their net realisable value and expected life.

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment 25% reducing balance
Fixtures & Fittings 5 and 7 years straight line
Leasehold improvements 7 years straight line.

OPERATING LEASE AGREEMENTS

Rentals applicable to operating leases, where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor, are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

PENSION COSTS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees.

The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity.

The annual contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

12 months ended 31 March 2024

2 INCOMING FUNDS FROM GENERATED FUNDS

Donations, Grants & Contract

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds to Mar 2024	Total Funds to Mar 2023
Donations	£	£	£	£
CAF	765	-	765	430
Charitable Giving	-	-	-	1,000
Charities Trust	377	-	377	402
D Hutchinson	-	-	-	500
Ellen Pennington	2,000	-	2,000	2,000
Gateshead College	100	-	100	100
Greggs	-	-	-	1,613
Inspia	-	-	-	164
Jesmond United Ref Church	140	-	140	411
Lanchester Wives/Friends	-	-	-	100
Local Giving	18,405	-	18,405	11,795
Margaret Morton	-	-	-	200
NAWIC	3,000	-	3,000	-
Northumbrian Leisure Ltd	2,500	-	2,500	3,000
Other	110	-	110	-
PayPal Giving Fund	-	-	-	220
PCC of Allendale	-	-	-	150
Places for People	-	-	-	1,000
Reckitt Trust	-	-	-	8,000
St Gabriel's Church Mission	165	-	165	185
TT2	1,000	-	1,000	-
Unison Newcastle	-	-	-	125
Voicentric	2,619	-	2,619	-
	31,395	-	31,395	28,828
3 Interest Receivable				
Bank Interest Received	2,176	-	2,176	394
	2,176	-	2,176	394

Newcastle Women's Aid

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

12 months ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds to Mar 2024	Total Funds to Mar 2023
	£	£	£	£
4 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES				
Grants and Contracts				
The National Lotteries Community Fund Grant RC North East and Cumbria Region	-	75,416	75,416	71,443
Northumbria PCC Supporting Victims WAF	-	48,921	48,921	34,000
	-	-	-	-
	-	124,337	124,337	105,443
Total Income	35,792	124,337	160,129	137,232

	Domestic Abuse Flexible Support (DAFS)	Total Funds for year to Mar 2024	Total Funds for year to Mar 2023
	£	£	£
5 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES			
Staff costs	78,932	78,932	77,394
Professional Fees	825	825	334
Travel costs	94	94	233
Other cost	-	-	-
	79,851	79,851	77,961
<u>Support costs</u>			
Staff costs	12,469	12,469	12,226
Premises and office costs	38,736	38,736	25,026
Professional Fees	130	130	334
Travel costs	95	95	-
Other costs	-	-	568
	51,430	51,430	38,154
	131,281	131,281	116,115

Newcastle Women's Aid

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds for year to Mar 2024	Total Funds for year to Mar 2023
	£	£	£	£
6 GOVERNANCE COSTS				
Staff costs	15,385	-	15,385	15,085
Trustee expenses	1,762	-	1,762	918
Audit fees	1,755	-	1,755	1,734
Professional Fees	28,693	-	28,693	564
Premises and office costs	5,887	-	5,887	2,206
Other costs	476	-	476	436
	53,958	-	53,958	20,943

	As at 31st March 2023 £	As at 31st March 2022 £
7 DEBTORS		
Amounts receivable within one year	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

	£	£
8 CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Consumables/Lloyds Card	1,301	52
Professional Fees & Audit/Accountancy	1,500	1,500
	<u>2,801</u>	<u>1,562</u>

9 RESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS

	As at 1st April 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	As at 31st March 2024 £
DAFS	252,385	124,337	(79,851)	(55,000)	241,871
Domestic Abuse Support	-	-	-	-	-
Domestic Abuse Support, Training & Education	1,823	-	(51,430)	55,000	5,393
Future projects	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Total	304,208	124,337	(116,115)	-	29+7,264

10 UNRESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS

107,633	35,792	(53,958)	-	89,467
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Newcastle Women's Aid

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Other Net Assets	Total
	£	£	£
Restricted income funds	-	297,264	297,264
Unrestricted income funds	-	89,467	89,467
Total	-	386,731	386,731

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

For the 12 months ended 31 March 2024

Report to the Trustees of Newcastle Women's Aid, Charity Number 1139393,
Company No. 07413723 on the accounts for the 12 months ended 31 March 2022
set out on pages 3 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 act and to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act) and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under sections 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Charities Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. I am satisfied 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.

Independent examiner' statements

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) Which would give me reasonable cause to believe that accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act or do not comply with the relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 or have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102)

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.

R. Tomlinson

Ms. R Tomlinson ACMA CGMA
20 The High Gate
Kenton
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 4LS
26th July, 2023