

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023
FOR
BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST

BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023**

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BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023**

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TRUSTEES: James Hind
Joseph Williams
Agnes Williams
Paula Bell
Darren Melia – Chair of Trustees

CLINICAL PROGRAMMES DIRECTOR: Neil Platt

PATRON: Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP

PRINCIPAL OFFICE: 263 Townsend Lane
Clubmoor
Liverpool
Merseyside
L13 9DG

CHARITY NUMBER: 1140011 (England and Wales)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS: Monetta LLP
Statutory Auditors
Chartered Accountants
110-114 Duke Street
Liverpool
L1 5AG

BANKERS: Lloyds Bank plc
PO Box 1000
Andover
BX1 1LT

BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023****Page 2**

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 November 2023. The reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's trust deed, 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 FRS 102 effective from 1 January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

The purposes of the charity are to relieve mental, emotional and physical problems encountered by people living in today's society. In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'. The charity relies on the income from grants, donations, fees and charges to cover its operating costs.

The principal activities of the charity in the period under review were that of the provision of counselling and support services designed to advance and improve the quality of life of individuals and families through the delivery of effective and responsive interventions, therapies and counselling sessions that seek to resolve problems and issues. In addition, the charity provides quality training and guidance to others operating in these areas. Our strategic vision is to build on the past, work and develop our offer and services to reflect this development. The charity has identified that due to the projected increases in primary contract values over the coming 3 years, investment in structure and premises will be required. These increases will provide access to a wider breadth of income streams under the new commissioner GambleAware, whilst being part of the wider NGTS (National Gambling Treatment Service). This will also present further income generating opportunities to the charity, to work more collaboratively within the newly formed NGSN. Additionally these contractual developments have highlighted that the current head office is not able to support these developments. Consequently, the charities primary offices will require some direct investment, to ensure that moving forwards the primary office location can accommodate this organizational growth. Enabling the charity to move confidently into the next stage of its development and diversification and this investment will be reflected in the 23/24 accounts.

ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE AND PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The results for the year and financial position of the charity are as shown in the annexed financial statements. The charity initially continued to receive grant funding from GamCare. The charity has continued to develop the range of counselling and support services it provides which includes the Young People's Gambling Harm Prevention Programme and the Six to Ten Project. During the year the charity also continued the operation of Paul's Place utilising grant funding from The National Lottery Community Fund by providing a specialist bereavement counselling service for those bereaved by suicide. The charity continued work on developing and supporting organisations to become signatories to the Workplace Charter to reduce gambling harms. During the year the charity also continued work on the pioneering 'Breaking the Sharam' project to increase awareness of gambling related harm in the South Asian Communities. The charity also continues to deliver 'Bet You Can Help' training and engages with the Criminal Justice System and the Armed Forces Programme to increase awareness of gambling harms. The trustees continue to seek further funding to enable the charity to continue with its work. The trustees also take this opportunity of recognising the contributions of time and effort made by the many friends, volunteers, staff and supporters without whom the achievements to date would not have happened. Due to the changes made in its primary commissioner, being moved from Gamcare to GambleAware, which resulted in a significant increase in the value of its primary contract for the following 3 years. The Board of Trustees set plans in motion to invest in the charities current premises to facilitate this growth and aspirational diversification. This will enable the charity to meet the growing demand for its services across the Northwest footprint and allow the charity to continue to improve its reach into those local communities that are in the greatest need.

RESERVES POLICY AND GOING CONCERN

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover unplanned emergency repairs and other expenditure. The trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds held by the charity should be between 6 and 12 months of the resources expended, which equates to between approximately £715,000 to £1,430,000 in general funds. At this level, the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding. At 30 November 2023, the free reserves amount to £1,499,642. The trustees are considering ways in which this target can be fully met.

In preparing the accounts, the trustees consider that the charity has a reasonable expectation of continuing to receive sufficient incoming resources to enable it to continue operations for the foreseeable future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The organisation is a charitable trust, established on 11 April 2010 and registered as a charity on 25 January 2011. The charity is governed by the policies made from time to time by the trustees together with the terms of its Constitution which set out the objects and powers of the charity.

The trustees, who met at regular intervals to formulate policy and decisions during the year, including the arrangements and criteria for setting the pay and remuneration of the charity's key management personnel, were J Hind, P Bell resigned – 1 December 2023), J Williams, D Melia and A Williams (appointed – 1 June 2024).

The procedures for the appointment, retirement and removal of trustees are set out in the Constitution. The day-to-day operational aspects of the charity have been delegated to the Clinical Programmes Director - Neil Platt and the teams.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Much of the charity's work focuses upon providing advice and support to people of varying age groups with a variety of problems and from varied backgrounds & communities. The trustees seek to ensure that the needs of these groups are appropriately reflected through the diversity of the trustee body and the recruitment of appropriate individuals to the board. The trustees are familiar with the practical work of the charity and are encouraged to attend regular feedback and update sessions. All trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

RELATED PARTIES

None of the trustees receive remuneration or other financial benefit from their positions as trustees of the charity and any contractual relationship with a related party must be disclosed to the board of trustees.

Details of related party transactions are set out in note 9 to the financial statements.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises: an annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the charity faces and the establishment of policies, systems, and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the review.

Financial sustainability is the major financial risk for the charity. A key element in the management of financial risk is a regular review of available liquid funds to settle debts and outgoings as they fall due and active management of trade debtors and creditor balances to ensure sufficient working capital is available.

Attention has also been focused on non-financial risks arising from fire, health and safety and operational matters. These risks are managed by ensuring procedures and accreditations are up to date, having robust policies in place and, regular awareness training for staff and volunteers in these operational areas.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue to operate.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees on 30 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

D Melia – Chair of Trustees

BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023

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	30.11.2023			30.11.2022
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income:				
Charitable activities, donations & funds generated	459,047	45,000	504,047	180,466
GamCare Grants	-	364,383	364,383	828,693
The National Lottery Community Fund – ‘Paul’s Place’	-	117,000	117,000	67,009
Workplace Charter Grants	59,002	-	59,002	173,750
Gambling Harm - South Asian Community funding	-	7,444	7,444	355,327
Regulatory settlement funding	-	651,000	651,000	384,000
Gambleaware	-	998,126	998,126	110,323
Armed forces project		200,000	200,000	-
UK Interest on bank deposits	24,614	-	24,614	817
Interest on Gift Aid donations	-	-	-	1
Total income	542,663	2,382,953	2,925,616	2,100,386
Expenditure:				
Charitable activities	52,296	1,868,876	1,921,172	1,429,371
Governance costs	3,600	-	3,600	3,600
Total expenditure (note 3)	55,896	1,868,876	1,924,772	1,432,971
Net income before transfers	486,767	514,077	1,000,844	667,415
Gross Transfers between funds (note 7)	5,680	(5,680)	-	
Net movement in funds	492,447	508,397	1,000,844	667,415
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	1,007,195	509,323	1,516,518	849,103
Total funds carried forward	1,499,642	1,017,720	2,517,362	1,516,518

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

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST

BALANCE SHEET
30 NOVEMBER 2023

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	Notes	30.11.23 £	£	30.11.22 £	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	3		22,720		-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	5	429,032		116,556	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>3,920,264</u>		<u>2,986,087</u>	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		4,349,296		3,102,643	
LIABILITIES					
Creditors falling due within one year	6	<u>1,854,654</u>		<u>1,586,125</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>2,494,642</u>		<u>1,516,518</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>2,517,362</u>		<u>1,516,518</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	7				
Unrestricted income funds			1,499,642		1,007,195
Restricted income funds			<u>1,017,720</u>		<u>509,323</u>
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS			<u>2,517,362</u>		<u>1,516,518</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 30 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

D Melia – Chair of Trustees

BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023

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	Notes	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
Cash (absorbed by)/generated by operations	14	<u>911,373</u>	<u>(84,341)</u>
Net cash (absorbed by)/generated by operating activities		<u>911,373</u>	<u>(84,341)</u>
Cash generated by investing activities:			
Interest received		<u>22,804</u>	<u>498</u>
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		934,177	(83,843)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	14	<u>2,986,087</u>	<u>3,069,930</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	14	<u>3,920,264</u>	<u>2,986,087</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Beacon Counselling Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Restricted funds are funds to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the fund providers. Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have taken account of the financial resources available to the charity and consider that the charity should be able to continue operations for the foreseeable future.

Income recognition

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met: the charity has entitlement to the funds; any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity; there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance of the provision of services is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.

Expenditure recognition and irrecoverable VAT

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

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for beneficiaries.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

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

Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and each individual asset costs at least £4,000. They are depreciated over their estimated useful economic life on a straight-line basis as follows: Motor vehicles – over 5 years.

Debtors

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

Creditors

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

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate.

BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023****Page 8****2. STAFF COSTS**

	30.11.23	30.11.22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	833,374	715,629
Employers National Insurance – Social security costs	80,495	67,860
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	<u>42,009</u>	<u>13,423</u>
	955,878	796,912

There was one employee whose total employee benefits for the reporting period fell within the earnings band of £90,000 to £100,000 (2022 – one employee within the earnings band £90,000 to £100,000). There was one employee whose total employee benefits for the reporting period fell within the earnings band of £70,000 to £80,000 (2022 – one employee within the earnings band £70,000 to £80,000).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees and the Clinical Programmes Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £94,256 (2022: £92,321).

The average monthly head count and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year was as follows:

	30.11.23	30.11.22
Management and charity operational activities	24	23

3. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Motor vehicles £	Totals £
COST		
As at 1 December 2022	-	-
Additions	<u>28,400</u>	<u>28,400</u>
As at 30 November 2023	<u>28,400</u>	<u>28,400</u>
DEPRECIATION		
As at 1 December 2022	-	-
Charge for year	<u>5,680</u>	<u>5,680</u>
As at 30 November 2023	<u>5,680</u>	<u>5,680</u>
NET BOOK VALUE		
As at 30 November 2023	<u>22,720</u>	<u>22,720</u>
As at 30 November 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023

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4. NET INCOME

This is stated after charging:

	30.11.23	30.11.22
	£	£

Audit fees	<u>3,600</u>	<u>3,600</u>
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The trustees were not reimbursed expenses during the year (2022: £nil).

5. DEBTORS

	30.11.23	30.11.22
	£	£
Trade debtors	206,185	62,405
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>222,847</u>	<u>54,151</u>
	<u>429,032</u>	<u>116,556</u>

6. CREDITORS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	30.11.23	30.11.22
	£	£
Trade creditors	26,024	24,308
Other creditors	5,065	2,772
Social security and other taxes	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	<u>1,823,565</u>	<u>1,559,045</u>
	<u>1,854,654</u>	<u>1,586,125</u>

BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023

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7. ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS IN CHARITABLE FUNDS

	At 1 December 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Depreciation transfers	At 30 November 2023 £
Restricted income funds:					
GamCare Grants	-	364,383	364,383		-
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	117,000	88,600	5,680	22,720
Gambling Harm – South Asian Community	-	7,444	7,444		-
RET donations (Reduce gambling harm)	384,000	651,000	100,000		935,000
Gambleaware	110,323	998,126	1,108,449		-
Self excluded additional support donations	15,000	45,000	-		60,000
Armed Forces Project	-	200,000	200,000		-
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	1,007,195	542,663	50,216		1,499,642
Totals funds:	1,516,518	2,925,616	1,919,092	5,680	2,517,362

	At 1 December 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 30 November 2022 £
Restricted income funds:				
GamCare Grants	-	828,693	828,693	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	67,009	67,009	-
Gambling Harm – South Asian Community	-	355,327	355,327	-
RET donations (Reduce gambling harm)	-	384,000	-	384,000
Gambleaware	-	110,323	-	110,323
Self excluded additional support donations	-	15,000	-	15,000
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds	849,103	340,034	181,942	1,007,195
Totals funds:	849,103	2,100,386	1,432,971	1,516,518

The notes form part of these financial statements

BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023**

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8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	General Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Current assets	1,557,862	2,814,154	4,372,016
Creditors	(58,220)	(1,796,434)	(1,854,654)
Net assets at year end	1,499,642	1,017,720	2,517,362

9. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows

	30.11.23	30.11.22
Within one year	69,000	69,000
Between one and five years	276,000	276,000
In more than five years	138,000	207,000

10. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

Rents of £69,000 (2022: £68,431) for properties occupied by the charity during the year were payable to Beagle Property Company Limited. N Platt owns 100% of that company's shares and is an employee of the charity.

11. TAX

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

12. LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHARITY

Beacon Counselling Trust is an unincorporated trust, registered as a charity in England and Wales. The charity's registered number and principal address can be found on page 1.

13. FRC ETHICAL STANDARD - PROVISIONS AVAILABLE FOR SMALL ENTITIES

In common with many other charities of our size and nature we use our Independent Auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

14. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS

	30.11.23 £	30.11.22 £
Net movement in funds	1,000,844	667,415
Finance income – interest receivable	(24,614)	(818)
Decrease/(increase) in fixed assets	(22,720)	-
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other debtors	(310,666)	(18,640)
(Decrease)/Increase in trade and other creditors	268,529	(732,298)
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	911,373	(84,341)

BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023

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15. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The amounts disclosed on the Statement of Cash Flows in respect of cash and cash equivalents are in respect of these Balance Sheet amounts:

Year ended 30 November 2023

	30.11.23	1.12.22
	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>3,920,264</u>	<u>2,986,087</u>

Year ended 30 November 2022

	30.11.21	1.12.21
	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>2,986,087</u>	<u>3,069,930</u>

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Beacon Counselling Trust (the 'Charity') for the year ended 30 November 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, 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 Charity's affairs as at 30 November 2022 and of 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 Charities Act 2011.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- sufficient accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the responsibilities of the trustees in relation to the financial statements set out on page 3, the trustees 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 they determine necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditors' 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 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 the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations was as follows:

we ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;

we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the Charity through discussions with trustees;

we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the Charity;

we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of the trustees and reviewing supporting documentation; and

identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the Charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

making enquiries of the trustees as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to identified risks included reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that auditors would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion. 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/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Auditors.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST – continued**

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Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in a Report of the Auditors and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Monetta LLP
Statutory Auditors
Chartered Accountants
110-114 Duke Street
Liverpool
L1 5AG

30 September 2024

The following page does not form part of the Statutory Financial Statements

BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023

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	30.11.23		30.11.22	
	£	£	£	£
Income:				
Incoming funds and donations	319,930		180,466	
GamCare Grants	364,383		828,693	
The National Lottery Community Fund Grants	117,000		67,009	
Workplace Charter Grants	59,002		173,750	
Gambling Harm – South Asian Community funding	191,561		355,327	
Betway funding	651,000		384,000	
Gambleaware funding	998,126		110,323	
Bank interest receivable	24,614		817	
Armed Forces Project	200,000		-	
Interest on Gift Aid tax reclaims	-		1	
		2,925,616		2,100,386
Expenditure:				
Salaries	833,374		715,629	
National Insurance	80,495		67,860	
Pension contributions	42,009		13,423	
Counsellors', therapists' and receptionists' fees	294,611		157,983	
Rents	69,000		68,431	
Rates and water	2,982		3,974	
Insurances	12,196		3,176	
Light, heat & power	11,281		8,143	
Refurbishment, repairs, Information Technology & equipment	110,886		92,709	
Telephone & communications	16,766		16,204	
Post, printing, promotions & literature	32,962		36,171	
Travelling, subsistence and meetings	76,873		45,642	
Licences and subscriptions	4,693		8,173	
Training & consultancy	290,421		169,710	
Waste disposal, cleaning & hygiene	13,445		15,063	
Administration and payroll fees	722		720	
Audit fees	3,600		3,600	
Bank charges	189		118	
Professional fees	2,587		6,242	
Bad debts	20,000		-	
Depreciation – motor vehicles	5,680		-	
		1,924,772		1,432,971
Net income		<u>1,000,844</u>		<u>667,415</u>