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### FRONT COVER:

The Road Victims Trust partners with The Bedfordshire Road Safety Partnership (BRSP) for a flag lowering ceremony to mark the World Day of Remembrance for all those who have lost their lives on the road globally.

Pictured: PC Sam Sparkes laying a rose in remembrance at Kempston Police HQ”

# Road Victims Trust

Giving hope to rebuild lives

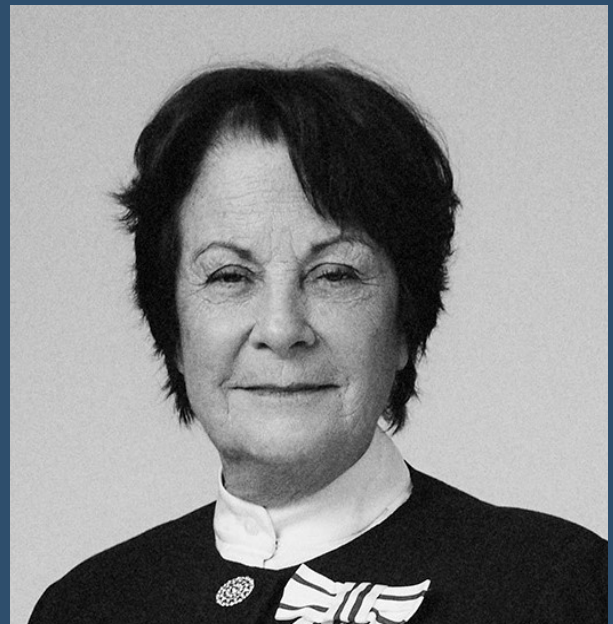
*We are pleased to introduce this year's Annual Report of the Road Victims Trust (RVT). The past 18 months have seen the RVT receive an increasing number of referrals across Norfolk and Suffolk and we are delighted to see their work extended into these areas.*

*We know that the aftermath of fatal and life-changing collisions is truly devastating to so many people across the United Kingdom, and we are both honoured to offer our Patronage to the RVT as it seeks to reach out and help even more people in their time of need.*

*Please take time to read the report and learn more about their work.*



**Lady Philippa Dannatt MBE**  
HM Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk



**Lady Clare, Countess of Euston**  
HM Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk

## OUR TRUSTEES

Lyn Hesse (Chair)  
Paul Jones  
Robert Panton  
Ian Pears  
Tim Sharpe  
Diane Stevens  
Kevin Vincent  
Rosaline Wong

## OUR STAFF

Mark Turner (Chief Executive)  
Sarah Jones (Clinical Lead)  
Lucy Hancock (Lead Coordinator)  
Janet Cantor (Coordinator)  
Nicola Gallagher (Coordinator)  
Diana Joy (Coordinator)  
Vicky Rankin (Coordinator)  
Jo Schofield (Coordinator)  
Clair Bradley (Fundraising Manager)  
Ann Davies (Administrator)  
Sarika Shah (Administrator)  
Terry Wilding (Treasurer)

## PATRONS AND ADVISORS

The Trust is able to call upon the services of a number of distinguished individuals for specialist advice and support.

They are:

Susan Lousada  
HM Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire

Robert Voss CBE CStJ  
HM Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire

Lady Philippa Dannatt MBE  
HM Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk

Lady Clare, Countess of Euston  
HM Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk

Dr Tim Dalgleish  
MA, PhD, MSc, CPsychol, AMBPsS

Lady Sue Acland

Rt Revd Richard Atkinson OBE  
Bishop of Bedford

Rt Revd Stephen Conway  
Bishop of Lincoln

Nick Dean  
Chief Constable  
Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Charlie Hall QPM  
Chief Constable  
Hertfordshire Constabulary

Tom Osborne  
HM Coroner Milton Keynes

Dr Jo Barnes FHEA  
Transport Safety Research Centre

Andrew Hopkinson  
Chief Fire Officer at Bedfordshire Fire  
and Rescue Service

Dr Jennifer Heath  
PhD, DClinPsy, MSc, BSc

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF TRUSTEES AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE



*Lyn Hesse*



*Mark Turner*

In 2022 a total of 1,766 people were killed on the roads of the United Kingdom, with nearly 29,000 people left with serious and life-changing injuries. Road deaths have increased by 10% on the previous year and this figure moves close to pre-pandemic levels.

The devastation and carnage caused by these collisions is immeasurable and happening daily. Lives are lost in an instant and numerous more lives are changed forever.

The Road Victims Trust (RVT) have 30 years' experience of offering a professional, timely and unconditional package of post-collision support to those affected by fatal and life-changing collisions. Our close working relationships with front-line Roads Policing and Family Liaison Officers means that we can receive referrals within 24 to 48 hours of the collision occurring. This enables the early intervention and offer of support to people who are lost in the fog of trauma and despair. Each year we support in excess of 500 people across the counties in which we operate.

The RVT firmly believe that the local commissioning of services, delivered by local people to local people, allows for the very best possible levels of post-collision support. Our experiences show that this Case-managed approach, backed up by a growing cohort of professional Counsellors, who volunteer their skills and expertise free, makes a very real difference to those at their lowest possible ebb. We know that we can move people to a position of being able to start to cope with the trauma that they face.

This support is only made possible by the understanding and support of so many people within the communities. Our relationships with Police Forces and Police and Crime Commissioners across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk who fund part of our service, the collegiate working relationships with Road Safety Partnerships and their members as well as numerous other groups and associations who recognise the need for the vital work that we carry out.

Nationally, we are proud to work alongside the Department for Transport and other leading charities to ensure that the victim's voice is loud and to inform the debate to ensure that a quality package of support is available to everyone across the UK.

Undoubtedly there remains much work to be done, but we are proud of our small team of staff, and our cohort of over 60 Counsellors who strive to give hope to hundreds of people each year.

Our sincere thanks to all that have helped the RVT over so many years.

***Lyn Hesse (Chair) and Mark Turner (Chief Executive)***



# ROAD VICTIMS TRUST VALUES



**The Road Victims Trust (RVT) is a registered charity (1142336) that operates across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk to provide the following services to all residents of the five counties affected by fatal and life-changing collisions:**

- Regular weekly emotional and practical support for individuals and families for as long as it is useful.
- Space to express the whole range of feelings that come with the loss and horror following a fatal road collision.
- Time to discuss the repercussions of the collision that is a life-changing event for all those involved.
- Information on the investigation, inquest and court hearings, and preparation and support for inquests and hearings.

# SERVICE TEAM REPORT

01/04/2022 – 31/03/2023

During 2022/23 the Coordinator Team and over sixty Counselling Volunteers supported 248 people across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire affected by the sudden and devastating impact of fatal and serious, life changing injury road collisions. We have continued to support 80 people who we began working with in the previous year bringing the total to 328 individuals.

The Road Victims Trust (RVT) provides free counselling sessions for as long as this is useful. We also offer practical support through the legal and administrative processes following serious road collisions.

During this period, we have run two intensive 50 hour training courses for Counsellors who are either senior trainees or qualified who have the potential to become counselling volunteers for RVT. As a result of these courses, 21 completed it successfully and have now joined the team.

We now have a team of fifty-nine specialist trained Counselling Volunteers throughout the five counties in which we're now providing our service. They do an incredible job offering their time and expertise and are at the core of what we do.



## Extending our service into Norfolk and Suffolk

This period has seen the beginning of our expansion into Norfolk and Suffolk, meaning that plans began for running a Suffolk based training course during the latter part of 2023 and this has now been successfully completed. We have increased the size of our service staff team as well to ensure that we can continue to provide the level of service that has long been experienced in the three counties and seamlessly extend the same across Norfolk and Suffolk.

Several information sessions have been provided for Norfolk and Suffolk roads policing officers, informing them of our work, and building good working relationships.

We have also engaged with other agencies, Colleges, and Universities in the two counties as well as professional counselling groups as we continue to work hard to raise awareness of our service and develop partnerships in these counties.

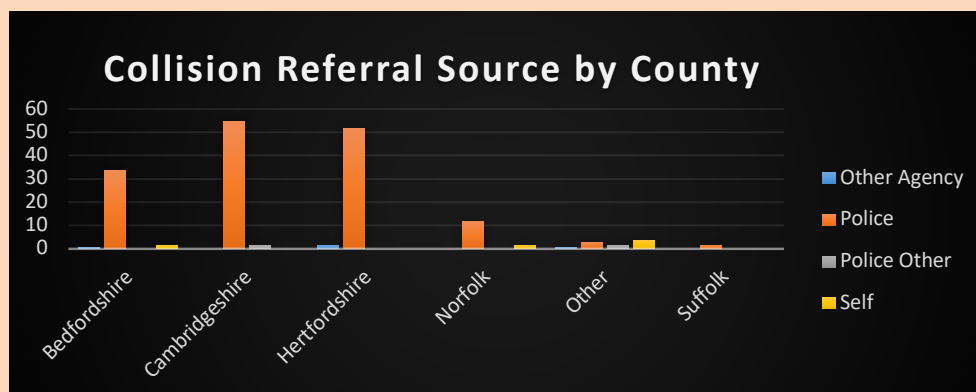
The number of referrals has continued to steadily increase in Norfolk and Suffolk throughout 2023.

**Sarah Jones - Clinical Service Lead**

## Collision Referrals

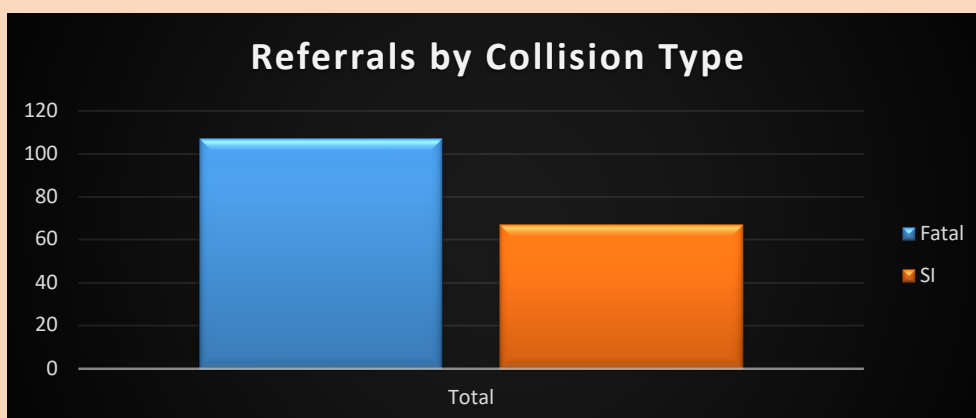
During the period 2022/23, 174 Fatal or Serious Injury (SI) collisions were referred to The Road Victims Trust (RVT).

Each referral represents a collision that may have one or many people affected by the devastating impact of a fatal collision, or a collision that resulted in one or more individuals receiving life-changing injuries. The referral may therefore contain just one or several people keen to take the service offered by the RVT which becomes apparent as we make contact with all those referred.



It is worth noting that during the latter part of this period we began to accept referrals from Norfolk and Suffolk and these referrals have grown in number significantly since the end of this reporting period.

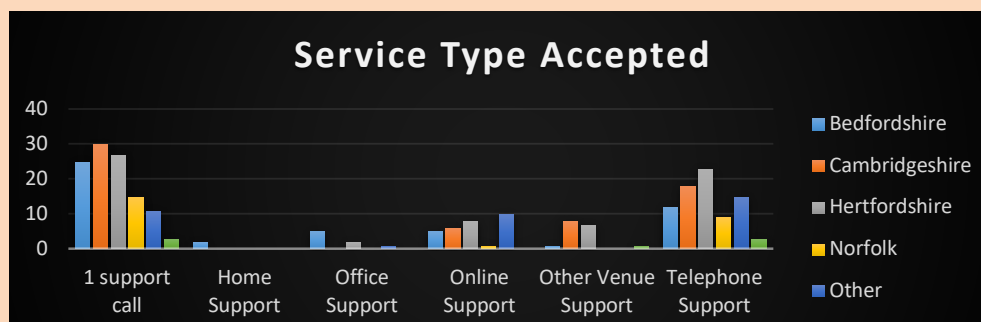
The chart below shows the split between Fatal and Serious Injury collisions referred to us during this period.



## Service Provision

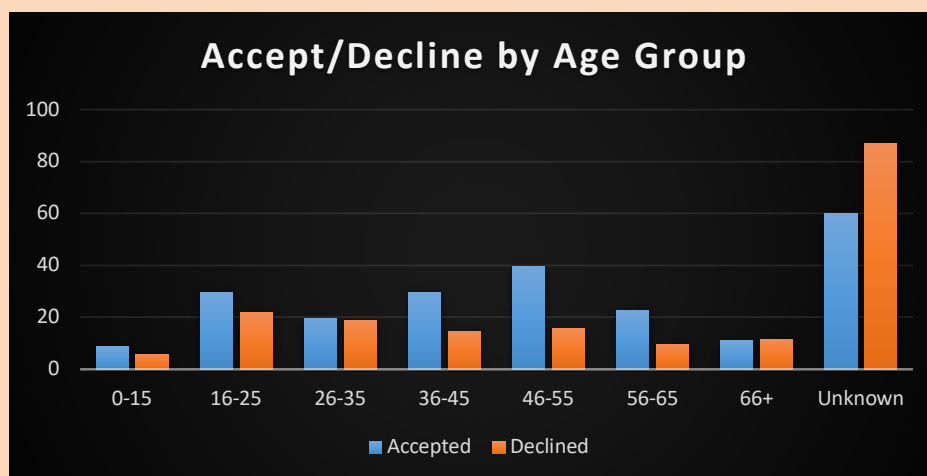
From the 476 individuals that we contacted in this period, 248 accepted some level of our service. The chart below shows the service delivery type accepted by county.

'1 support call' refers to one or more calls with a Case Manager, sometimes over a period of several weeks, providing practical and emotional support rather than more structured counselling.

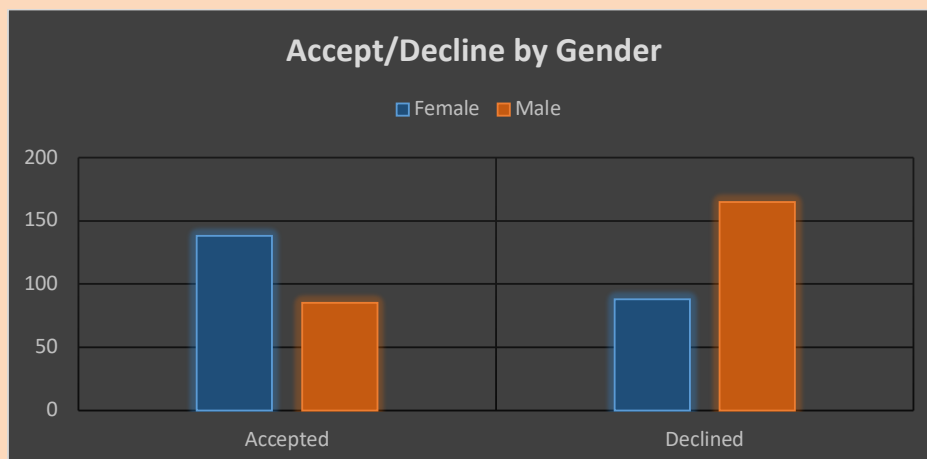




The demographics of the clients taking the service this year is shown below.



Accept/Decline by Gender



Accept/Decline by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Accepted	Declined
Asian Or Asian British - Bangladeshi	1	2
Asian Or Asian British - Indian	3	7
Asian Or Asian British - Pakistani	3	4
Asian or Asian British: Other	2	2
Black Or Black British - Caribbean	2	0
Black or Black British: Other	1	0
Did Not Wish To Disclose Ethnic Group	1	0
Mixed - Other Mixed Background	2	0
Mixed: White & Black Caribbean	1	0
Not Stated	67	129
White - British	131	90
White - Other White Background	9	15



# THE DIFFERENCE THE RVT CAN MAKE - THEIR WORDS SAY IT ALL

The RVT continually monitor the quality of the service we provide to ensure it meets the needs of those that we support. Below are just a few of the testimonials that we receive.

14 months of support given,  
helped every session. Helped to find me  
and my family our new normal. after the tragedy.  
Working within the NHS gave me strategies  
in that situation.  
I do not feel I would be where I am today without  
my RVT counsellor.  
(E.D., Bedfordshire)

The support I received  
during Counselling was crucial.  
Without it I would not have coped.  
Because of this Counselling I have been able to  
move on with my life in a stronger and more positive way.  
I have a greater understanding of myself and a  
better ability to deal with life's curve balls .  
(S.B., Hertfordshire)

Thank you for helping  
me through a difficult time  
(H.C., Norfolk)

I was very sceptical towards  
counselling, never believed it could be of use  
to me as a person who doesn't talk about  
anything and would just carry on.  
(G.O., Hertfordshire)

I am retired so it was  
reassurance and emotional support, mainly.  
My whole conversation enabled me to look forward.  
There are still moments to reflect on the whys and wherefores.  
Since our counselling stopped we have lost C, a big part of my/our  
lives, but with our experiences we are talking things  
over as a family.  
Thank you for being there to talk and listen.  
(A.D., Bedfordshire)

J (counsellor) was absolutely  
so supportive right from our very first meeting.  
I only needed emotional support which I most definitely  
received from J.  
I don't think I would be where I am today if it hadn't of been with  
emotional help and support from J. At first I couldn't see how this  
would help me. I had lost a beautiful 15 year old Granddaughter.  
Not only was I grieving for her but I felt I had lost my daughter as well.  
J helped me so much through this. Never thought I'd get there but  
I have. Cannot thank that wonderful lady enough. Also I know I can  
return to her at any time.  
This is such a comfort to me. You are an amazing team.  
THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart.  
(K.S., Other)

C (counsellor) has been amazing  
and an integral part of my grieving process.  
I truly am grateful for her time and to Road victims trust  
for putting me first and helping me to manage  
and cope with everything.  
Truly my world has been shaken and C helped me to see the positive  
things in life and helped me to get back to myself.  
Things will never be the same but I have learned to continue.  
My brother will always be a big part of my heart and soul  
but C helped me to be the best version of me  
for my children's sake and family and reminded  
me that I also needed to take care of myself!  
(R.N., Other)

My counsellor, N, was outstanding  
from start to finish across the 18 month period.  
As someone who was new to counselling she let me move  
through the process in my own time and was hugely supportive  
through all of this. I understand she is now moving on from the  
RVT but I would like to extend my upmost gratitude to both her  
and the RVT as a whole over the last 20 months  
(H.C., Cambridgeshire)

I would like to thank the  
service for the counselling my son received. It helped him,  
although he was a bit reluctant at first to talk. It is also  
reassuring to know that he can access the service  
again in the future should he need it.  
(O.M., Cambridgeshire)

J (case manager) was lovely  
and explained everything fully.  
She was very empathetic and really helpful.  
There was a wait to be connected to a  
counsellor but she kept in touch through that time.  
I am so grateful for the help and support that I have received from  
RVT. C (counsellor) was amazing, she listened and really helped me  
work through everything that I was going through. I have experienced  
lots of loss and I had been carrying my grief like a heavy weight for  
years, I finally feel like it has been lifted from my shoulders and I feel  
lighter. C was brilliant, she really helped me to take control of my life  
and relationships, I now realise my own worth and that  
for me has been very empowering. feel like I have a  
strategy to cope for the future and I know what  
I can do if I have a relapse.  
Thank you so much C!  
(E.M., Suffolk)

# Working together with Police and Crime Commissioners

The Road Victims Trust (RVT) work in close partnership with the 5 Police Forces across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk. The relationship enables a timely and effective referral mechanism, allowing the RVT to be proactive in its offers of support and guidance.

The five Police and Crime Commissioners across these areas have all set policing plans that put the victim at the heart of all they do, and are committed to reducing casualties on the counties roads.

The past 18 months have seen the RVT start to develop a system of post-collision support across Norfolk and Suffolk with the support of their respective PCC's, Giles Orpen-Smellie and Tim Passmore.

This is what they have to say about the working relationships that are starting to build.



**Giles Orpen-Smellie**

*"I am delighted that the Road Victims Trust has been commissioned to provide its services to Norfolk and also by the way this has been welcomed by Norfolk Constabulary. Every unexpected death is a tragedy. The work the Road Victims Trust does to support those who have been affected by the trauma of death or serious injury on our roads is hugely important and they do it brilliantly. Their work is particularly important in a society that seems to tolerate the casualty toll on our roads so casually.*

*The Road Victims Trust has my full support and I would like to thank their staff and volunteers for the superb work that they do."*

*"Every death on our county's roads is devastating for the family and friends of the victim. It is so important that those impacted are given emotional and practical support at their time of need and I thank the Road Victims Trust for providing this vital service.*

*"I was delighted to meet several of the volunteers recently at one of their training sessions and witnessed the compassion, sympathy and understanding they have to help support victims in such tragic circumstances, it really is second to none. I am incredibly grateful for all that they do – it makes such a difference.*

*"The work of the Road Victims Trust is absolutely essential, and I am pleased to be able to support this valuable work and look forward to building this important relationship with the Trust in years to come.*

*"Our shared ambition to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads remains paramount and I will continue to deliver investment in roads policing across the county."*



**Tim Passmore**



# THE WORK OF AN RVT COUNSELLOR - GIVING HOPE TO RE-BUILD LIVES

The RVT have a highly trained and professional cohort of Counsellors who volunteer their skills and expertise free of charge. We know from evaluation and testimonials received that they make an incredible and lasting difference to those that receive their services.

## **Jan Maze shares her experiences of her work over the years at RVT.**

I'm a Volunteer Counsellor with RVT and it's been 7.5 years since I went through the rigorous training programme that all RVT counsellors go through. Over the seven years I have learned much and progressed effectively as a counsellor with RVT, but especially, one of the main skills I have honed is to listen. Truly listen.

I listen to my clients as their pain spills over; their rage, their sense of injustice at what has happened, their anger, their despondency, their despair and together we weather the storm of grief. I believe it is a true collaboration between us. So that whatever they are feeling, they are not feeling it alone. Step by step, week by week, month by month they wade through their grief. They learn to mourn. Gradually they learn to make sense of their confusion, they search to find an understanding of what has happened, and what is happening. And with time to find new meaning in their changed world.

Sometimes in our sessions we laugh, and laugh loudly, as they share a funny story about the person they have loved and lost. I get to know their loved one through their memories and I gain a deeper understanding of the depth of their loss. As counsellors we bear witness to our client's experience in its entirety.

And at times it is very hard to listen to a heart that's breaking.....

On learning that I'm a counsellor, I'm often asked 'how do you do your job?'. Well, like all people involved in the care of others, finding a variety of ways to care for oneself is vital. My client's well-being in our sessions depends on my well-being.

However, I know that I couldn't do what I do for my clients without the outstanding support I receive from RVT. Specifically, the clinical supervision, that all RVT counsellors receive once a month, and is part of ethical and good practice required by our professional bodies. My RVT clinical supervisor has given her impactful professional care, guidance and encouragement with generosity, wisdom, and humour. She has been integral in my positive development from a trainee counsellor through to becoming an accredited counsellor.

In addition, further RVT professional support comes in the form of the excellent CPD training days provide 2-3 times a year. We are invited to attend to develop our skills with the variety of professional trainers and speakers well respected for their work. These training days are also an opportunity to collaborate with our peers which helps offset the isolated nature of our work, and we get to give to each other and give back by supporting trainees and new counsellors to RVT.

The support from RVT as a whole, which in my experience as a volunteer counsellor, underpins the goodwill I feel and the ongoing professional relationship that I have, comes via their effective communication that we are a team and that I'm a valued part of it. All of which makes being a part of RVT enjoyable and fulfilling.

The counselling RVT provides is transformative, our clients often tell us. I know this to be true because I see it happening over the weeks, months and years, as my client changes, and finds strength they didn't know they were capable of. I am inspired by the courage that my clients have found to go on with their lives. It moves me profoundly to see the person I have come to know, gradually find hope again. And to know that I have been a part of that makes my role richly rewarding.



# Road Victims Trust -

## Continually Improving the Services that we provide

Joy Atkin has been a Casualty Reduction & Road Safety Analyst with Bedfordshire Police, Cambridgeshire, and Hertfordshire Constabularies Tri-Force since June 2019. Joy, a member of the Eastern Region Analysts Network Group and corporate member of Road Safety GB, collaborates with partners on strategic and tactical Road Safety Partnership teams providing statistical data on existing and emerging themes. Joy also creates monthly 'Killed and Serious Injury' (KSI) route reports, used by partners and for evidence-led roads and local police patrols plus oversees the tri-force contribution to the National Police Chiefs Council Tier 1 road safety campaigns from beginning to end. Her latest project looks at links between criminality and road deaths, providing evidence to effect change in road safety.



Tomás Walsh, MSc, BSc. is a psychologist who has worked in health and medical services. Working for Macmillan he offers assessment and evidence-based intervention for those with psychological difficulties directly related to cancer, death and dying.

Throughout his study of psychology Tomás has had a special interest in road safety and driver behaviour, completing his undergraduate degree with a research project on the behaviour of Dublin Fire Brigade drivers.

Tomás has recently completed a doctorate in clinical psychology, and as part of his studies conducted a research project with the Road Victims Trust (RVT). In this research Tomás

sought to understand the aspects of RVT's work that service users believe helps them to regain hope. This research found that people bereaved by road traffic collisions felt supported by their counsellor who journeyed with them, they found their counsellors knowledge of police investigations and the legal system supportive when they were frustrated by slow progress. And finally, the consistency of care, knowing RVT are there at the other end of a phone call if needed.





# Fundraising for the RVT



We continue to provide our services across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and now Norfolk and Suffolk.

In order to continue these services throughout the five counties we rely on the friendship and support of individuals, groups and businesses within the local communities.

As always, we are extremely grateful to our brilliant friends and supporters who continue to do so many amazing things for RVT, helping us to raise awareness and much needed funds, some of whom are pictured below.

We simply couldn't do what we do without them!

*Clair Bradley*



# RVT Fundraising Standards

The RVT conforms to all recognised fundraising standards. We are a member of the Fundraising Regulator and the Institute of Fundraising in the UK. The RVT recognises and conforms to the 6 guiding principles expected by the Charity Commission.

- Planning Effectively
- Supervision of Fundraisers
- Protecting Reputation, Money and Other Assets
- Following Fundraising Law and Regulation
- Follow the Recognised Standard for Fundraising
- Be Open and Accountable





**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07591489 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1142336**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND**  
**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**  
**FOR**  
**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The aftermath of a fatal road collision is truly devastating, with numerous lives being taken and countless more being irrevocably changed in a blink of the eye. The early intervention of the Road Victims Trust (RVT) makes a very real difference to the people who receive their support.

**Our Vision:**

RVT's vision is of a society where everyone has access to a holistic package of emotional, practical and, where required, legal support to enable them to meet their needs following death or life changing injury on the road.

**Our Values:**

**We value:**

- Supporting our clients throughout our interactions with them and identifying and responding to their needs.
- Meeting our obligations and delivering our promises.
- Caring for the emotional and physical wellbeing of staff and volunteers.
- The commitment and contribution of our staff and volunteers.
- Equality of opportunity, diversity, honesty, fairness, openness and integrity in all that we do.
- Making the best use of our resources.

The ethos of our independent charitable trust reflects the above principles. It includes a passionate determination to improve and develop our services and to raise national awareness of the issues involved following serious road collisions.

Fundamentally, therefore, the overall guiding principles of RVT have a client focus and are needs based.

The charity, The Road Victims Trust, is established for the public benefit. The objects of the charitable company are to provide emotional and practical support to all persons affected by a road death in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire. Following requests from the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) of Norfolk and Suffolk, we have given support to the residents of those areas and have from 1 April 2023 entered formal service agreements with those counties. The charity's objects, set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association, specifically include the following:

- To relieve sickness and distress among persons within the United Kingdom who have suffered the same as a result of any serious road collision and the families of such persons who are injured;
- To advance public education and awareness by research into issues relating to the victims of road traffic collisions and their families, and to disseminate the useful results of such research.

Our strategic plan contains our longer-term vision and the strategies required to achieve it. The plan sets out the RVT's three-year view and the framework of which will guide all those involved in delivering our services. It will guide us in the production of a list of annual priorities for development of the Trust which, alongside our actual service delivery, will form the basis for measuring our success each year.

The following strategies have been identified as crucial to our success in achieving our aims:

**Governance Strategy:**

The RVT Trustees to act as a guardian of our vision, values, aims and assets, protecting the probity of the organisation and ensuring the vitality and long-term wellbeing of RVT.

**Financial Strategy:**

To secure funding to underpin the long-term future of the RVT, and to make best use of our financial resources in order to develop RVT services.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Research and Knowledge Management Strategy:**

To effect change and improvements that actively support the needs of victims and families affected by serious road traffic collisions.

**Business Development Strategy:**

To develop the overall service provision of the RVT and increase national awareness of the need for such vital services, and to work with other agencies and organisations to enhance the quality and cost-effectiveness of the service provided.

**Information Systems Strategy:**

To ensure the appropriate level of investment is made in Information Systems (IS) to achieve both our desired strategic outcomes and operational focus.

**Key Performance Indicators:**

- The Trustees will approve the annual priorities for the Trust and monitor performance against them at each Trustee meeting.
- Service delivery will be monitored by the Chief Executive on a monthly basis and by the Trustees at each meeting.
- The Chief Executive and Clinical Service Lead will periodically review and evaluate the performance of the service provision.
- The reports on such performance will be presented to the Board of Trustees.

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Significant activities**

The Road Victims Trust (RVT) provides an holistic service that attends to both practical and emotional needs of anyone affected by Fatal and Serious Injury collisions on the roads. We have a client led approach and carefully listen to the individual needs of the individual from the outset.

We offer free, weekly counselling sessions as well as practical support. Counselling sessions are for as long as is useful when there has been a fatality, due to the complex, unique feelings that are experienced following being bereaved by, or having witnessed, such a collision. We also offer practical support following assessment and signpost where appropriate. We are able to provide further practical support through the legal and administrative processes that follow in the months or years after the collision.

During the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, we supported 476 individuals, 282 of whom went on to receive long-term support. Some of this may have been short-term work, and others long-term weekly counselling sessions. Over 1,781 hours of counselling have been provided. Counselling is provided by a professional team of senior trainee or qualified Counselling Volunteers who have, in addition to their formal therapeutic training, completed our rigorous 50-hour training course in the specialist work of post collision counselling.

It has been a year of development and transition as we have improved and adjusted our systems to enable new ways of providing our service. This has presented us with challenges, however, the dedication and adaptability of our staff and Counselling Volunteers in the service of our Clients has been exceptional.

The Road Victims Trust are represented at the three Strategic Road Safety Partnerships across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire. These partnerships all strive to reduce the amount of casualties on the roads of the three counties and we are able to bring our experience and expertise specifically to look at the post collision response.

**Public benefit**

The services of the charity operate for the public benefit and are available to all in the local community as stated in the objects set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association and as described in the objectives and aims above.

The trustees have given due consideration to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Volunteers**

As always, we are extremely grateful to our very loyal friends and supporters who continue to fundraise for us in many wonderful ways, continuing to raise awareness and funds for the RVT.

It has been a challenging year, however, the service we provide, whilst different from pre-pandemic times, has remained of high quality and this is due to the exceptional commitment and professionalism of both the staff team and our valued Counsellors who offer their services on a voluntary basis.

Our Friends and Supporters:

It is not possible to mention every one of the hundreds of Friends and Supporters who have donated so much by way of time, energy and money. Here is a very small selection of some of the Corporates and Businesses which have provided generous support to the Road Victims Trust:

- BBC Children in Need,
- The Wixamtree Trust,
- The National Lottery Community Fund (Supporting grieving families through Covid-19),
- The Harpur Trust (Supporting families in Bedford Borough),
- The Highways Agency,
- The Police and Crime Commissioners of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire for providing funding towards our core service.

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Charitable activities**

The Road Victims Trust is a registered charity that has operated in Bedfordshire since 1995, in Hertfordshire since 2010 and in Cambridgeshire since 2013, to provide the following services to all residents of these three counties affected by fatal road collisions:

- Regular weekly emotional and practical support for individuals and families for as long as it is useful.
- Space to express the whole range of feelings that come with the loss and horror following a fatal road collision.
- Time to discuss the repercussions of the collision that is a life-changing event for all those involved.
- Information on the investigation, inquest and court hearings, and preparation and support for inquests and hearings.

In addition, we offer telephone support to enquiries from outside Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire.

During the year ended 31 March 2023 RVT:

- Received 174 referrals relating to fatal and life-changing collisions- 93% of which were from the Police in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire.
- Provided:
  - \* long-term support to 282 individuals by way of a one-to-one counselling service,
  - \* 1,781 hours of specialist counselling sessions,
  - \* 9,000 hours of dedicated staff time ensuring the needs of clients are met.
- Maintained, trained and retained a cohort of 60 highly trained and qualified Counsellors.

**Fundraising activities**

In order to continue to provide our services across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire, the RVT rely on the friendship and support of many people, groups and businesses across the communities.

"We continue to be supported by a loyal group of supporters who have taken part in many fundraising events for us. Undoubtedly the economic down-turn has meant that there has been a subsequent decrease in regular giving and planned events. Nonetheless we have continued to receive good levels of support that make a very real difference to so many."



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Internal and external factors**

The Road Victims Trust has historically been wholly financed by charitable donations and grant making trusts supplemented with occasional Government grants.

Since 2014 we have forged close links with the Offices of the Police and Crime Commissioners in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire. These links have been further developed with the signing of formal Service Level and Information Sharing Agreements.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Financial position**

For the year ended 31 March 2023, the charity had an overall net income surplus of £52,909 (2022: Surplus £12,000).

Total income increased by £90,073, from £316,584 to £406,657. Included was income from donations and gifts, which amounted to £117,188 (2022: £59,517), an increase of £57,671. Income from local government agencies increased to £239,050 (2022: £181,800).

Expenditure on charitable activities totalled £353,748 for the year ended 31 March 2023 compared to £304,584 for the year ended 31 March 2022. This represented an increase during the year of £49,164.

Overall, the funds of the charitable company have increased from £344,479 as at 31 March 2022 to £397,388 as at 31 March 2023, and has sufficient funds carried forward.

**Principal funding sources**

The principal funding source for the charity is provided by local government agencies, for example: The Highways Agency, Bedfordshire Police, Cambridgeshire Police and Hertfordshire Police.

The funding position of the RVT, in common with many other small charities, remains hugely challenging and far greater emphasis and focus has been placed on the delivery of a financial strategy that enables us to provide the best possible levels of victims care within the constraints of the budget.

Road Victims Trust Fundraising Standards:

The RVT conforms to all recognised fundraising standards. We are a member of the Fundraising Regulator and the Institute of Fundraising in the UK. The RVT recognises and conforms to the 6 guiding principles expected by the Charity Commission:

- Planning Effectively,
- Supervision of Fundraisers,
- Protecting Reputation, Money and Other Assets,
- Following Fundraising Law and Regulation,
- Follow the Recognised Standard for Fundraising,
- Be Open and Accountable.

**Investment policy and objectives**

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association the company has the power to make any investments which the trustees see fit. The charity has no long-term investments. The company's cash reserves are held mainly in a bank current and short-term investment bank accounts. The trustees invest some of the cash reserves in bank deposit accounts and will look to maximise investment income receivable from bank accounts, whilst balancing this with the need to keep funds readily available to meet the operating costs of the charitable company.

**Reserves policy**

The present level of funding is adequate to support the continuation of the company's activities in the medium term and the trustees consider the financial position of the company to be satisfactory. The policy of the trustees is to hold sufficient funds to meet the operating costs of the centre for the foreseeable future. The current level of reserves is £397,387 (2022: £344,479), and the company holds £479,043 (2022: £396,867) cash at bank and in hand.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Going concern**

The Trustees believe that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue for the foreseeable future. The trustees believe that the charity has sufficient funds to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and anticipate that the level of income received will increase for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**FUTURE PLANS**

Our strategic plan contains our longer-term vision and the strategies required to achieve it. The plan sets out the RVT's three-year view and the framework of which will guide all those involved in delivering our services. It will guide us in the production of a list of annual priorities for development of the Trust which, alongside our actual service delivery, will form the basis for measuring our success each year.

The following work-streams and projects have been identified as priorities for the RVT in the year April 2023 to March 2024. Separate action plans are in development for each priority area:

- To expand the RVT model across the Eastern Region of the UK,
- To increase the RVT cohort of Counselling Volunteers,
- To roll out the findings of the Academic research commissioned in respect of outcome measurement,
- To implement a fundraising strategy that enables sustainable and diverse income streams.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The Road Victims trust is a charitable company, limited by guarantee, incorporated on 5 April 2011 and registered as a charity on 9 June 2011. 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. In the event of the company being wound up with net liabilities, the members of the company are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1, during the period of their membership and for a period of 12 months thereafter.

The trustees meet regularly to administer the company and are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits. The trustees have employed a team to deliver the charity's services and manage the day-to-day operations of the charitable company.

**Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles of Association are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Articles of Association at the first and all subsequent annual general meetings all the directors must retire from office, but all retiring directors are eligible for re-election.

The existing trustees are responsible for the recruitment of new trustees and in selecting new trustees, seek to identify people who are willing to help the charity in the broader community work and enhance the skill set and structure of the management committee. Potential trustees are invited to attend trustees' meetings as observers and are given more details of the charity's aims and activities and, if all agree, they are then proposed as new trustees at the subsequent trustees' meeting. The process allows due consideration of the person's eligibility, personal competence, specialist knowledge and skills. The trustees may only refuse an application for membership if, acting reasonably and properly, they consider it to be in the best interests of the charity to refuse the application. The trustees must inform the applicant in writing of the reasons for the refusal within twenty-one days of the decision.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Organisational structure**

The RVT has a group of dedicated Trustees who work closely with the Chief Executive to set the overall mission and strategic direction of the Trust. The Trustees also monitor and evaluate our work and ensure that the requirements of the Charities Act for proper governance and accountability arrangements are in place. To meet the needs of clients of serious road traffic collisions we are structured around a small team of paid employees supported by trained Volunteers.

Our whole supportive culture has grown through collaborative partnership working. We are proud of our formal co-operative arrangements with the Collaborated Roads Policing Units across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire, the 3 Offices of Police and Crime Commissioners, the HM Coroners, the 3 Strategic Road Safety Partnerships and our informal links with the Fire and Rescue Services and General Practitioners.

Through these partnerships and the dedication of our staff and volunteers we are able to offer a holistic service, free at the point of delivery, to our clients.

**Related parties**

There were no material related party transactions during the year under review.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**

07591489 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**

1142336

**Registered office**

146 Bedford Road  
Kempston  
Bedfordshire  
MK42 8BH

**Trustees**

R Panton  
I G Pears  
Ms L Hesse  
P D Jones  
T Sharpe  
Ms R Wong  
Ms D P Stevens  
K Vincent (appointed 14.12.22)

**Directors**

M R Turner (Chief Executive Officer)  
R Panton  
Ms L Hesse  
P D Jones



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Independent Examiner**

David John Rawlinson FCA FCCA  
Rawlinson Pryde & Partners  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Argent House  
5 Goldington Road  
Bedford  
Bedfordshire  
MK40 3JY

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 18 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

R Panton - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Road Victims Trust ('the Company')**

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

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

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

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

David John Rawlinson FCA FCCA

Rawlinson Pryde & Partners  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Argent House  
5 Goldington Road  
Bedford  
Bedfordshire  
MK40 3JY

18 December 2023

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

		<b>31.3.23</b>	31.3.22
		<b>Unrestricted</b>	Total
		<b>funds</b>	funds
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	Notes		
Donations and legacies		<b>356,238</b>	241,317
Other trading activities	2	<b>49,180</b>	66,498
Investment income	3	<b>1,170</b>	1,744
Other income	4	<b>69</b>	7,025
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>406,657</u></b>	<b><u>316,584</u></b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Other		<b><u>353,748</u></b>	<b><u>304,584</u></b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>		<b>52,909</b>	12,000
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<b>344,479</b>	332,479
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b><u><u>397,388</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>344,479</u></u></b>

The notes form part of these financial statements



**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07591489)**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**31 MARCH 2023**

		<b>31.3.23</b>	<b>31.3.22</b>
		<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
		<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>
	Notes	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	11	<b>1,761</b>	26,204
Cash at bank and in hand		<b>479,043</b>	396,867
		<b>480,804</b>	423,071
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	12	<b>(83,416)</b>	(78,592)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>397,388</b>	344,479
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>397,388</b>	344,479
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>397,388</b>	344,479
<b>FUNDS</b>	13		
Unrestricted funds		<b>397,388</b>	344,479
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<b>397,388</b>	344,479

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

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

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 18 December 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

R Panton - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

## **THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

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

The Road Victims Trust is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales, and a registered charity.

The nature of the charitable company's operations and principal activities can also be found in the Report of the Trustees.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charitable company and rounded to the nearest £. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue for the foreseeable future and consider the use of the going concern basis of accounting appropriate. The trustees believe that the charity has sufficient funds to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and is able to manage its risks successfully.

##### **Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

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

##### **Income**

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

Income from government grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. In respect of grants received under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, all conditions with respect to the eligible costs being claimed, need to be met.

Where income has related expenditure, the income and related expenditure are reported gross in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Interest on deposit funds held is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity which is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank and is recognised using the effective interest method.

##### **Expenditure and irrecoverable value added tax**

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

## **THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

##### **Expenditure and irrecoverable value added tax**

Support costs comprise those costs which are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include governance cost, finance and administration costs. Governance costs are those costs incurred in connection with the compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

The charitable company is not VAT registered and therefore VAT incurred is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

##### **Operating lease expenditure**

Amounts payable under operating leases are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

##### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities. Tax is payable on non-charitable expenditure which includes expenditure which is not incurred solely for charitable purposes and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as current tax payable. Current tax is recognised at the amount of tax payable using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

##### **Fund accounting**

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

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

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

##### **Gifts and non-exchange transactions**

Acquisitions that are in substance a gift of one business to another where the substance of the transaction is gifting the control of one entity to another are accounted for as non-exchange transactions in accordance with the SORP. The fair value of the gifted recognised assets and liabilities are recognised as a gain or loss in the statement of financial activities in the year of the transaction.

##### **Government grants**

Grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Government grants are accounted for using the accruals model. The difference between the fair value of the grant and the consideration is recognised as a liability and amortised over the useful economic life of the grant. The amortisation is recognised within income.

Government grants received as a contribution to revenue expenditure are recognised in the statement of financial activities on a systematic basis over the period in which the related costs are recognised in respect of which the grant is intended to compensate. The related expenditure is included under operating costs. Grants are recognised in the same period as the related expenditure provided the conditions for receipt have been satisfied and there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received.



## **THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

##### **Financial instruments**

Financial instruments are classified and accounted for according to the substance of the contractual arrangement, as either financial assets or equity. An equity instrument is any contract which evidences residual interest in the assets of the company after deduction of any liabilities.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. Transaction price should also include transaction costs; transaction costs are those costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the debt instrument.

If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction it is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument. The present value of a financial asset or financial liability that is repayable on demand is equal to the undiscounted cash amount expected to be paid or received.

On subsequent measurement basic financial instruments are recognised at amortised cost. Amortised cost is calculated at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid or received for basic financial instruments payable or receivable within one year.

##### **Impairment**

Assets not measured at fair value are reviewed for any indication that the asset may be impaired at each balance sheet date. If such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, or the asset's cash generating unit, is estimated and compared to the carrying amount. Where the carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount where the impairment loss is a revaluation decrease.

##### **Debtors, creditors and provisions**

Debtors and creditors are classified and accounted for according to the substance of the contractual arrangement, as either financial assets or financial liabilities.

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Accrued income and tax recoverable is included at the best estimate of the amounts receivable at the balance sheet date.

Creditors and provisions are recognised when the charity has a legal or constructive obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event, it is probable that the charity will be required to settle the obligation and the amount of the obligation can be reliably measured. Provisions are recognised at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

##### **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and bank current and demand deposit accounts. 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 is included in cash at bank and in hand when applicable.

##### **Estimation uncertainty**

The management board is of the opinion that there are no areas of material estimation uncertainty in preparing the accounts which would be likely to give rise to a material adjustment to the carrying value of the assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

##### **Judgements**

No judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies.

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Fundraising events	<u>49,180</u>	<u>66,498</u>

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>1,170</u>	<u>1,744</u>

**4. OTHER INCOME**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Sundry income	69	34
Furlough receipts	-	6,991
	<u>69</u>	<u>7,025</u>

**5. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Other £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Other resources expended	<u>342,282</u>	<u>11,466</u>	<u>353,748</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

**Other**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	Other resources expended £	Total activities £
Wages	240,638	219,925
Social security	17,287	14,241
Pensions	7,032	6,193
Rates and water	3,115	3,590
Insurance	2,196	2,185
Light and heat	2,423	2,221
Telephone	6,614	5,420
Postage	1,067	980
Sundries	123	190
Printing and stationery	358	1,004
Support and supervision	15,678	12,242
Travel	7,408	3,068
Advertising and publicity	5,421	2,820
Refreshments	1,157	56
Room hire	850	18
Course and conference fees	2,324	3,856
Cleaning and household	1,003	1,233
Carried forward	<u>314,694</u>	<u>279,242</u>

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**5. SUPPORT COSTS - continued**

**Other - continued**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	Other	Total
	resources	activities
	expended	£
	£	£
Brought forward	314,694	279,242
Repairs and maintenance	1,355	2,371
Fundraising costs	3,403	2,680
IT maintenance and services	22,830	14,446
	<u>342,282</u>	<u>298,739</u>

**Governance costs**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	Other	Total
	resources	activities
	expended	£
	£	£
Independent examiner's remuneration	1,535	1,629
Subscriptions	2,204	1,111
Professional fees	7,713	3,091
Statutory filing fees	14	14
	<u>11,466</u>	<u>5,845</u>

**6. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REMUNERATION**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Independent examiner's remuneration	<u>1,535</u>	<u>1,629</u>

**7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

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

**Trustees' expenses**

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

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**8. STAFF COSTS**

	<b>31.3.23</b>	31.3.22
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	<b>240,638</b>	219,925
Social security costs	<b>17,287</b>	14,241
Other pension costs	<b>7,032</b>	6,193
	<b><u>264,957</u></b>	<u>240,359</u>

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

	<b>31.3.23</b>	31.3.22
Management (Chief Executive Officer)	<b>1</b>	1
Co-ordinators	<b>6</b>	6
Administration	<b>2</b>	2
Fundraising and Business development	<b>1</b>	1
	<b><u>10</u></b>	<u>10</u>

Included in staff costs, above, were employee benefits received by key management personnel for their services to the charity:

	<b>31.3.23</b>	31.3.22
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	<b>37,250</b>	17,109
Social security costs	<b>4,093</b>	1,459
Other pension costs	<b>1,118</b>	494
	<b><u>42,461</u></b>	<u>19,062</u>

There were no employees who received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000.

**9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	
Donations and legacies	241,317
Other trading activities	66,498
Investment income	1,744
Other income	7,025
<b>Total</b>	<u>316,584</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>	
Other	<u>304,584</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	12,000



**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued**

Unrestricted  
funds  
£

**RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS**

Total funds brought forward 332,479

**TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD**

344,479

**10. TAXATION**

The company is considered to pass the tests set out in Schedule 6, paragraph 1 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11 Chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

There was no corporation tax payable for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Recoverable Gift Aid	-	1,379
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>1,761</u>	<u>24,825</u>
	<u>1,761</u>	<u>26,204</u>

**12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	5,664	5,068
Pensions liability	1,358	1,287
Accruals and deferred income	<u>76,394</u>	<u>72,237</u>
	<u>83,416</u>	<u>78,592</u>

**Deferred income**

Deferred income comprises advance income received in relation to the charitable activities of the company.

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Balance at the start of the reporting period	68,698	44,639
Amount released to income from previous year	(68,698)	(44,639)
Amount deferred to next year	<u>72,000</u>	<u>68,698</u>
Balance at the end of the reporting period	<u>72,000</u>	<u>68,698</u>

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	344,479	52,909	397,388
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>344,479</u>	<u>52,909</u>	<u>397,388</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	406,657	(353,748)	52,909
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>406,657</u>	<u>(353,748)</u>	<u>52,909</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	332,479	12,000	344,479
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>332,479</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>344,479</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	316,584	(304,584)	12,000
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>316,584</u>	<u>(304,584)</u>	<u>12,000</u>

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

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

**15. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

The company is limited by guarantee and therefore has no share capital. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1, during the period of their membership and for a period of 12 months thereafter.

This document was delivered using electronic communications and authenticated in accordance with the registrar's rules relating to electronic form, authentication and manner of delivery under section 1072 of the Companies Act 2006.



**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07591489 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1142336**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND**  
**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**  
**FOR**  
**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The aftermath of a fatal road collision is truly devastating, with numerous lives being taken and countless more being irrevocably changed in a blink of the eye. The early intervention of the Road Victims Trust (RVT) makes a very real difference to the people who receive their support.

**Our Vision:**

RVT's vision is of a society where everyone has access to a holistic package of emotional, practical and, where required, legal support to enable them to meet their needs following death or life changing injury on the road.

**Our Values:**

**We value:**

- Supporting our clients throughout our interactions with them and identifying and responding to their needs.
- Meeting our obligations and delivering our promises.
- Caring for the emotional and physical wellbeing of staff and volunteers.
- The commitment and contribution of our staff and volunteers.
- Equality of opportunity, diversity, honesty, fairness, openness and integrity in all that we do.
- Making the best use of our resources.

The ethos of our independent charitable trust reflects the above principles. It includes a passionate determination to improve and develop our services and to raise national awareness of the issues involved following serious road collisions.

Fundamentally, therefore, the overall guiding principles of RVT have a client focus and are needs based.

The charity, The Road Victims Trust, is established for the public benefit. The objects of the charitable company are to provide emotional and practical support to all persons affected by a road death in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire. Following requests from the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) of Norfolk and Suffolk, we have given support to the residents of those areas and have from 1 April 2023 entered formal service agreements with those counties. The charity's objects, set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association, specifically include the following:

- To relieve sickness and distress among persons within the United Kingdom who have suffered the same as a result of any serious road collision and the families of such persons who are injured;
- To advance public education and awareness by research into issues relating to the victims of road traffic collisions and their families, and to disseminate the useful results of such research.

Our strategic plan contains our longer-term vision and the strategies required to achieve it. The plan sets out the RVT's three-year view and the framework of which will guide all those involved in delivering our services. It will guide us in the production of a list of annual priorities for development of the Trust which, alongside our actual service delivery, will form the basis for measuring our success each year.

The following strategies have been identified as crucial to our success in achieving our aims:

**Governance Strategy:**

The RVT Trustees to act as a guardian of our vision, values, aims and assets, protecting the probity of the organisation and ensuring the vitality and long-term wellbeing of RVT.

**Financial Strategy:**

To secure funding to underpin the long-term future of the RVT, and to make best use of our financial resources in order to develop RVT services.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Research and Knowledge Management Strategy:**

To effect change and improvements that actively support the needs of victims and families affected by serious road traffic collisions.

**Business Development Strategy:**

To develop the overall service provision of the RVT and increase national awareness of the need for such vital services, and to work with other agencies and organisations to enhance the quality and cost-effectiveness of the service provided.

**Information Systems Strategy:**

To ensure the appropriate level of investment is made in Information Systems (IS) to achieve both our desired strategic outcomes and operational focus.

**Key Performance Indicators:**

- The Trustees will approve the annual priorities for the Trust and monitor performance against them at each Trustee meeting.
- Service delivery will be monitored by the Chief Executive on a monthly basis and by the Trustees at each meeting.
- The Chief Executive and Clinical Service Lead will periodically review and evaluate the performance of the service provision.
- The reports on such performance will be presented to the Board of Trustees.

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Significant activities**

The Road Victims Trust (RVT) provides an holistic service that attends to both practical and emotional needs of anyone affected by Fatal and Serious Injury collisions on the roads. We have a client led approach and carefully listen to the individual needs of the individual from the outset.

We offer free, weekly counselling sessions as well as practical support. Counselling sessions are for as long as is useful when there has been a fatality, due to the complex, unique feelings that are experienced following being bereaved by, or having witnessed, such a collision. We also offer practical support following assessment and signpost where appropriate. We are able to provide further practical support through the legal and administrative processes that follow in the months or years after the collision.

During the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, we supported 476 individuals, 282 of whom went on to receive long-term support. Some of this may have been short-term work, and others long-term weekly counselling sessions. Over 1,781 hours of counselling have been provided. Counselling is provided by a professional team of senior trainee or qualified Counselling Volunteers who have, in addition to their formal therapeutic training, completed our rigorous 50-hour training course in the specialist work of post collision counselling.

It has been a year of development and transition as we have improved and adjusted our systems to enable new ways of providing our service. This has presented us with challenges, however, the dedication and adaptability of our staff and Counselling Volunteers in the service of our Clients has been exceptional.

The Road Victims Trust are represented at the three Strategic Road Safety Partnerships across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire. These partnerships all strive to reduce the amount of casualties on the roads of the three counties and we are able to bring our experience and expertise specifically to look at the post collision response.

**Public benefit**

The services of the charity operate for the public benefit and are available to all in the local community as stated in the objects set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association and as described in the objectives and aims above.

The trustees have given due consideration to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011.



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Volunteers**

As always, we are extremely grateful to our very loyal friends and supporters who continue to fundraise for us in many wonderful ways, continuing to raise awareness and funds for the RVT.

It has been a challenging year, however, the service we provide, whilst different from pre-pandemic times, has remained of high quality and this is due to the exceptional commitment and professionalism of both the staff team and our valued Counsellors who offer their services on a voluntary basis.

Our Friends and Supporters:

It is not possible to mention every one of the hundreds of Friends and Supporters who have donated so much by way of time, energy and money. Here is a very small selection of some of the Corporates and Businesses which have provided generous support to the Road Victims Trust:

- BBC Children in Need,
- The Wixamtree Trust,
- The National Lottery Community Fund (Supporting grieving families through Covid-19),
- The Harpur Trust (Supporting families in Bedford Borough),
- The Highways Agency,
- The Police and Crime Commissioners of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire for providing funding towards our core service.

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Charitable activities**

The Road Victims Trust is a registered charity that has operated in Bedfordshire since 1995, in Hertfordshire since 2010 and in Cambridgeshire since 2013, to provide the following services to all residents of these three counties affected by fatal road collisions:

- Regular weekly emotional and practical support for individuals and families for as long as it is useful.
- Space to express the whole range of feelings that come with the loss and horror following a fatal road collision.
- Time to discuss the repercussions of the collision that is a life-changing event for all those involved.
- Information on the investigation, inquest and court hearings, and preparation and support for inquests and hearings.

In addition, we offer telephone support to enquiries from outside Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire.

During the year ended 31 March 2023 RVT:

- Received 174 referrals relating to fatal and life-changing collisions- 93% of which were from the Police in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire.
- Provided:
  - \* long-term support to 282 individuals by way of a one-to-one counselling service,
  - \* 1,781 hours of specialist counselling sessions,
  - \* 9,000 hours of dedicated staff time ensuring the needs of clients are met.
- Maintained, trained and retained a cohort of 60 highly trained and qualified Counsellors.

**Fundraising activities**

In order to continue to provide our services across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire, the RVT rely on the friendship and support of many people, groups and businesses across the communities.

"We continue to be supported by a loyal group of supporters who have taken part in many fundraising events for us. Undoubtedly the economic down-turn has meant that there has been a subsequent decrease in regular giving and planned events. Nonetheless we have continued to receive good levels of support that make a very real difference to so many."

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Internal and external factors**

The Road Victims Trust has historically been wholly financed by charitable donations and grant making trusts supplemented with occasional Government grants.

Since 2014 we have forged close links with the Offices of the Police and Crime Commissioners in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire. These links have been further developed with the signing of formal Service Level and Information Sharing Agreements.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Financial position**

For the year ended 31 March 2023, the charity had an overall net income surplus of £52,909 (2022: Surplus £12,000).

Total income increased by £90,073, from £316,584 to £406,657. Included was income from donations and gifts, which amounted to £117,188 (2022: £59,517), an increase of £57,671. Income from local government agencies increased to £239,050 (2022: £181,800).

Expenditure on charitable activities totalled £353,748 for the year ended 31 March 2023 compared to £304,584 for the year ended 31 March 2022. This represented an increase during the year of £49,164.

Overall, the funds of the charitable company have increased from £344,479 as at 31 March 2022 to £397,388 as at 31 March 2023, and has sufficient funds carried forward.

**Principal funding sources**

The principal funding source for the charity is provided by local government agencies, for example: The Highways Agency, Bedfordshire Police, Cambridgeshire Police and Hertfordshire Police.

The funding position of the RVT, in common with many other small charities, remains hugely challenging and far greater emphasis and focus has been placed on the delivery of a financial strategy that enables us to provide the best possible levels of victims care within the constraints of the budget.

Road Victims Trust Fundraising Standards:

The RVT conforms to all recognised fundraising standards. We are a member of the Fundraising Regulator and the Institute of Fundraising in the UK. The RVT recognises and conforms to the 6 guiding principles expected by the Charity Commission:

- Planning Effectively,
- Supervision of Fundraisers,
- Protecting Reputation, Money and Other Assets,
- Following Fundraising Law and Regulation,
- Follow the Recognised Standard for Fundraising,
- Be Open and Accountable.

**Investment policy and objectives**

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association the company has the power to make any investments which the trustees see fit. The charity has no long-term investments. The company's cash reserves are held mainly in a bank current and short-term investment bank accounts. The trustees invest some of the cash reserves in bank deposit accounts and will look to maximise investment income receivable from bank accounts, whilst balancing this with the need to keep funds readily available to meet the operating costs of the charitable company.

**Reserves policy**

The present level of funding is adequate to support the continuation of the company's activities in the medium term and the trustees consider the financial position of the company to be satisfactory. The policy of the trustees is to hold sufficient funds to meet the operating costs of the centre for the foreseeable future. The current level of reserves is £397,387 (2022: £344,479), and the company holds £479,043 (2022: £396,867) cash at bank and in hand.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Going concern**

The Trustees believe that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue for the foreseeable future. The trustees believe that the charity has sufficient funds to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and anticipate that the level of income received will increase for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**FUTURE PLANS**

Our strategic plan contains our longer-term vision and the strategies required to achieve it. The plan sets out the RVT's three-year view and the framework of which will guide all those involved in delivering our services. It will guide us in the production of a list of annual priorities for development of the Trust which, alongside our actual service delivery, will form the basis for measuring our success each year.

The following work-streams and projects have been identified as priorities for the RVT in the year April 2023 to March 2024. Separate action plans are in development for each priority area:

- To expand the RVT model across the Eastern Region of the UK,
- To increase the RVT cohort of Counselling Volunteers,
- To roll out the findings of the Academic research commissioned in respect of outcome measurement,
- To implement a fundraising strategy that enables sustainable and diverse income streams.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The Road Victims trust is a charitable company, limited by guarantee, incorporated on 5 April 2011 and registered as a charity on 9 June 2011. 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. In the event of the company being wound up with net liabilities, the members of the company are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1, during the period of their membership and for a period of 12 months thereafter.

The trustees meet regularly to administer the company and are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits. The trustees have employed a team to deliver the charity's services and manage the day-to-day operations of the charitable company.

**Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles of Association are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Articles of Association at the first and all subsequent annual general meetings all the directors must retire from office, but all retiring directors are eligible for re-election.

The existing trustees are responsible for the recruitment of new trustees and in selecting new trustees, seek to identify people who are willing to help the charity in the broader community work and enhance the skill set and structure of the management committee. Potential trustees are invited to attend trustees' meetings as observers and are given more details of the charity's aims and activities and, if all agree, they are then proposed as new trustees at the subsequent trustees' meeting. The process allows due consideration of the person's eligibility, personal competence, specialist knowledge and skills. The trustees may only refuse an application for membership if, acting reasonably and properly, they consider it to be in the best interests of the charity to refuse the application. The trustees must inform the applicant in writing of the reasons for the refusal within twenty-one days of the decision.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Organisational structure**

The RVT has a group of dedicated Trustees who work closely with the Chief Executive to set the overall mission and strategic direction of the Trust. The Trustees also monitor and evaluate our work and ensure that the requirements of the Charities Act for proper governance and accountability arrangements are in place. To meet the needs of clients of serious road traffic collisions we are structured around a small team of paid employees supported by trained Volunteers.

Our whole supportive culture has grown through collaborative partnership working. We are proud of our formal co-operative arrangements with the Collaborated Roads Policing Units across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire, the 3 Offices of Police and Crime Commissioners, the HM Coroners, the 3 Strategic Road Safety Partnerships and our informal links with the Fire and Rescue Services and General Practitioners.

Through these partnerships and the dedication of our staff and volunteers we are able to offer a holistic service, free at the point of delivery, to our clients.

**Related parties**

There were no material related party transactions during the year under review.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**

07591489 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**

1142336

**Registered office**

146 Bedford Road  
Kempston  
Bedfordshire  
MK42 8BH

**Trustees**

R Panton  
I G Pears  
Ms L Hesse  
P D Jones  
T Sharpe  
Ms R Wong  
Ms D P Stevens  
K Vincent (appointed 14.12.22)

**Directors**

M R Turner (Chief Executive Officer)  
R Panton  
Ms L Hesse  
P D Jones



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Independent Examiner**

David John Rawlinson FCA FCCA  
Rawlinson Pryde & Partners  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Argent House  
5 Goldington Road  
Bedford  
Bedfordshire  
MK40 3JY

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 18 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

R Panton - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Road Victims Trust ('the Company')**

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

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

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

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

David John Rawlinson FCA FCCA

Rawlinson Pryde & Partners  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Argent House  
5 Goldington Road  
Bedford  
Bedfordshire  
MK40 3JY

18 December 2023

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

		<b>31.3.23</b>	31.3.22
		<b>Unrestricted</b>	Total
		<b>funds</b>	funds
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	Notes		
Donations and legacies		<b>356,238</b>	241,317
Other trading activities	2	<b>49,180</b>	66,498
Investment income	3	<b>1,170</b>	1,744
Other income	4	<b>69</b>	7,025
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>406,657</u></b>	<b><u>316,584</u></b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Other		<b><u>353,748</u></b>	<b><u>304,584</u></b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>		<b>52,909</b>	12,000
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<b>344,479</b>	332,479
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b><u><u>397,388</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>344,479</u></u></b>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07591489)**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**31 MARCH 2023**

		<b>31.3.23</b>	<b>31.3.22</b>
		<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
		<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>
	Notes	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	11	<b>1,761</b>	26,204
Cash at bank and in hand		<b>479,043</b>	396,867
		<b>480,804</b>	423,071
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	12	<b>(83,416)</b>	(78,592)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>397,388</b>	344,479
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>397,388</b>	344,479
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>397,388</b>	344,479
<b>FUNDS</b>	13		
Unrestricted funds		<b>397,388</b>	344,479
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<b>397,388</b>	344,479

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

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

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 18 December 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

R Panton - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

## **THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

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

The Road Victims Trust is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales, and a registered charity.

The nature of the charitable company's operations and principal activities can also be found in the Report of the Trustees.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charitable company and rounded to the nearest £. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue for the foreseeable future and consider the use of the going concern basis of accounting appropriate. The trustees believe that the charity has sufficient funds to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and is able to manage its risks successfully.

##### **Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

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

##### **Income**

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

Income from government grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. In respect of grants received under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, all conditions with respect to the eligible costs being claimed, need to be met.

Where income has related expenditure, the income and related expenditure are reported gross in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Interest on deposit funds held is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity which is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank and is recognised using the effective interest method.

##### **Expenditure and irrecoverable value added tax**

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

## **THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

##### **Expenditure and irrecoverable value added tax**

Support costs comprise those costs which are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include governance cost, finance and administration costs. Governance costs are those costs incurred in connection with the compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

The charitable company is not VAT registered and therefore VAT incurred is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

##### **Operating lease expenditure**

Amounts payable under operating leases are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

##### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities. Tax is payable on non-charitable expenditure which includes expenditure which is not incurred solely for charitable purposes and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as current tax payable. Current tax is recognised at the amount of tax payable using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

##### **Fund accounting**

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

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

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

##### **Gifts and non-exchange transactions**

Acquisitions that are in substance a gift of one business to another where the substance of the transaction is gifting the control of one entity to another are accounted for as non-exchange transactions in accordance with the SORP. The fair value of the gifted recognised assets and liabilities are recognised as a gain or loss in the statement of financial activities in the year of the transaction.

##### **Government grants**

Grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Government grants are accounted for using the accruals model. The difference between the fair value of the grant and the consideration is recognised as a liability and amortised over the useful economic life of the grant. The amortisation is recognised within income.

Government grants received as a contribution to revenue expenditure are recognised in the statement of financial activities on a systematic basis over the period in which the related costs are recognised in respect of which the grant is intended to compensate. The related expenditure is included under operating costs. Grants are recognised in the same period as the related expenditure provided the conditions for receipt have been satisfied and there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received.

## **THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

##### **Financial instruments**

Financial instruments are classified and accounted for according to the substance of the contractual arrangement, as either financial assets or equity. An equity instrument is any contract which evidences residual interest in the assets of the company after deduction of any liabilities.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. Transaction price should also include transaction costs; transaction costs are those costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the debt instrument.

If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction it is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument. The present value of a financial asset or financial liability that is repayable on demand is equal to the undiscounted cash amount expected to be paid or received.

On subsequent measurement basic financial instruments are recognised at amortised cost. Amortised cost is calculated at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid or received for basic financial instruments payable or receivable within one year.

##### **Impairment**

Assets not measured at fair value are reviewed for any indication that the asset may be impaired at each balance sheet date. If such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, or the asset's cash generating unit, is estimated and compared to the carrying amount. Where the carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount where the impairment loss is a revaluation decrease.

##### **Debtors, creditors and provisions**

Debtors and creditors are classified and accounted for according to the substance of the contractual arrangement, as either financial assets or financial liabilities.

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Accrued income and tax recoverable is included at the best estimate of the amounts receivable at the balance sheet date.

Creditors and provisions are recognised when the charity has a legal or constructive obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event, it is probable that the charity will be required to settle the obligation and the amount of the obligation can be reliably measured. Provisions are recognised at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

##### **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and bank current and demand deposit accounts. 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 is included in cash at bank and in hand when applicable.

##### **Estimation uncertainty**

The management board is of the opinion that there are no areas of material estimation uncertainty in preparing the accounts which would be likely to give rise to a material adjustment to the carrying value of the assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

##### **Judgements**

No judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies.



**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Fundraising events	<u>49,180</u>	<u>66,498</u>

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>1,170</u>	<u>1,744</u>

**4. OTHER INCOME**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Sundry income	69	34
Furlough receipts	-	6,991
	<u>69</u>	<u>7,025</u>

**5. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Other £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Other resources expended	<u>342,282</u>	<u>11,466</u>	<u>353,748</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

**Other**

	31.3.23 Other resources expended £	31.3.22 Total activities £
Wages	240,638	219,925
Social security	17,287	14,241
Pensions	7,032	6,193
Rates and water	3,115	3,590
Insurance	2,196	2,185
Light and heat	2,423	2,221
Telephone	6,614	5,420
Postage	1,067	980
Sundries	123	190
Printing and stationery	358	1,004
Support and supervision	15,678	12,242
Travel	7,408	3,068
Advertising and publicity	5,421	2,820
Refreshments	1,157	56
Room hire	850	18
Course and conference fees	2,324	3,856
Cleaning and household	1,003	1,233
Carried forward	<u>314,694</u>	<u>279,242</u>

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**5. SUPPORT COSTS - continued**

**Other - continued**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	Other	Total
	resources	activities
	expended	£
	£	£
Brought forward	314,694	279,242
Repairs and maintenance	1,355	2,371
Fundraising costs	3,403	2,680
IT maintenance and services	22,830	14,446
	<u>342,282</u>	<u>298,739</u>

**Governance costs**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	Other	Total
	resources	activities
	expended	£
	£	£
Independent examiner's remuneration	1,535	1,629
Subscriptions	2,204	1,111
Professional fees	7,713	3,091
Statutory filing fees	14	14
	<u>11,466</u>	<u>5,845</u>

**6. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REMUNERATION**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Independent examiner's remuneration	<u>1,535</u>	<u>1,629</u>

**7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

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

**Trustees' expenses**

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

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**8. STAFF COSTS**

	<b>31.3.23</b>	31.3.22
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	<b>240,638</b>	219,925
Social security costs	<b>17,287</b>	14,241
Other pension costs	<b>7,032</b>	6,193
	<b><u>264,957</u></b>	<u>240,359</u>

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

	<b>31.3.23</b>	31.3.22
Management (Chief Executive Officer)	<b>1</b>	1
Co-ordinators	<b>6</b>	6
Administration	<b>2</b>	2
Fundraising and Business development	<b>1</b>	1
	<b><u>10</u></b>	<u>10</u>

Included in staff costs, above, were employee benefits received by key management personnel for their services to the charity:

	<b>31.3.23</b>	31.3.22
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	<b>37,250</b>	17,109
Social security costs	<b>4,093</b>	1,459
Other pension costs	<b>1,118</b>	494
	<b><u>42,461</u></b>	<u>19,062</u>

There were no employees who received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000.

**9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	
Donations and legacies	241,317
Other trading activities	66,498
Investment income	1,744
Other income	7,025
<b>Total</b>	<u>316,584</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>	
Other	<u>304,584</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	12,000

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued**

Unrestricted  
funds  
£

**RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS**

Total funds brought forward

332,479

**TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD**

344,479

**10. TAXATION**

The company is considered to pass the tests set out in Schedule 6, paragraph 1 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11 Chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

There was no corporation tax payable for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Recoverable Gift Aid	-	1,379
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>1,761</u>	<u>24,825</u>
	<u>1,761</u>	<u>26,204</u>

**12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Social security and other taxes	5,664	5,068
Pensions liability	1,358	1,287
Accruals and deferred income	<u>76,394</u>	<u>72,237</u>
	<u>83,416</u>	<u>78,592</u>

**Deferred income**

Deferred income comprises advance income received in relation to the charitable activities of the company.

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Balance at the start of the reporting period	68,698	44,639
Amount released to income from previous year	(68,698)	(44,639)
Amount deferred to next year	<u>72,000</u>	<u>68,698</u>
Balance at the end of the reporting period	<u>72,000</u>	<u>68,698</u>

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	344,479	52,909	397,388
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>344,479</u>	<u>52,909</u>	<u>397,388</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	406,657	(353,748)	52,909
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>406,657</u>	<u>(353,748)</u>	<u>52,909</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	332,479	12,000	344,479
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>332,479</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>344,479</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	316,584	(304,584)	12,000
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>316,584</u>	<u>(304,584)</u>	<u>12,000</u>

**THE ROAD VICTIMS TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

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

**15. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

The company is limited by guarantee and therefore has no share capital. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1, during the period of their membership and for a period of 12 months thereafter.

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