

Company registration number: 07514119

Charity registration number: 1148385

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

Daryl Denson ACMA
VAST
The Dudson Centre
Hanley
Stoke-on-Trent
ST1 5DD

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

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Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Julie Mirowski Matthew Dashper-Hughes Opeyemi Babatunde Christopher Maydew Amy Wilde Rebecca Stubbs
Secretary	Heather Sheldon
Chief Executive Officer	Heather Sheldon
Registered Office	Unit 19 Whieldon Road Industrial Estate Fenton Stoke-on-Trent ST4 4JP The charity is incorporated in England.
Company Registration Number	07514119
Charity Registration Number	1148385
Solicitors:	Knights The Brampton Newcastle-under-Lyme ST5 0QW
Bankers	Santander 58 High Street Newcastle-under-Lyme ST5 1QE Lloyds 46-48 High Street Newcastle ST5 1QY
Independent Examiner	Daryl Denson ACMA VAST The Dudson Centre Hanley Stoke-on-Trent ST1 5DD

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Chairs Report for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

Dear Friends, supporters, and stakeholders,

As we reflect on the past financial year, it is with pride and optimism that I write to you on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

The year has been one of both change and consolidation for Alice Charity, marked by important developments that have strengthened our ability to serve the community.

In February 2023, we were pleased to welcome several new members to our Board of Trustees. These individuals brought with them a wealth of expertise and experience, which has been invaluable in enhancing the governance of the charity. Their dedication and insights have helped to steer us through a year of significant transformation.

We began the year working with our interim CEO, David Hole from 3rd Sector Solutions, whom we had appointed in the previous financial year to support us on a short-term basis. David's leadership during this transitional period was crucial in maintaining our operational focus.

The Board's search for a permanent leader culminated in the appointment of Heather Sheldon as our new CEO in July 2023. Heather's extensive experience as a third-sector professional, combined with her deep empathy for our cause and her tireless work ethic, has already made a profound impact on Alice Charity. Her leadership comes at a pivotal moment, and we are confident that she is the perfect person to guide the charity into its next phase of growth.

Another significant development during this period was the arrangement for the sale of our premises at Merrial Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme. This decision, while not taken lightly, has released equity into our accounts and enabled us to secure more appropriate premises from which to operate. The move to new premises, completed after the close of this financial year in April 2024, represents an exciting new chapter for Alice Charity, positioning us to deliver our services even more effectively.

The year was also one of operational restructuring and consolidation. We welcomed new team members, said goodbye to some familiar faces, and took steps to streamline our processes. Despite these internal changes, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to meeting our charitable objectives-supporting vulnerable children, young people, and families within the community.

It is important to note, however, that the economic and social conditions in Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stoke-on-Trent remain challenging. Rising levels of economic deprivation, compounded by broader uncertainty, suggest that demand for our services is likely to increase in the coming year. We are acutely aware of the struggles faced by many in our community, and it is our mission to respond to this growing need with compassion and determination.

At the time of writing, I am delighted to say that Alice Charity, under Heather's capable leadership, is now better positioned than ever before to face these challenges head-on. We have built a strong foundation for the future, and we are confident that the charity will continue to grow in both its reach and its impact.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to our staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters. Your unwavering dedication has been critical to our success over the past year, and we look forward to working together in the year ahead to continue supporting those in need.



.....
Julie Mirowski
Trustee

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Trustees' Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 29 February 2024.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

To develop the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged community of Stoke-on-Trent and Newcastle -under-Lyme in such a way that they are better able to identify and help meet their needs and to participate more fully in society.

To relieve the poverty of those in need; in particular; but not exclusively, by running a network of centres giving advice and assistance

We help families living within the communities of Stoke-on-Trent and Newcastle-under-Lyme emotionally and financially.

Our mission: To nurture and empower children, families and communities through building resilience, independence and strength.

Our values: Ownership, accountability and responsibility in all that we do

To be the best that we can be

Gain and build trust in all that we do

Always work towards the best outcomes

Mutual respect for everyone we work with and support through our services

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year to ensure we remain focussed on our purpose; that are activities are bringing the required benefits to the people we were established to help; and to plan future activities which will contribute to the overall aims of the organisation.

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Trustees' Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

Public benefit

To relieve poverty of anyone who does not have the resources to provide themselves, either on a long or short term basis, with the normal things of life which most people take for granted, improving the quality of their lives.

Examples of the ways in which Alice will help to relieve poverty include:

- a) the provision of items (either outright or on loan) such as furniture, bedding, clothing, food, fuel, heating appliances, washing machines and fridges
- b) payment for services such as essential house decorating, insulation and repairs, laundering, outings and entertainment, telephone line, rates and utilities
- c) the provision of facilities such as the supply of tools and books, payments of fees for instruction, examination or other expenses connected with vocational training, language, literacy, numerical or technical skills, equipment and funds for recreational pursuits or training intended to bring quality of life to the beneficiaries to a reasonable standard.

Advancement of community development directed towards support for social and community infrastructure which is focused on the community as well as the individual.

Examples of the ways in which Alice will advance community development include:

- a) help to improve housing standards in those parts of Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stoke-on-Trent where poor housing is a problem
- b) provide support to unemployed people, e.g. child care facilities, assistance with travel
- c) develop the capacity and skills of the members of our community by empowering them to get involved in community activities which they would not otherwise have
- d) realising existing skills and developing potential
- e) promoting people's increased self confidence
- f) promoting people's ability for taking responsibility for identifying and meeting their own, and other people's needs
- g) in consequence encouraging people to become involved in their community and wider society in a fuller way.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Use of volunteers

Volunteers are at heart of Alice and their commitment during 2023 / 24 has been instrumental to our progress. Our volunteers, including many corporate organisations, carried out many tasks including running the people pantry, delivering food to those in need, providing support to families and supporting Alice with our move. The Volunteer process was updated in late 2023 and have undergone further refinement in 2024

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Trustees' Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

Achievements and performance

Our activities

Why: Our 'Why' is simple: to break the poverty cycle, improve lives, and change communities. The Alice Charity believes in providing strong foundations and diverse services to help individuals thrive. Our unwavering commitment to wellness, kindness, and community advancement drives us to develop sustainable solutions, support families, and make a difference. Together, we can create positive change and empower people to build brighter futures.

How: At Alice charity, we believe in working together to offer the support individuals and families need, utilising a multi-agency approach. Through personalised services and collaborations with community partners, we focus on prevention and meeting the unique requirements and needs of the local community. By leveraging our network of resources and expertise, we ensure that every individual receives the tailored assistance and guidance necessary to thrive.

What: At Alice Charity, we serve as the steady thread woven into the fabric of our community, offering comprehensive support to individuals and families. From running a food bank to delivering educational resources and providing advocacy and mentoring, we address diverse needs. Our collaborative efforts with community partners focus on prevention and long-term empowerment. With initiatives like parent and toddler groups, personal development activities and financial wellbeing programs, we promote holistic development. Together, we're breaking barriers, offering solutions, and shaping a more hopeful tomorrow.

In 2023 we supported 7,688 children, completed 4,470 home visits to support families, made 4,385 wellbeing calls, held 320 parent and toddler groups, and provided 21,015 meals through our foodbank.

Many families that are supported have barriers to accepting help, whether this be fear of judgement, feel they have been let down previously by services or feel too embarrassed to ask for help. Alice offers kind and respectful services, and families respond positively to individuals that are just like them, they are real people who have walked in their shoes, they have had the same experiences and hardships, knowing first hand of their struggles. Through the lived experience of the team, Alice charity breaks down barriers and support families in crisis, providing inclusive and accessible support.

Big Cup - Community Play Group

The Big Cup was created 12 years ago, with the first Big Cup Parent and Toddler group located in Clayton. We now support families all across Newcastle under Lyme and Stoke on Trent, many experiencing the toughest challenges. Our welcoming parent/carer and toddler group is completely free of charge. We offer a safe and stimulating environment in which you can meet other parents/carers in similar situations and support each other as you face new and existing challenges.

We also provide an array of different snacks and opportunities for children to try.

Children are also able to sit around a table and eat together in a supportive, comfortable and social environment.

People's Pantry - Every Child Fed

The People's Pantry was created following an increase in demand from families needing support with food. Alice charity wanted to create an accessible and flexible service that truly met family's needs. This is being delivered through an easy referral system in which families are able to self-refer through social media, email, or phone calls. A warm and friendly welcome will always be received to anyone visiting our People's Pantry, whether that be a family needing support or someone wishing to donate.

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Trustees' Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

Family Services

Starting in the home, our approach is as individual as the people we're helping. No judgement, just compassionate, confidential help and expert support.

We help families facing isolation, the effects of post-natal illness, disability or mental health issues, bereavement, multiple births, poverty or financial difficulties, or a whole range of other challenges.

The help we give each family is unique and depends entirely on their circumstances, requirements and what they want help with.

A central component of our service is to provide support early, before family problems or pressures evolve into deeper and more challenging forms of family crisis. This early intervention approach enables families to strengthen their own capabilities and gives them a vital source of sustained support. Given the difficult social and economic forces that are currently affecting families across the country, it is our hope that we will continue to steadfastly support vulnerable families.

Community Junction

Alice Charity and Newfriars College have come together to create an environment for students to gain community-based learning in a real social context. Community junction was formed in August 2022. The students will be expanding their learning experience as the café goes public, the Charity shop grows and Newfriars starts selling student art at Andrew Place.

As part of the transformation programme a Charity shop is being created at Andrew Place in Newcastle-under-Lyme at a popular shopping parade. It is being supported by local businesses, volunteers, Newfriars college students and donations from the Alice Charity network.

In addition to the new Charity shop mentioned, a café open to the public is also being created at Andrew Place in the shopping parade. It is being supported by volunteers, Newfriars college students and the Alice Charity network.

In late 2023 Alice as part of the consolidation of Operations at Alice the decision was made to focus on Core Services.

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Trustees' Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

The support we provide changes lives...

Single mum, new to the area, unexpectedly pregnant with no support- self referred to Alice "Thanks for the message and today's visit... really appreciated you both coming out and talking to me...Really appreciate today's visit and cannot tell you how much this will all help to ease some of the anxiety I've had in regard to this baby and also my kids here already. Thank you and the Alice Charity"

A widowed mum and daughter who had come from temporary accommodation they had been given a property and were sleeping on the floor on blankets the only thing they had in the home was a kettle , we were able provide a range of items for the home. Mum and daughter cried so much in gratitude for the complete life change that we could help with, mum said she felt like we were angels and never believed someone would help to change their lives so much.

We provided emotional support to a mum following the horrific death of her young son.

"Without the Alice Charity, I would not be here today. We've lost a lot over the past few years, but I also know we've gained a family within Alice Charity. Our Family Support Manager has given me words of strength when I need it, happy thoughts when I have bad days, and always makes me smile. I can't thank you enough for your help. I don't know what I would do without the support you give me. I am truly grateful knowing I have you."

We were there for a mum suffering abuse at home, helped her to regain her independence.

"The Alice Charity helped change my life. I was in an abusive marriage and didn't see a way out. Alice Charity helped me become independent from my abuser by helping me to sort out my finances, and clothes and school uniform so that my children didn't feel left out on the first day of school. They gave me the confidence and life skills needed to move forward with my life. I will be forever grateful for the help I received"

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Julie Mirowski
	Matthew Dashper-Hughes
	Darren Brookes (resigned 18 December 2023)
	Opeyemi Babatunde
	Tina Beeson (appointed 19 June 2023 and resigned 30 January 2024)
	Tony Bough (resigned 23 October 2023)
	Sarah Buckley (resigned 15 January 2024)
	Christopher Maydew
	Sarah Robbins (resigned 13 May 2024)
	Amy Wilde
	Joel Edgington-Plunkett (resigned 17 April 2023)
	Rebecca Stubbs (appointed 13 May 2024)
Secretary:	David Hole (resigned 23 July 2023)
	Heather Sheldon (appointed 24 July 2023)

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Trustees' Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

Chief Executive Officer

David Hole (resigned 23 July 2023)

Heather Sheldon (appointed 24 July 2023)

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community) is an independent registered charity (No: 1148385) and Company Limited by Guarantee (No: 07514119). It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, adopted on 2nd February 2011, and as amended 22nd April 2012. It is a company limited by guarantee and therefore has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Anyone within the organisation can recommend someone to be a trustee. The Board of Trustees are always looking to recruit new trustees who can bring new skills and experiences into the charity.

Induction and training of trustees

New Trustees complete an induction under the direction of the Chair and are encouraged to spend time on the 'shop floor' to further develop understanding of what the organization does and to enable a deeper understanding of their impact, role and responsibilities. They are also encouraged to attend training events, where appropriate. Trustees also use their specific knowledge or experience to help the Board reach sound decisions - including scrutinizing papers, leading discussions, focusing on key issues, providing advice and guidance on new initiatives, and supporting members of the Management team.

Organisational structure

Senior Management Team

As of 28th February 2024, the executive management and the delivery of objectives are provided by the.

- Chief Executive Officer

Pay Policy for Senior Staff

The Trustees consider that the Board and the Management Team comprise the key management personnel of the Charity in charge of directing and controlling, running, and operating the Charity on a day-to-day basis.

All Trustees give of their time freely

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Trustees' Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

Risk management

Since the year end the Trustees have implemented a risk management strategy, which comprises: -

- Seeking professional advice as needed
- Compliance with professional guidance, best practice, and regulations
- Seeking a diversified and balance skillset in the board of Trustees
- Reviewing and updating of procedures to minimise impact on the Charity should those risks materialize

This work has identified that financial sustainability is the major financial risk for the Charity. A key element in the management of financial risk is a regular review of available liquid funds, grant applications and fundraising to ensure sufficient working capital by the Charity to deliver its charitable objectives

Financial review

Please see the SOFA, Balance Sheet and notes to the accounts

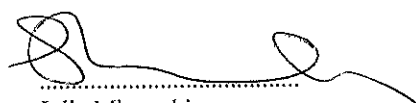
Policy on reserves

At the period end funds stood at £172,194 (2023: £92,912). This comprised of £63,867 (2023: £192,275) held in restricted funds and £108,327 ((2023: deficit of £99,363) in unrestricted funds of which £98,052 were fixed assets and £83,732 were free reserves.

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 15/10/22 and signed on its behalf by:



Julie Mirowski
Trustee

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community) ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 29 February 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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


Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Chartered Institute of Management 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 Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community) 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.


.....
Daryl Denson ACMA

VAST
The Dudson Centre
Hanley
Stoke-on-Trent
ST1 5DD

Date:.....22/10/2024

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 29 February 2024
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	111,146	269,023	380,169
Other trading activities	4	84,566	-	84,566
Other income	6	7,803	-	7,803
Total income		<u>203,515</u>	<u>269,023</u>	<u>472,538</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	(5,205)	-	(5,205)
Charitable activities	8	(185,494)	(337,557)	(523,051)
Total expenditure		<u>(190,699)</u>	<u>(337,557)</u>	<u>(528,256)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		12,816	(68,534)	(55,718)
Transfers between funds		59,874	(59,874)	-
Other recognised gains and losses				
Gains/(losses) on sale of fixed assets		<u>135,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>135,000</u>
Net movement in funds		207,690	(128,408)	79,282
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>(99,363)</u>	<u>192,275</u>	<u>92,912</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u><u>108,327</u></u>	<u><u>63,867</u></u>	<u><u>172,194</u></u>

The notes on pages 15 to 31 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 29 February 2024
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	156,513	358,134	514,647
Other trading activities	4	87,951	-	87,951
Investment income	5	30	-	30
Total income		<u>244,494</u>	<u>358,134</u>	<u>602,628</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	(4,881)	-	(4,881)
Charitable activities	8	(421,100)	(281,575)	(702,675)
Other expenditure		<u>(18,077)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,077)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(444,058)</u>	<u>(281,575)</u>	<u>(725,633)</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		<u>(199,564)</u>	<u>76,559</u>	<u>(123,005)</u>
Net movement in funds		(199,564)	76,559	(123,005)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>100,201</u>	<u>115,716</u>	<u>215,917</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u>(99,363)</u>	<u>192,275</u>	<u>92,912</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 15 to 31 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

(Registration number: 07514119)
Balance Sheet as at 29 February 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	10,275	350,000
Current assets			
Debtors	15	13,087	29,273
Cash at bank and in hand	16	<u>169,086</u>	<u>8,644</u>
		182,173	37,917
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>(20,254)</u>	<u>(59,839)</u>
Net current assets/(liabilities)		<u>161,919</u>	<u>(21,922)</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		172,194	328,078
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	18	<u>-</u>	<u>(235,166)</u>
Net assets		<u><u>172,194</u></u>	<u><u>92,912</u></u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		63,867	192,275
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>108,327</u>	<u>(99,363)</u>
Total funds	19	<u><u>172,194</u></u>	<u><u>92,912</u></u>

For the financial year ending 29 February 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 11 to 31 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on and signed on their behalf by:



Julie Mirowski
Trustee

The notes on pages 15 to 31 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income/(expenditure)		79,282	(123,005)
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation	7	3,425	-
Investment income	5	<u>-</u>	<u>(30)</u>
		82,707	(123,035)
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	15	16,186	(10,093)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	17	<u>(39,585)</u>	<u>34,173</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>59,308</u>	<u>(98,955)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	5	-	30
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	14	(13,700)	-
Sale of tangible fixed assets		<u>350,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		336,300	30
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of loans and borrowings	17	<u>(235,166)</u>	<u>(5,014)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		160,442	(103,939)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 March		<u>8,644</u>	<u>112,583</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 29 February		<u><u>169,086</u></u>	<u><u>8,644</u></u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 15 to 31 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community) meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income and endowments

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

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacy gifts are recognised on a case by case basis following the grant of probate when the administrator/executor for the estate has communicated in writing both the amount and settlement date. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measurable with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title to the asset having been transferred to the charity.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

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

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Government grants

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 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.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1000 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined benefit pension scheme. Typically defined benefit plans define an amount of pension benefit that an employee will receive on retirement, usually dependent on one or more factors such as age, years of service and compensation.

The liability recognised in the Balance Sheet in respect of defined benefit pension plans is the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the reporting date minus the fair value of plan assets. The defined benefit obligation is measured using the projected unit credit method. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is determined by discounting the estimated future payments by reference to market yields at the reporting date on high-quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid, and that have terms to maturity approximating to the terms of the related pension liability.

Actuarial gains and losses are charged or credited to other comprehensive income in the period in which they arise.

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from individuals	94,464	-	94,464
Gift aid reclaimed	16,682	-	16,682
Grants, including capital grants;			
Government grants	-	167,798	167,798
Grants from other charities	-	101,225	101,225
	<u>111,146</u>	<u>269,023</u>	<u>380,169</u>

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from companies, trusts and similar proceeds	56,683	-	56,683
Donations from individuals	83,970	-	83,970
Legacies	1,016	-	1,016
Gift aid reclaimed	14,844	-	14,844
Grants, including capital grants;			
Government grants	-	183,053	183,053
Grants from other charities	-	175,081	175,081
	<u>156,513</u>	<u>358,134</u>	<u>514,647</u>

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Events income;		
Events and fundraising income	84,566	84,566
	<u>84,566</u>	<u>84,566</u>

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Events income;		
Events and fundraising income	83,041	83,041
Local fundraising and street collection income	4,910	4,910
	<u>87,951</u>	<u>87,951</u>

5 Investment income

		Total 2024 £
		-
		<u>-</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Interest receivable and similar income;		
Interest receivable on bank deposits	30	30
	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Placement Income	7,803	7,803
	<u>7,803</u>	<u>7,803</u>

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

7 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Costs of trading activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Fundraising trading costs;			
Publicity		5,205	5,205
		<u>5,205</u>	<u>5,205</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Fundraising trading costs;			
Publicity		4,881	4,881
		<u>4,881</u>	<u>4,881</u>

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Projects undertaken directly	22,078	39,673	61,751
Support costs	<u>168,621</u>	<u>297,884</u>	<u>466,505</u>
	<u>190,699</u>	<u>337,557</u>	<u>528,256</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Projects undertaken directly	29,322	105,300	134,622
Support costs	<u>391,778</u>	<u>176,275</u>	<u>568,053</u>
	<u>421,100</u>	<u>281,575</u>	<u>702,675</u>
	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2024 £
Projects	61,751	-	61,751
Salaries (incl. pension)	-	312,057	312,057
Stationery & postage	-	911	911
Legal & professional fees	-	66,482	66,482

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2024 £
Rent, service charge and rates	-	294	294
Electricity	-	12,817	12,817
Telephone	-	2,998	2,998
Insurance	-	5,975	5,975
Training & conferences	-	676	676
Bank / processing fees	-	3,769	3,769
Travel	-	1,346	1,346
Accountancy fees	-	3,686	3,686
Sundries	-	1,132	1,132
IT & computers	-	7,913	7,913
Software	-	6,519	6,519
Lease	-	2,491	2,491
Repairs & maintenance	-	1,615	1,615
Staff welfare	-	188	188
Cleaning	-	1,122	1,122
Office equipment	-	934	934
Mortgage Interest Payments	-	14,409	14,409
Depreciation	-	3,425	3,425
Rates	-	10,541	10,541
	<u>61,751</u>	<u>461,300</u>	<u>523,051</u>
	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2023 £
Projects	134,622	-	134,622
Salaries (incl. pension)	-	407,774	407,774
Stationery & postage	-	2,598	2,598
Legal & professional fees	-	64,365	64,365
Rent, service charge and rates	-	5,484	5,484
Electricity	-	9,186	9,186
Telephone	-	3,428	3,428
Insurance	-	6,826	6,826
Training & conferences	-	12,913	12,913
Bank / processing fees	-	2,779	2,779
Travel	-	3,008	3,008
Accountancy fees	-	2,855	2,855
Sundries	-	825	825
IT & computers	-	9,023	9,023
Software	-	8,605	8,605
Lease	-	3,581	3,581
Repairs & maintenance	-	5,200	5,200

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2023 £
Staff welfare	-	2,050	2,050
Cleaning	-	1,043	1,043
Office equipment	-	3,230	3,230
Mortgage Interest Payments	-	13,280	13,280
	<u>134,622</u>	<u>568,053</u>	<u>702,675</u>

9 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Independent examiner fees		
Examination of the financial statements	<u>1,320</u>	<u>1,320</u>
	<u>1,320</u>	<u>1,320</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Independent examiner fees		
Examination of the financial statements	<u>1,260</u>	<u>1,260</u>
	<u>1,260</u>	<u>1,260</u>

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

10 Government grants

Big Lottery - £92,798, (2023: £59,553)

Stoke-on-Trent City Council - £75,000 (2023: £123,500))

The amount of grants recognised in the financial statements was £167,798 (2023 - £183,053).

There are no unfulfilled conditions

No other forms of government assistance have been received

11 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

12 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	293,895	382,020
Social security costs	12,399	16,430
Pension costs	5,162	9,324
	<u>311,456</u>	<u>407,774</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Staff	<u>15</u>	<u>19</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

13 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 March 2023	350,000	-	-	350,000
Additions	-	7,700	6,000	13,700
Disposals	<u>(350,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(350,000)</u>
At 29 February 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>7,700</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>13,700</u>
Depreciation				
Charge for the year	-	1,925	1,500	3,425
At 29 February 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>1,925</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>3,425</u>
Net book value				
At 29 February 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>5,775</u>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>10,275</u>
At 28 February 2023	<u>350,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>350,000</u>

15 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	9,354	1,635
Prepayments	3,733	4,250
VAT recoverable	<u>-</u>	<u>23,388</u>
	<u>13,087</u>	<u>29,273</u>

16 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash on hand	21	1,442
Cash at bank	169,063	5,150
Short-term deposits	<u>2</u>	<u>2,052</u>
	<u>169,086</u>	<u>8,644</u>

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	536	34,676
Other taxation and social security	17,966	15,066
Other creditors	432	8,777
Accruals	1,320	1,320
	<u>20,254</u>	<u>59,839</u>

18 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other loans - Mortgage	-	235,166

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

19 Funds

	Balance at 1 March 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 29 February 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
<i>General</i>						
General Fund	(99,363)	203,515	(190,699)	59,874	135,000	108,327
Restricted funds						
Baron Davenport	20	248	(207)	-	-	61
Realise Foundation	1	-	-	-	-	1
Stoke-on-Trent City Council	21,579	-	-	(21,579)	-	-
Buttle UK	3	-	-	(3)	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	11,242	73,866	(73,866)	(11,242)	-	-
Children in Need	6,852	-	(2,327)	(4,525)	-	-
Garfield Weston	22,500	-	(22,500)	-	-	-
Better Community Business Network	2,700	-	(2,700)	-	-	-
Big Lottery - Awards for All	923	-	-	(923)	-	-
Cash for Kids	15,133	-	(15,313)	180	-	-
Julia & Hans Rausing Trust	16,337	-	(16,312)	-	-	25
National Lottery Community Fund 2	547	-	-	(547)	-	-
Neighbourly	900	(373)	(527)	-	-	-
Smallwood Trust	11,086	48,150	(17,050)	(5,758)	-	36,428
Newfriars - Community Junction Cafe	664	7,525	(14,082)	5,893	-	-
Staffordshire County Council	9,000	-	-	(9,000)	-	-
Screwfix	2,962	-	(2,962)	-	-	-
Stoke-on-Trent City Council	2,193	-	-	(2,193)	-	-
Smallwood Trust Uplift Grant	6,300	-	(6,300)	-	-	-
Stoke-on-Trent City Council - Summer Essentials	(1,214)	75,000	(75,715)	1,929	-	-
Stoke-on-Trent City Council - Winter Essentials	48,032	-	(45,222)	(2,810)	-	-

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

	Balance at 1 March 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 29 February 2024 £
The 1485 Charitable Trust	116	-	-	-	-	116
William A Cadbury	(172)	-	-	172	-	-
Woodroffe Benton	165	-	(400)	235	-	-
The Fore	3,625	-	(3,667)	-	-	(42)
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation	10,782	-	(10,782)	-	-	-
Virgin Media O2 Together	(1)	-	-	1	-	-
Edward Cadbury	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
People Pantry Coca Cola	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-	-
People Pantry Warburtons	-	400	(400)	-	-	-
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation Big Cup	-	21,750	(12,035)	(9,715)	-	-
Staffs Community Foundation	-	1,600	(1,611)	11	-	-
The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	-	4,995	(4,579)	-	-	416
The Hedley Foundation	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-	-
Lidl	-	500	-	-	-	500
National Lottery Community Fund 3	-	18,932	-	-	-	18,932
Trusthouse (P6)	-	7,430	-	-	-	7,430
Total restricted funds	<u>192,275</u>	<u>269,023</u>	<u>(337,557)</u>	<u>(59,874)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,867</u>
Total funds	<u>92,912</u>	<u>472,538</u>	<u>(528,256)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>135,000</u>	<u>172,194</u>

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

	Balance at 1 March 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 28 February 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
<i>General</i>				
General Fund	100,201	244,494	(444,058)	(99,363)
Restricted				
Baron Davenport	(1)	1,000	(979)	20
Realise Foundation	1	-	-	1
Stoke-on-Trent City Council	27,355	45,000	(50,776)	21,579
Buttle UK	3	-	-	3
National Lottery Community Fund	24,866	41,339	(54,963)	11,242
Children in Need	8,783	10,500	(12,431)	6,852
Garfield Weston	-	25,000	(2,500)	22,500
Better Community Business Network	-	3,000	(300)	2,700
Big Lottery - Awards for All	-	9,974	(9,051)	923
Cash for Kids	-	20,020	(4,887)	15,133
Edward Cadbury Trust	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Julia & Hans Rausing Trust	-	18,544	(2,207)	16,337
National Lottery Community Fund 2	-	8,240	(7,693)	547
Neighbourly	-	1,000	(100)	900
Smallwood Trust	9,189	13,800	(11,903)	11,086
Newfriars - Community Junction Cafe	-	12,257	(11,593)	664
Staffordshire County Council	10,000	-	(1,000)	9,000
Screwfix	-	5,000	(2,038)	2,962
Stoke-on-Trent City Council	2,193	-	-	2,193
Smallwood Trust Uplift Grant	-	7,000	(700)	6,300
Souter Charitable Trust	-	3,000	(3,000)	-
Stoke-on-Trent City Council - Summer Essentials	-	3,500	(4,714)	(1,214)
Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust	445	-	(445)	-
Stoke-on-Trent City Council - Winter Essentials	-	75,000	(26,968)	48,032
Arm Trust	1,005	-	(1,005)	-
Tesco Community Fund	-	960	(960)	-
The 1485 Charitable Trust	-	2,000	(1,884)	116
Western Power Community Matters	-	2,500	(2,500)	-
William A Cadbury	-	15,000	(15,172)	(172)
Woodroffe Benton	-	500	(335)	165
The Fore	13,750	-	(10,125)	3,625

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

	Balance at 1 March 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 28 February 2023 £
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation	18,001	29,000	(36,219)	10,782
Virgin Media O2 Together	126	-	(127)	(1)
Total restricted funds	<u>115,716</u>	<u>358,134</u>	<u>(281,575)</u>	<u>192,275</u>
Total funds	<u>215,917</u>	<u>602,628</u>	<u>(725,633)</u>	<u>92,912</u>

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Realise Foundation -To provide funding for the Big Cup project
 Baron Davenport -To provide funding for carpets for numerous families in need
 Big Lottery: Awards for All -To cover costs of venue hire, refreshments, activities and volunteer expenses for Big Cup baby and toddler groups
 Rowley Trust -To provide computers for use by volunteers
 Stoke-on-Trent City Council -To provide funding for the Big Cup project
 Buttle UK -To provide funding for carpets for numerous families in need
 Foyle Foundation -To provide a home safety scheme
 National Lottery Community Fund -3 year funding to cover a traineeship programme which provides the charity with a pipeline of Family Support workers so we can increase the number of families supported, providing the trainees with employability skills
 Children in Need -To provide funding for Big Cup project
 Coalfields Regeneration Trust - Covid19 funding for Pass it On, The Dad Community, Peoples Pantry and Lean In projects
 Community Foundation of Staffordshire to provide -Funding for Peoples Pantry and Lean In projects
 Garfield Weston -Funding for Lean In project
 Leathersellers to provide -Funding for Peoples Pantry project
 National Lottery Covid Response Fund -Funding for Buckets of Possibility, Lean In and Bump & Beyond projects
 People's Postcode Lottery -Funding for People's Pantry project
 Staffordshire Chambers of Commerce -Funding for training for Fundraising team
 Smallwood Trust -Funding for Lean In project
 Staffordshire County Council -Funding for Big Cup project
 Stoke On Trent City Council -Funding for People's Pantry project
 Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust: To provide funding to support our People's Pantry project
 Cash for Kids: To provide funds towards our Big Cup play groups for local children
 Charles Hayward Trust: To provide funding towards our Lean In, Family Support project
 February Foundation: To provide funding towards our Lean In, Family Support project
 The Fore: To provide funding for marketing and social media
 Edward Cadbury Trust – support for the People Pantry
 Julia nd Hans Rausing Trust - support for the people pantry
 Neighbourly – support for the People Pantry
 Screwfix – support families with essential items
 Smallwood uplift – support for increased costs associated with cost of living
 Stoke Council winter essentials – essential support for families

Alice (Relief of Poverty and Advancement of Community)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 February 2024

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 28 February 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	350,000	-	350,000
Current assets	(154,358)	192,275	37,917
Current liabilities	(59,839)	-	(59,839)
Creditors over 1 year	(235,166)	-	(235,166)
Total net assets	<u>(99,363)</u>	<u>192,275</u>	<u>92,912</u>

21 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Rydale Roofing

(Trustee Julie Mirowski is a director of Rydale Roofing)

During the period Rydale Roofing loaned £50,000 to the charity which was paid back before the period end. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Rydale Roofing was £Nil (2023 - £Nil).

