

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 08230197 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1151194

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
Veterans in Communities
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

N J Grindrod & Co Limited
First Floor
Sovereign House
Barehill Street
Littleborough
Lancashire
OL15 9BL

Veterans in Communities

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Page
Reference and Administrative Details	1
Report of the Trustees	2 to 9
Independent Examiner's Report	10
Statement of Financial Activities	11
Statement of Financial Position	12 to 14
Notes to the Financial Statements	15 to 25
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	26 to 27

Veterans in Communities

Reference and Administrative Details
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

TRUSTEES

R Barker MBE Chairman
B G Hyde BEM
J B Payton MBE
D A Peat OBE (resigned on 7 February 2025)
Retd Major C R Smethurst
A Woods
M Proctor

COMPANY SECRETARY

J B Payton MBE

REGISTERED OFFICE

VIC Centre
12 Bury Road
Haslingden
Rossendale
BB4 5PL

**REGISTERED COMPANY
NUMBER**

08230197 (England and Wales)

**REGISTERED CHARITY
NUMBER**

1151194

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

N J Grindrod & Co Limited
First Floor
Sovereign House
Barehill Street
Littleborough
Lancashire
OL15 9BL

SOLICITORS

Woodcock & Sons
Princess Street
Haslingden
Rossendale
Lancashire
BB4 5NH

The trustees who 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 2025. 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

Charitable Objects

The charitable objects of VIC as registered with the Charity Commission are:

To relieve need, suffering and distress amongst veterans of all branches of the Armed Forces and their partners, spouses and dependents in such ways as the Trustees shall think fit, particularly but not exclusively, by providing a comprehensive and diverse outreach programme developed, designed and delivered by veterans for veterans in the North West which supports veterans suffering the effects of war and have found the transition from military to civilian life difficult as a means to preserve and protect their physical and mental health; support their resettlement, rehabilitation, if needed, and their retraining to help them obtain employment.

VIC Mission Statement

To ensure that ex-service personnel and their families can return to, belong and prosper in their communities.

Objectives

- To provide open access to a trusted single point of contact ensuring all who may experience immediate and future difficulty in transitioning from military to civilian life in any way know where to go, who to see and what to do
- To provide a range of interventions to meet the individual need of the AFC member to accomplish transition
- To provide access to every opportunity available to maintain health and wellbeing and achieve a return to economic activity
- To provide ongoing support to veterans and their families that promotes continuing recovery for as long as is required and recognition that family and dependants as integral to recovery
- To deliver back to the community the benefit of their service skills and knowledge
- To provide subject matter expertise and support to Local Authorities and their Armed Forces Community Covenant partners in gaining a 'veterans eye-view' and assistance in engaging with the community
- To highlight and promote awareness of veterans needs
- To establish pathways and partnerships for joint working to achieve mutual outcomes and resource efficiencies

Veterans in Communities is founded on peer support and committed to partnership and collaborative working to achieve positive outcomes that result in returning, belonging and prospering.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

VIC Aims

- To provide support for ex-military personnel, ex-emergency services and prison service personnel and their families
- To encourage others to bring their knowledge, experience and expertise to provide help, support and advice to members of the Armed Forces and uniformed civilian communities and build on existing services and develop others
- To encourage the integration of former service personnel into civilian life by encouraging them to contribute their service experience and skills to help the local community
- To work together in partnership with others to support the Armed Forces Community Covenant in recognising in-service and ex-service personnel and their families.
- To establish partnerships through pledges which while not replacing statutory services, work towards addressing issues which affect former armed forces personnel and their families.

Volunteers

VIC could not function without its volunteers. They are found in every area of VIC, contributing their time, skills, knowledge and effort. They plan and deliver so many activities; art group, choir, craft group, walks, allotment, model railway club, sublimation, outreach, peer support, woodworking, skills training and learning, stalls and information stands, fundraising assistance and running our social activities.

Over the year we have calculated the hours that VIC volunteers have provided to our members and the wider community. The volunteers accumulated over 8,700 voluntary hours and if those hours had been paid at national minimum wage VIC would have needed an additional £106,227 of funding.

We are indebted to their commitment, generosity and support and grateful for each and every one of our volunteers.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Fundraising activities

Members of VIC and the public have been incredibly generous with their donations and fundraising efforts, significantly contributing to our financial support. In this financial year, the VIC Choir's fundraising activities raised over £2,600 for VIC.

Sales of arts, crafts, and Veterans in Production products have also seen a positive increase, generating more than £3,900.

In addition to these efforts, VIC has hosted several fundraising events, and members have organized their own initiatives, collectively raising over £16,000 this year.

The public's generosity was especially notable during the Christmas season. Thanks to donations of food and toiletries, we were able to distribute over 65 hampers to individuals living alone or with limited income.

Veterans in Communities

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

STRATEGIC REPORT

Highlights of the Year

Community Presence & Commemorations

VIC maintained a strong community presence participating in key commemorative events across the year. Members and staff participated in Remembrance events across Lancashire and Greater Manchester, including wreath-laying ceremonies, Last Post performances, and the M60 Ring of Red.

The VIC Standard was paraded at services locally and internationally, including at the Menin Gate in Belgium during the VIC's September Battlefield Tour. The organisation also marked Armed Forces Week through flag-raising ceremonies, veterans' parades, and local festivals such as the Accrington Veterans Day.

The VIC Choir gave regular performances at supermarkets across our area of benefit, raising valuable funds thanks to the generosity of staff, customers, and volunteer collectors.

Plans for "Riding for Forces & Families" were also launched — a veterans' cycling challenge from the Cenotaph in London to Haslingden during Armed Forces Week, with funds supporting VIC, Scotty's Little Soldiers, and Lancashire Army Cadet Force.

Outreach & Support

VIC continued to deliver regular outreach sessions in Clitheroe, Accrington, Burnley, Middleton, Preston (Sandbag Café), and other community venues. These sessions offered vital social opportunities and one-to-one welfare support for veterans and their families.

Partnership initiatives included the Defence Gardens Scheme's nature-based therapy programme at Weeton Barracks, introduced through VIC's attendance at the Thrive Together NW open day and Lancashire Constabulary's Veterans Lead and Local Policing Team who visited the Sandbag Café as part of the "People's Voice" series, deepening engagement with veterans in crisis.

Additionally, VIC representatives joined over 120 attendees at the Forces Wellbeing Collective launch in Wigan, fostering relationships with regional and national support organisations.

Community Projects

VIC members remained actively involved in creative and practical community projects. The Art Group produced scenic backdrop for the Model Railway Club's Glenfinnan Viaduct at the Accrington Veterans Drop-in. The Railway Club meets twice weekly and has benefited from the use of donated magnifiers from Blind Veterans UK, enabling members with visual impairments to participate in detailed modelling work.

Other creative projects included public murals, remembrance benches and allotment work in Helmshore.

Volunteer Engagement & Partnerships

Volunteers continued to play a central role in VIC's work — from supporting events and fundraising to project delivery. The choir fundraising events demonstrated the impact of volunteer collectors, while the cycling challenge preparations received generous in-kind support from our kind sponsors to whom we are indebted.

Collaborations continued with local businesses, community groups, and Armed Forces associations, alongside participation in multi-agency events such as the Forces Wellbeing Collective.

In December, VIC coordinated the packing and distribution of over 65 Christmas hampers for veterans and families in need. This was made possible through donations and the dedicated efforts of volunteers.

Social gatherings such as the members' Christmas Dinner, social inclusion trips, meals, and creative activities fostered camaraderie throughout the year.

The VIC Centre also maintained clear opening hours over the holiday periods to ensure continued access to support at a time when many services are closed.

Research Involvement

VIC continued its role in documenting and sharing veteran experiences through academic and creative partnerships. The short film *Return, Belong, Prosper*, co-produced with Anglia Ruskin University as part of the Stories in Transition project, was screened at local venues, conferences, and selected for an international film festival in Germany.

This research examined how creative engagement supports the transition from military to civilian life, with VIC's work presented alongside other national veteran charities.

Financial review

Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities set out on page 11 shows how our funds were raised and applied during the year. This statement separates funds, which the charity itself controls - unrestricted funds, from funds which have to be spent in a manner determined by the donor - restricted funds.

The trustees are guarantors of the company. Their liabilities as set out in the memorandum are limited to £10 per guarantor.

Veterans in Communities

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Principal funders

Veterans in Communities is grateful to all the funders who have made the delivery of services possible during the year:

- Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board
- Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust
- Arnold Clark
- Co-Op Local Community Fund
- Lancashire County Council
- Making a Difference Locally

VIC are delighted to have new and continued relationships and support with Catherine Smyth Media, Avoira, Stitches R Us, Greggs, Asda and Tesco.

Partnership working has proved how vital collaboration and joint working is in meeting the needs of our members. We are fortunate and pleased to have worked with all of our partners; Lancashire Armed Forces Covenant Hub, Rossendale and Hyndburn Citizen's Advice, Military Veterans Service, Royal British Legion, Inspire, Armed Forces Covenant Groups in Burnley, Pendle and Rochdale, Selnet, Advocacy Focus SSAFA, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley CVS and Fighting with Pride to name just a few. The support of local businesses and organisations has also been gratefully received and is essential to our development

Investment Policy

The Trustees of Veterans in Communities review the Investment Policy on an annual basis, considering cash flow needs of the organisation and the level of reserves available for investment.

At this time the Trustees feel there are not sufficient assets available for investment without creating a high risk level for cashflow.

The Trustees do take into consideration the limits of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). Consequently, Veterans in Communities holds bank accounts at two separate institutions; National Westminster and CAF Bank. This enables the distribution of funds to mitigate the risks in accordance with FSCS limits.

The Financial Policy and Procedures outlines the checks and balances in place to regulate financial transactions and handling of money within VIC.

Veterans in Communities

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Reserves Policy

The Trustees of Veterans in Communities review the Reserves Policy on an annual basis, considering the reserves available, the need to designate funds against potential redundancy costs, future commitments and the level of risk acceptable to the Trustees.

The Trustees have determined that Veterans in Communities will maintain free reserves equivalent to approximately 25% of the projected expenditure for the following year. In the event that all or any funding is lost, the reserves will enable VIC to maintain a service whilst researching and sourcing other funding to enable continuity and long term viability of the organisation.

At 31st March 2025 VIC has £56,058 as free reserves after designated funds are accounted for. This represents 23% of budgeted expenditure for the financial year 2025/26.

VIC is fortunate to hold the asset of the VIC building within its accounts. However, this building is held in trust for the community and its value cannot be realised to the benefit of VIC.

Designated Funds

The Trustees of Veterans in Communities have considered the development of the organisation and the length of employment of a number of staff. In order to mitigate against any funding risks in the coming year, the Trustees have deemed it prudent to designate funds to cover any required redundancies. As of 31st March 2025, the designated fund will remain at £15,000.

Veterans in Communities had previously designated funds to cover the cost of replacing its vehicle. A new vehicle was purchased during the financial year, and this acquisition is reflected in the financial statements. Following this expenditure, the remaining balance of the designated fund has been transferred to the general fund.

The Trustees have considered it prudent to designate funds to support ongoing staff costs, ensuring continuity of service delivery beyond the lifespan of specific project funding while additional funding streams are pursued. As of 31st March 2025, the designated fund will be set at £10,000.

The Trustees have also designated funds across various projects:

Veterans in Production	£8,213
Creative Community Hub	£1,643
Model Railway club	£380

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Veterans In Communities (VIC) is a registered charity operating within a company limited by guarantee. VIC incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee in September 2012 and achieved charitable status in March 2013.

VIC currently has a Board of 6 Trustees responsible for governance and developing and driving strategy. A sub-group of senior staff and 3 Trustees form the Executive Group that has a day- by-day management role. The Trustees are voluntary social entrepreneurs who are passionate about the area and have worked for years to make it a better place to live and work. They are all local people chosen for their skills and experience. They give generously of their private time, at their own expense, with a shared commitment to building a better future for ex-services personnel, their families and the wider community.

The Trustees are bound by a Code of Conduct and receive induction upon appointment. One third of the Directors, being longest in office, retire annually and are able to be re-elected by the members, if the individual is willing.

The Trustees have not claimed any expenses or received any remuneration during the year.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees of Veterans in Communities recognise their responsibility to identify, assess and manage all areas of risk in relation to the organisation. The Risk Management Policy outlines the principles of our risk management approach, the processes for identifying risk, and the methods used to assess those risks and mitigate against them.

It covers all matters where risk can arise, compromising staff and visitor safety. Risk management is undertaken in all areas of the organisation. Overall responsibility for risk management lies with the Board of Trustees. However, it is expected that all staff, volunteers and members will play their part in ensuring risk is minimised on a day-to-day basis.

The main areas of risk are considered to be:

- Governance
- Operational
- Financial
- Environmental or external
- Compliance (law and regulation)

The aim of the Risk Management Policy is to create robust structures, systems and processes that will minimise or eliminate, so far as is reasonably practicable, risks to staff, members, volunteers, the general public and the organisation by promoting consistency in practice. This policy is aimed at creating a strong understanding of the responsibility for the assessment and management of risk at all levels whether through individual practice or in management arrangements.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Veterans in Communities for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In accordance with the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, the charity trustees have regard for the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when developing and planning the charitable company's objectives and activities.

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

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 18 August 2025 and signed on the board's behalf by:



R Barker MBE - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Veterans in Communities

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Veterans in Communities ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

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

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.



N Grindrod

N J Grindrod & Co Limited
First Floor
Sovereign House
Barehill Street
Littleborough
Lancashire
OL15 9BL

18 August 2025

Veterans in Communities

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Voluntary income		128,219	-	128,219	149,526
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		6,500	41,327	47,827	10,142
Activities for generating funds	2	7,205	2,760	9,965	13,878
Investment income	3	<u>1,398</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,398</u>	<u>2,676</u>
Total		<u>143,322</u>	<u>44,087</u>	<u>187,409</u>	<u>176,222</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		10,193	7,729	17,922	13,789
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities	4	<u>177,703</u>	<u>40,410</u>	<u>218,113</u>	<u>204,824</u>
Total		<u>187,896</u>	<u>48,139</u>	<u>236,035</u>	<u>218,613</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(44,574)	(4,052)	(48,626)	(42,391)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>135,867</u>	<u>17,838</u>	<u>153,705</u>	<u>196,096</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>91,293</u>	<u>13,786</u>	<u>105,079</u>	<u>153,705</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Veterans in Communities

Statement of Financial Position
31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	37,485	270,000	307,485	275,340
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	7,382	-	7,382	9,297
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>70,926</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,926</u>	<u>151,124</u>
		78,308	-	78,308	160,421
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(10,714)	-	(10,714)	(12,056)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>67,594</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>67,594</u>	<u>148,365</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		105,079	270,000	375,079	423,705
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	12	-	(270,000)	(270,000)	(270,000)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>105,079</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>105,079</u>	<u>153,705</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Veterans in Communities

Statement of Financial Position - continued
31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
FUNDS	13				
Unrestricted funds:					
General Fund				48,446	46,319
Vehicle Replacement Fund				-	50,000
Redundancy Contingency Fund				15,000	15,000
VIP				8,213	8,816
The Community Creative Hub				1,643	5,055
VIC Hyndburn				-	249
Railway Club				380	428
VPPP				1,224	-
Ongoing staff costs				10,000	10,000
Garfield Weston				6,388	-
				<u>91,294</u>	<u>135,867</u>
Restricted funds:					
DCEPT				7,736	7,736
Hardship Fund				1,633	1,633
Armed Forces Covenant Trust				1,445	-
Awards For All				1,216	1,216
Battlefields Trip				1,123	1,684
Small Grants				632	5,569
				<u>13,785</u>	<u>17,838</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>105,079</u>	<u>153,705</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 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.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Veterans in Communities

Statement of Financial Position - continued
31 March 2025

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 August 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. Barker' or similar, with a stylized flourish at the end.

R Barker MBE - Trustee

Veterans in Communities

Statement of Financial Position - continued
31 March 2025

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 August 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

R Barker MBE - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

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.

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.

Expenditure

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.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	- not provided
Plant and machinery	- 25% on cost
Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	- 33% on cost and 25% on cost
Motor vehicles	- 25% on cost

The property is shown at the value when gifted and is not to be depreciated as it has no specific useful life. Its full value is shown within 'Tangible Fixed Assets' (note 9) and 'Contingent liability' (note 12) and will remain there indefinitely. Correspondingly, the 'Contingent liability' (note 12) will remain there indefinitely until VIC no longer has use for the property and it is gifted back to the Haslingden Community.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

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

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

2. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Fundraising events	6,879	6,025
Rental income (room hire)	495	5,168
Art sales	472	502
Craft sales	104	407
Other sales	1,272	1,636
Clothing sales	743	140
	<u>9,965</u>	<u>13,878</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Bank interest	<u>1,398</u>	<u>2,676</u>

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs £	Totals £
Charitable Activities	<u>207,502</u>	<u>10,611</u>	<u>218,113</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Accountancy fees	2,994	2,940
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>7,617</u>	<u>-</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**7. STAFF COSTS**

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
Support staff	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Voluntary income	149,526	-	149,526
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	240	9,902	10,142
Activities for generating funds	11,248	2,630	13,878
Investment income	<u>2,676</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,676</u>
Total	<u>163,690</u>	<u>12,532</u>	<u>176,222</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	9,579	4,210	13,789
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	<u>197,328</u>	<u>7,496</u>	<u>204,824</u>
Total	<u>206,907</u>	<u>11,706</u>	<u>218,613</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(43,217)	826	(42,391)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>179,084</u>	<u>17,012</u>	<u>196,096</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>135,867</u>	<u>17,838</u>	<u>153,705</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures, fittings and office equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 April 2024	270,000	14,632	29,920	23,334	337,886
Additions	-	-	-	39,762	39,762
At 31 March 2025	<u>270,000</u>	<u>14,632</u>	<u>29,920</u>	<u>63,096</u>	<u>377,648</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2024	-	14,632	29,920	17,994	62,546
Charge for year	-	-	-	7,617	7,617
At 31 March 2025	-	<u>14,632</u>	<u>29,920</u>	<u>25,611</u>	<u>70,163</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2025	<u>270,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,485</u>	<u>307,485</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>270,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,340</u>	<u>275,340</u>

Depreciation on the property is no longer required and has therefore been written back to its original gifted value on the basis that VIC will enjoy use during its lifetime and will not benefit from any appreciation in value after any transfer of ownership.

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Trade debtors	947	2,862
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>6,435</u>	<u>6,435</u>
	<u>7,382</u>	<u>9,297</u>

Veterans in Communities

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Trade creditors	2,654	2,525
Social security and other taxes	3,652	2,560
Accruals	<u>4,408</u>	<u>6,971</u>
	<u>10,714</u>	<u>12,056</u>

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Contingent liability in respect of Gifted Property	<u>270,000</u>	<u>270,000</u>

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	46,319	1,889	238	48,446
Vehicle Replacement Fund	50,000	(39,762)	(10,238)	-
Redundancy Contingency Fund	15,000	-	-	15,000
VIP	8,816	(603)	-	8,213
The Community Creative Hub	5,055	(3,412)	-	1,643
VIC Hyndburn	249	(249)	-	-
Railway Club	428	(48)	-	380
VPPP	-	1,224	-	1,224
Ongoing staff costs	10,000	(10,000)	10,000	10,000
Garfield Weston	<u>-</u>	<u>6,388</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,388</u>
	135,867	(44,573)	-	91,294
Restricted funds				
DCEPT	7,736	-	-	7,736
Hardship Fund	1,633	-	-	1,633
Armed Forces Covenant Trust	-	1,445	-	1,445
Awards For All	1,216	-	-	1,216
Battlefields Trip	1,684	(561)	-	1,123
Small Grants	<u>5,569</u>	<u>(4,937)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>632</u>
	<u>17,838</u>	<u>(4,053)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,785</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>153,705</u>	<u>(48,626)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>105,079</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	27,625	(25,736)	1,889
Vehicle Replacement Fund	-	(39,762)	(39,762)
VIP	150	(753)	(603)
The Community Creative Hub	3,782	(7,194)	(3,412)
Income Generation	3,478	(3,478)	-
VIC Hyndburn	-	(249)	(249)
Railway Club	-	(48)	(48)
VPPP	13,787	(12,563)	1,224
Ongoing staff costs	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
Integrated Care Board	88,000	(88,000)	-
Garfield Weston	<u>6,500</u>	<u>(112)</u>	<u>6,388</u>
	143,322	(187,895)	(44,573)
Restricted funds			
Armed Forces Covenant Trust	38,857	(37,412)	1,445
Battlefields Trip	2,760	(3,321)	(561)
Small Grants	<u>2,470</u>	<u>(7,407)</u>	<u>(4,937)</u>
	<u>44,087</u>	<u>(48,140)</u>	<u>(4,053)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>187,409</u></u>	<u><u>(236,035)</u></u>	<u><u>(48,626)</u></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued****Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	67,978	(21,259)	46,719
Vehicle Replacement Fund	50,000	-	50,000
Redundancy Contingency Fund	15,000	-	15,000
VIP	9,522	(706)	8,816
The Community Creative Hub	4,496	559	5,055
VIC Hyndburn	409	(160)	249
VIC Heywood Sandbag	501	(501)	-
Railway Club	267	161	428
VPPP	10,911	(10,911)	-
Ongoing staff costs	20,000	(10,000)	10,000
Integrated Care Board	-	(400)	(400)
	179,084	(43,217)	135,867
Restricted funds			
DCEPT	7,736	-	7,736
Hardship Fund	1,633	-	1,633
Armed Forces Covenant Trust	1,583	(1,583)	-
Awards For All	1,216	-	1,216
Armed Forces Covenant - VSNBF	1,000	(1,000)	-
Prince of Wales Charitable Fund	1	(1)	-
Developing Veterans	1	(1)	-
Clitheroe	515	(515)	-
Middleton Mess Tin	1,002	(1,002)	-
Battlefields Trip	100	1,584	1,684
Small Grants	2,225	3,344	5,569
	17,012	826	17,838
TOTAL FUNDS	196,096	(42,391)	153,705

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	36,254	(57,513)	(21,259)
Fundraising - Singing	144	(144)	-
Fundraising-Other	14	(14)	-
HMR-INT	15,929	(15,929)	-
VIP	230	(936)	(706)
The Community Creative Hub	2,779	(2,220)	559
VIC Hyndburn	-	(160)	(160)
VIC Heywood Sandbag	-	(501)	(501)
Railway Club	240	(79)	161
VPPP	26,250	(37,161)	(10,911)
Ongoing staff costs	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
Integrated Care Board	81,850	(82,250)	(400)
	163,690	(206,907)	(43,217)
Restricted funds			
Building Better Opportunities	3,813	(3,813)	-
Armed Forces Covenant Trust	1,468	(3,051)	(1,583)
Armed Forces Covenant - VSNBF	-	(1,000)	(1,000)
Prince of Wales Charitable Fund	-	(1)	(1)
Developing Veterans	-	(1)	(1)
Clitheroe	-	(515)	(515)
Middleton Mess Tin	-	(1,002)	(1,002)
Battlefields Trip	2,630	(1,046)	1,584
Small Grants	4,621	(1,277)	3,344
	12,532	(11,706)	826
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>176,222</u>	<u>(218,613)</u>	<u>(42,391)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	67,978	(19,370)	238	48,846
Vehicle Replacement Fund	50,000	(39,762)	(10,238)	-
Redundancy Contingency Fund	15,000	-	-	15,000
VIP	9,522	(1,309)	-	8,213
The Community Creative Hub	4,496	(2,853)	-	1,643
VIC Hyndburn	409	(409)	-	-
VIC Heywood Sandbag	501	(501)	-	-
Railway Club	267	113	-	380
VPPP	10,911	(9,687)	-	1,224
Ongoing staff costs	20,000	(20,000)	10,000	10,000
Integrated Care Board	-	(400)	-	(400)
Garfield Weston	-	6,388	-	6,388
	<u>179,084</u>	<u>(87,790)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>91,294</u>
Restricted funds				
DCEPT	7,736	-	-	7,736
Hardship Fund	1,633	-	-	1,633
Armed Forces Covenant Trust	1,583	(138)	-	1,445
Awards For All	1,216	-	-	1,216
Armed Forces Covenant - VSNBF	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Prince of Wales Charitable Fund	1	(1)	-	-
Developing Veterans	1	(1)	-	-
Clitheroe	515	(515)	-	-
Middleton Mess Tin	1,002	(1,002)	-	-
Battlefields Trip	100	1,023	-	1,123
Small Grants	2,225	(1,593)	-	632
	<u>17,012</u>	<u>(3,227)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,785</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>196,096</u>	<u>(91,017)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>105,079</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	63,879	(83,249)	(19,370)
Fundraising - Singing	144	(144)	-
Fundraising-Other	14	(14)	-
HMR-INT	15,929	(15,929)	-
Vehicle Replacement Fund	-	(39,762)	(39,762)
VIP	380	(1,689)	(1,309)
The Community Creative Hub	6,561	(9,414)	(2,853)
Income Generation	3,478	(3,478)	-
VIC Hyndburn	-	(409)	(409)
VIC Heywood Sandbag	-	(501)	(501)
Railway Club	240	(127)	113
VPPP	40,037	(49,724)	(9,687)
Ongoing staff costs	-	(20,000)	(20,000)
Integrated Care Board	169,850	(170,250)	(400)
Garfield Weston	6,500	(112)	6,388
	307,012	(394,802)	(87,790)
Restricted funds			
Building Better Opportunities	3,813	(3,813)	-
Armed Forces Covenant Trust	40,325	(40,463)	(138)
Armed Forces Covenant - VSNBF	-	(1,000)	(1,000)
Prince of Wales Charitable Fund	-	(1)	(1)
Developing Veterans	-	(1)	(1)
Clitheroe	-	(515)	(515)
Middleton Mess Tin	-	(1,002)	(1,002)
Battlefields Trip	5,390	(4,367)	1,023
Small Grants	7,091	(8,684)	(1,593)
	56,619	(59,846)	(3,227)
TOTAL FUNDS	363,631	(454,648)	(91,017)

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Veterans in Communities

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS				
Voluntary income				
Donations	16,485	-	16,485	20,066
Fundraising-Singing	2,689	-	2,689	2,012
HMR-INT	-	-	-	15,929
Income Generation	2,983	-	2,983	-
VPPP	13,787	-	13,787	26,250
Integrated Care Board	88,000	-	88,000	85,039
VIP income	150	-	150	230
Voluntary income - General	3,000	-	3,000	-
Bob Ross fees	1,125	-	1,125	-
	128,219	-	128,219	149,526
Activities for generating funds				
Fundraising events	4,119	2,760	6,879	6,025
Rental income (room hire)	495	-	495	5,168
Art sales	472	-	472	502
Craft sales	104	-	104	407
Other sales	1,272	-	1,272	1,636
Clothing sales	743	-	743	140
	7,205	2,760	9,965	13,878
Investment income				
Bank interest	1,398	-	1,398	2,676
Charitable activities				
Railway club subs	-	-	-	240
Grants	6,500	41,327	47,827	9,902
	6,500	41,327	47,827	10,142
Total incoming resources	143,322	44,087	187,409	176,222
EXPENDITURE				
Other trading activities				
Projects costs	10,193	7,729	17,922	13,789

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Veterans in Communities

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
Other trading activities				
Charitable activities				
Wage costs	135,719	30,095	165,814	158,487
Gas, electricity and water	8,836	3,040	11,876	10,627
Telephone and computer costs	4,685	659	5,344	2,794
Post, stationery and adverts	6,150	1,066	7,216	6,089
Motor expenses	110	1,107	1,217	2,075
Travel and refreshments	2,061	1,934	3,995	5,237
Insurance	3,829	547	4,376	3,472
Professional fees	3,990	703	4,693	6,230
Repairs	-	-	-	3,087
Cleaning and hygiene	546	127	673	1,740
Staff training	335	-	335	-
Bank charges	96	19	115	119
Subscriptions	179	26	205	214
Sundries	<u>1,290</u>	<u>353</u>	<u>1,643</u>	<u>1,713</u>
	167,826	39,676	207,502	201,884
Support costs				
Finance				
Motor vehicles	7,617	-	7,617	-
Governance costs				
Auditors' remuneration	<u>2,259</u>	<u>735</u>	<u>2,994</u>	<u>2,940</u>
Total resources expended	<u>187,895</u>	<u>48,140</u>	<u>236,035</u>	<u>218,613</u>
Net expenditure	<u>(44,573)</u>	<u>(4,053)</u>	<u>(48,626)</u>	<u>(42,391)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Veterans in Communities AGM

Summary of Achievements and Performance 2024/25

Presented by
Amanda Walton,
Chief Executive Officer



Support provided for former Armed Forces services and Emergency Services personnel and their families



Charity No: 1151194 Company Limited by Guarantee : 8230197



Over 100 new members identified, registered and supported



Delivered over 300 outreach sessions across Lancashire & Greater Manchester



Over 200 beneficiaries accessed our social groups and services each week

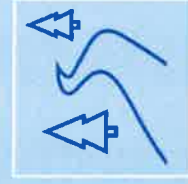


Registered as a “warm place” during the winter months.



Registered as a “safe space” for vulnerable people

Support provided for former Armed Forces services and Emergency Services personnel and their families



Outgoing referral pathways – Royal British Legion, Blind Veterans UK, housing support providers, Op Fortitude, Military Veterans Service and Op Courage



The centre is used by Inspire, Op Courage, Military Veterans Service, Help 4 Heroes, Blind Veterans, Citizens Advice



Incoming referral pathways – CVS, Social Prescribers, Police, GP's, Military Veterans Service and self-referrals

Support provided for former Armed Forces services and Emergency Services personnel and their families



Organised social inclusion trips to Samlesbury Hall, Embsay Steam railway and the Normandy Battlefields trip to name but a few



Over 65 festive hampers made and delivered to those alone over the Christmas period



Worked with Greater Manchester and Lancashire Police on the Forcer Protocol



The VIC Centre remained open over the Christmas period to ensure availability of support for those in need

Support provided for former Armed Forces services and Emergency Services personnel and their families



Housing support and advice
Assistance with house moves
Supply of furniture



Employment advice
Evidencing proof of service



DWP and housing benefits - applications
and appeals



Emergency food parcels

Extra Support Initiatives

Supported other organisations to set up breakfast & social clubs

Worked with Healthwatch Lancashire on military hearing loss awareness

Arranged Hepatitis C testing for members

Collaborated with Blind Veterans UK to obtain magnifiers for our visually impaired members

Purchased a new minibus using designated funds

Integration Through Community Contribution

 Model Railway Club working on the Glenfinnan Viaduct project at Accrington	 Art Group – murals, community displays and scenic backdrops	 Veterans In Production - Memorial benches created and installed locally
 Member-to-member talks & shared lived experiences	 Crafty Chatters - Poppies made to commemorate the D-Day landings in Carentan, France	 D-Day dioramas built and displayed at Fulwood Barracks Lancashire Infantry Museum

Special Highlights



Staff attended D-Day 80 commemorations at Blackburn Cathedral

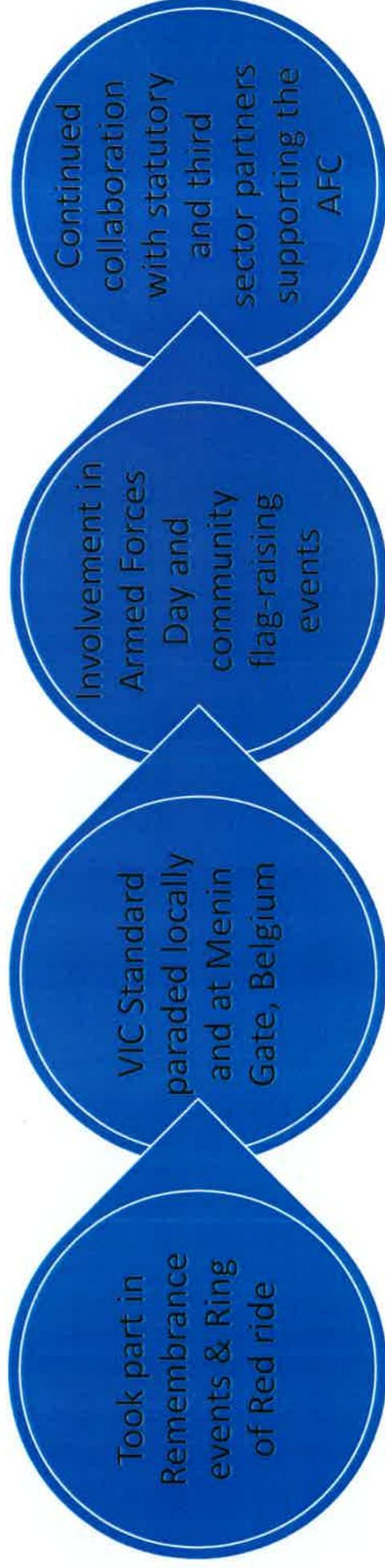


Our VIC Standard formally dedicated



The VIC Art Group featured in Christmas Carols on ITV 2024 programme

Working in Partnership to Support the Armed Forces Covenant



Establishing Complementary Partnerships

Charity No: 1151194 Company Limited by Guarantee : 8230197

Partnered with Lancashire Constabulary and Hyndburn & Ribble Valley CVS

Launched “Riding for Forces & Families” challenge – supporting 3 charities

Return, Belong, Prosper film showcased locally and internationally

Ongoing collaborations with universities and creative partners

Partnership working with the North West Probation Service

Funded partner within the North West Thrive Together programme

Raising Our Visibility



Winners of the Weston Charity
Award 2024



New signage installed on VIC
Centre



Demonstrated strong community
presence and sustainability

Volunteers



VIC is immensely grateful to each and every one of our volunteers who give so generously of their time and skills

Each and every week they give so much of their time and utilise their skills for the greater good

VIC volunteers are involved in:

- organising and leading groups and activities
- organising walks and social inclusion activities,
- peer support
- VIC Choir members,
- family history research
- manning VIC outreach posts,
- art and crafts groups
- decorating and DIY skills
- stalls and information stands
- administration,
- fundraising events,
- welfare checks
- allotment,
- quizzes
- Veterans in Production (VIP)
- coffee social groups
- model railway club
- Trustees

Over 8700 volunteer hours have been gifted to VIC

Equates to £106,227 of additional funding if paid at National Minimum Wage

Fundraising



Over £61,000 secured in grant funding



Over £10,000 received in trading income



More than £2,500 raised by the VIC Choir during their public performances



Over £23,000 received by way of donations, legacies and fundraising events

Fundraising Initiatives

November Walk of Remembrance – 60 miles between memorial sites in
Rossendale



Carp fishing social events



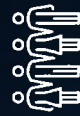
Choir supermarket performances – raising awareness and fundraising



Preparation for the Riding for Forces & Families cycle challenge



Community supporters and individual donors



Thank You to Our Funders



Charity No: 1151194 Company Limited by Guarantee : 8230197



Lancashire and
South Cumbria
Integrated Care Board



Local Community Fund



Case Study 1

Name changed for anonymity



Army Veteran: Roy

Age 63

Issues Identified:

Long-term untreated mental health needs

Self-Referral (Rossendale)

Loss of PIP claim and payments after external support ceased

VIC Support Provided:

- Took over PIP application, submitted appeal, and worked through the process
- Liaised with Disability Employment Advisor
- Secured successful outcome: backdated PIP payments and increased award at the higher disability rate
- Ensured referral into appropriate clinical services for unresolved mental health issues
- Ongoing wraparound welfare support, providing stability and confidence

Veteran's Words:

"VIC is now a part of my life, and it will be for the rest of my life. I can come to VIC every day if I want to. All local veterans should get involved – you tailor your care and support to each and every veteran on an individual basis."

Case Study 2

Name changed for anonymity



Army Veteran: Kieran

Age – 56

Issues Identified:

No food in cupboards
Out of work and no income
Not receiving 22-year Army Pension (100% previously awarded to ex-wife by court order)

Self-Referral (Accrington)

VIC Support Provided:

- Provided emergency crisis food parcel
- Prepared referral to Hyndburn Household Support Fund – veteran received a £200 Tesco voucher
- Attended DWP Jobcentre to progress case
- Liaised with potential employer in the veteran's local area (no transport available) – resulted in full-time employment after trial days
- Supported pension recovery process – veteran now receives 100% of his 22-year Army Pension directly into his bank account

Impact:

Immediate crisis support prevented hunger, while longer-term interventions secured sustainable employment and restored his full pension rights, ensuring financial stability.

Closing Remarks



Thank you to our staff,
trustees, volunteers, and
partners



Continued commitment to
veterans, families &
communities



Proud of our achievements
in 2024/25
Looking ahead to 2025/26