

ASB Help

Charity Number: 1152851

ASB Help

**Trustees' Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 July 2024**

ASB Help

Annual Report for the year ended 31 July 2024

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ASB Help

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 July 2024

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year to 31 July 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) '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) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The aim and objective of the Charity is to facilitate the good administration of the law by providing advice and support to victims and practitioners of anti-social behaviour and encouraging the greater efficiency of local authorities and the police in responding to reports of anti-social behaviour.

The trustees are aware of guidance published by the Charity Commission on Public Benefit and the guidance is taken into account when they review the objectives and activities of the charity.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Review of Activities

The Charity is dependent for the majority of its operational costs on a grant from The Persula Foundation. It also charges local authorities and police forces for some of the charity's activities to help supplement this income and ensure relevant travel expenses are covered. For the current year this source of income totalled £11,500.

Core Activities for Public Benefit

ASB Help is focused on speaking up for victims of persistent anti-social behaviour who are suffering in silence. ASB Help supports victims primarily through its informative website which has over 3,000 visits per month. The website signposts victims of anti-social behaviour as to whom they report the anti-social behaviour to, and what to do if they are not getting a satisfactory response, in particular championing the ASB Case Review which was introduced in the 2014 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act. In this financial year the ASB Help updated and launched the new website. We have received positive feedback from both victims and practitioners saying it is easier to navigate with updated and useful information.

We have continued to support victims and signposted them to get the appropriate support. At any given time, we are dealing with cases that are complex, where the ASB is having a fundamental impact on their lives particularly where local practitioners and victim relationships have broken down. Our role has been to provide advice and break down barriers and safeguard the victims.

We have developed the victims focus group and now have 23 participants who we can consult with. We have run campaigns and sought their views on the website development and other key areas.

We continue to see an increased demand from Local Authorities, Registered Housing Providers, Police and Police Crime Commissioners in the following areas of ASB advice; PLEDGE sign ups and requests for training in relation to the ASB Case Reviews and on the ASB tools and powers introduced in the ASB Crime and Policing Act 2014.

As part of its support ASB Help works with national and local agencies to improve understanding of the ASB Case Review and hold agencies to account in their effective use of this power. We launched our Freedom of Information findings report. 'The ASB Case Review – the victims' voice or a box-ticking exercise?'. The report made a number of recommendations to key agencies and partners to ensure that the ASB Case Review is consistently applied across England and Wales

We have further developed the ASB Help PLEDGE which has been a key focus, which sees local agencies commit to best practice with regards to the ASB Case Review 63 local partners have signed up to date.

ASB Help

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 July 2024 continued

We continue to offer expert advice to the Home Office, Association of Police Crime Commissioners, MOPAC, Victims Commissioner, NPCC, to name but a few. We were invited to 10 Downing Street to contribute to the previous Government ASB Task Force, and we continue to work with the Home office and civil servants to continue to influence the Labour Governments ASB Manifesto.

In this financial year the team has been heavily involved at a strategic level in debates and improvements to ASB law and statutory guidance, particularly clauses related to the ASB Case Review and the new labour Government on many aspects of the ASB Manifesto.

There is a stronger focus now on social media, linking in with media contacts and having a more structured approach to our presence and profile.

The Team is recognised and well respected in the ASB field by victims and partners. The team has been sought out by local government agencies and local police forces to provide expert training on the ASB Case Review and supporting victims, evidenced in the training income received.

Future Plans

The charity has gained national recognition as an authority on the ASB Case Review with the Home Office, the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners, the Local Government Association, the Victims' Commissioner's Office and other government bodies. The charity will continue to speak out with authority on this subject and work with practitioners more widely to encourage effective use of the tools and powers in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act to ensure victims are receiving the support and intervention they are entitled to.

The focus of the charity remains one of high impact with the relatively small resources of a charity. It plans to move to a charging structure for some of the advice it provides to local agencies.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

The Charity's administrative costs are currently being funded by one grant from a private foundation through an annual application based on a budget for the year. This income source is a guaranteed one based on the charity's core expenditure requirements each year. As such the charity does not have a formal reserves policy at the current time.

Financial Position

In this eleventh year of its operations costs were focused on staff costs, promotion of the website through social media channels and connecting with relevant leaders in the sector.

The charity is in a strong financial position because of the founder's annual commitment to the budget, something that is protected. The charity may seek funding for additional projects from other sources and has begun to charge for some advice to local agencies. However, the victims of anti-social behaviour are the priority and the charity will not allow cost to be a barrier to delivering advice to an agency if this results in resolution for the victim.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

ASB Help was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation by a constitution adopted on 12 July 2013.

ASB Help

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 July 2024 continued

Organisational Structure

During the period the Charity maintained a team of five; a part-time Chief Executive Officer, two full-time and one part-time practitioner to support the expanding work with victims and agencies, and a part-time Performance Officer.

Risk Management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Trustees have identified and assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operation and finances of the charity. They are satisfied that the charity's exposure to these risks is minimal.

Registered Charity number

1152851

Registered Address

Hankey Place
London
SE1 4BB

Trustees

The Trustees who served during the year were:-

Jennifer Herrera (Chair)
Julian Richer
Julie Abraham
Damien Morrison
Vicky Heap
Adrian Tonge
Gareth Sands

Trustees shall serve in office for a period of three years but after that may be reappointed for two further terms of three years. At the end of their third term in office and in subsequent years a Trustee may be reappointed subject to a rigorous review, taking into account the need for progressive refreshing of the board. Trustees are recruited on the basis of the skills they can bring to the Board.

Bankers

Barclays Bank
1 Churchill Place
London
E14 5HP

This report was approved by the Trustees on 10th March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Jennifer Herrera
Chair



Julian Richer
Trustee

ASB Help

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of ASB Help

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of ASB Help ('the Charity')

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.


Christopher Darwin FCA

Christopher Darwin FCA

Thomas Coombs Limited
Chartered Accountants
3365 The Pentagon
Century Way
Thorpe Park
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 9ZB

10th March 2025

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 July 2024

		2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Unrestricted Funds £
Income and Endowments from			
Donations and legacies	2	150,000	110,029
Income from charitable activities		11,500	33,075
Total		161,500	143,104
Expenditure on			
Raising funds		0	0
Charitable activities		193,404	180,481
Total		193,404	180,481
Net income/(expenditure)		(31,904)	(37,377)
Total funds brought forward		43,560	80,937
Total funds at 31 July 2024		11,656	43,560

ASB Help

Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2024

		2024		2023	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	6	<u>397</u>		<u>324</u>	
Current assets					
Debtors	7	670		9,808	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>11,489</u>		<u>33,842</u>	
		<u>12,556</u>		<u>43,974</u>	
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(900)		(414)	
Net current assets			11,656		43,560
Funds					
Unrestricted			11,656		43,560
			11,656		43,560

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 10th March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:-



Jennifer Herrera
Chair



Julian Richer
Trustee

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 July 2024

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and include the results of the Charity's operations as indicated in the Trustees' Report, all of which are continuing.

1.2 Compliance with accounting standards

The financial statements of the charitable incorporated organisation, 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 Charities Act 2011.

1.3 Incoming resources

Income from all resources is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable.

1.4 Resources expended

Resources expended are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Office Equipment	33% Straight line
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1.6 Fund accounting

Funds held by the Charity are either:

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the Charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor, contractual arrangement or when funds are raised for a particular restricted purpose.

Designated funds - these are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects.

1.7 Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 July 2024 (Continued)**2. Donations and Legacies**

	2024 £	2023 £
Donations	150,000	110,029

3. Income from charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Training	11,500	33,075

4. Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

No Trustee, or anyone connected with a Trustee, has a material interest in any of the Charity's transactions.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses (2023: £0) paid for the year ended 31 July 2024.

5. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs comprise:		
Wages and salaries	141,073	143,889
Social security costs	13,888	13,966
Other pension costs	3,246	2,482
	158,207	158,392

The Charity had two full-time and three part-time employees during the year (in 2023 there were two full-time and three part-time employees).

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

The position of CEO is considered to represent the key management personnel of the Charity. Total remuneration of £48,229, inclusive of employer national insurance and pension contributions, was paid in the year to holder of this post (2023: £44,730).

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 July 2024 (Continued)

6. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment	Totals £
COST		
At 1 August 2023	3,274	3,274
Additions	596	596
At 31 July 2024	3,870	3,870
DEPRECIATION		
At 1 August 2023	2,950	2,950
Charge for year	523	523
At 31 July 2024	3,473	3,473
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 July 2024	397	397
At 31 July 2023	324	324

7. Debtors: Amounts Falling Due within One Year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other Debtors	670	9,808
	670	9,808

8. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due within One Year

	2024 £	2023 £
Independent Examination Fee	900	414
	900	414

9. Related Party Disclosures

During the year ASB Help received donations totalling £150,000 (2023: £110,000) from The Persula Foundation, a charity of which Julian Richer is also a trustee. £13,200 (2023: £13,000) was paid to Gareth Sands, who is also a trustee, for consultancy work.

ASB Help

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 July 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Income and Endowments		
Donations and Legacies		
Donations	150,000	110,029
Training	<u>11,500</u>	<u>33,075</u>
Total Income	161,500	143,104
Expenditure		
Charitable Activities		
Wages	141,073	143,889
Social security costs	13,888	13,966
Pension costs	3,246	2,482
Staff training	160	0
Printing, postage, telephone and stationery	2,838	2,141
Travel and conferences	3,877	6,241
IT and technical support	4,137	1,543
Public relations	4,000	0
Professional services	13,200	8,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>523</u>	<u>1,091</u>
	186,942	179,353
Governance costs		
Independent examination fee	936	468
Insurance	788	660
Legal fees	<u>4,738</u>	<u>0</u>
	6,462	1,128
Total expenditure	<u>193,404</u>	<u>180,481</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	(31,904)	(37,377)