

# STAY SAFE EAST

England & Wales · Charity number 1153615

## Details

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Other names	STAY SAFE EAST
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2013-09-02
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	Stay Safe East 1 Russell Road London E10 7ES
Phone	02085197241
Email	<a href="mailto:ANGIE@STAYSAFE-EAST.ORG.UK">ANGIE@STAYSAFE-EAST.ORG.UK</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.staysafe-east.org.uk">www.staysafe-east.org.uk</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** (1) TO RELIEVE THE DISTRESS AND SUFFERING CAUSED TO DEAF AND DISABLED PEOPLE BY HATE CRIME, HARASSMENT, DOMESTIC OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE OR OTHER FORMS OF ABUSE(2) TO PROMOTE THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF DEAF AND DISABLED PEOPLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES(3) SUCH PURPOSES AS ARE EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DECIDE

**Activities:** Stay Safe East is a user-led organisation providing advocacy and support to Deaf and disabled victims or survivors of hate crime and harassment, domestic and sexual violence, carer abuse and other human rights abuses in East London and across London. We work for change across London and nationally to ensure that disabled people get equal access to justice. We provide training and consultancy.

## Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Disability, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

## Geography

- Throughout London

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£763,252	£819,577	£350,729	21
2024-03-31	£624,569	£641,282	£407,053	13
2023-03-31	£749,322	£554,566	£423,766	14
2022-03-31	£543,623	£504,309	£229,010	16
2021-03-31	£478,237	£413,923	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>SAVITRI MAITREYI MARIA HENSMAN</b>	Chair	2013-03-20
Alex Irving		2024-03-21
Alexandra Delameilleure		2024-01-25
Bennett Obong		2015-06-01
Isabel Cristina Ros Lopez		2023-12-13
Jane Lesley Jutsum		2025-09-25
Kirsten Hearn		2014-10-13
Parimal Lokhande		2026-03-24

**STAY SAFE EAST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1153615

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# Accounts

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# Stay Safe East

Trustees' Annual Report

**2024-25**



Charity Number 1153615

## Stay Safe East

### Trustees' Annual Report 2024-25

<b>Charity name:</b>	Stay Safe East
<b>Registration Number:</b>	<b>1153615</b> Stay Safe East is registered as a <b>Charitable Incorporated Organisation</b> with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.
<b>Principal office:</b>	90 Crownfield Road, London E15 2BG (until 31.03.25) 1 Russell Road, London E10 7ES (from 01.04.25)
<b>Trustees:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Savitri Hensman (Chair)</li><li>○ Jonathan Grosskopf (Treasurer – appointed 23rd May 2024; left 14th August 2025)</li><li>○ Isabel Ros López</li><li>○ Alex Irving</li><li>○ Alexandra Delameilleure</li><li>○ Bennett Obong</li><li>○ Kirsten Hearn</li><li>○ Storme Toolis, service user representative</li><li>○ S, service user representative</li><li>○ Jane Jutsum (appointed 25th September 2025)</li></ul> <p><b>* With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the name of the one service user representative is withheld to protect their safety.</b></p>
<b>Staff and volunteers:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Angie Airlie (<i>Chief Executive Officer (CEO)</i>)</li><li>● Cheryl Lewis (<i>Independent Victims Advocate Team Manager</i>)</li><li>● Cecilia Brun Faulkner (<i>Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Manager</i>)</li><li>● Kiran Chalke (<i>Operations Manager – Part Time</i>)</li><li>● Finance Officer (part-time)</li><li>● Administrator (part-time)</li><li>● Human Resources Officer (part-time)</li><li>● Hate Crime Advocate (2 part-time)</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benefits &amp; Entitlement Advocate (1 full-time, 1 part-time)</li> <li>• Volunteer Development Officer</li> <li>• Volunteer Development Trainer</li> <li>• Senior IDDVA (Independent Disability Domestic Abuse Advocate)</li> <li>• Safe Accommodation Advocate (2 full-time)</li> <li>• Recovery and Group Worker</li> <li>• Independent Disability Domestic Violence Advocate (IDDVAs) (4.2 FTE)</li> <li>• Senior Housing Advocate</li> <li>• Duty Worker</li> </ul> <p><i>*Due to the nature of our work and to ensure their safety, names of advocacy staff and volunteers are not listed in this report.</i></p>
<b>Bank:</b>	<b>The Cooperative Bank,</b> PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT
<b>Bookkeeping and payroll:</b>	Jane Roche
<b>Independent Examiner:</b>	<b>Carbon Accountancy, 80-83 Long Lane, London EC1A 9ET</b>



### **Thank you to our Funders and Commissioners!**

- **Three Guineas Trust**
- **The Smallwood Trust**
- **The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)**
- **London Community Foundation for the VAWG Grassroots Fund (funded by MOPAC)**
- **The Home Office (via Refuge)**
- **Trust for London**
- **Victim Support for London Victim and Witness Service (funded by MOPAC)**
- **Solace Women's Aid for Ascent Partnership (funded by MOPAC)**
- **Refuge for Pan London Floating Support Service (funded by MOPAC)**
- **Galop for CATCH (Communities Against Hate) (funded by MOPAC)**
- **Comic Relief**
- **National Lottery Community Fund (Propel)**

### **Thank you to our supporters and partners and in particular:**

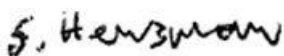
- **Our volunteers**
- **Our Disabled People's Organisation (DPO) partners**
- **Inclusion London**
- **Our partners in the VAWG sector**
- **University College London**
- **All individuals and organisations who made donations to Stay Safe East or provided other kinds of assistance.**

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**Please note: for reasons of accessibility, the Independent Examiner's Unaudited Financial Statement is contained in a separate document.**

**The Trustees' Annual Report for 2024-25 was approved on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026 and signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:**



**Savitri Hensman**

**Chair**

**Date: 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

## Chair's Report

The vital work of Stay Safe East in providing specialist support and advocacy to disabled survivors of domestic and sexual abuse, hate crime, harassment and other forms of abuse continued throughout 2024-25, making a major difference to many people's lives. So did activity to promote recognition by policymakers, other organisations and wider society of why tackling violence and injustice of this kind matters so much and to equip others with the necessary knowledge and skills. The case studies in this Annual Report give a flavour of the value, and complexity, of this work.

To enable such frontline activity to be undertaken, to a consistently high standard and in an equitable, respectful and sustainable way, requires considerable behind-the-scenes work. Reliable support and guidance for staff and volunteers, organisational leadership, robust systems, plans and policies and being able to identify and embed core principles and values play a key, though often barely noticed, part.

During 2024-25, after a particularly challenging year, Stay Safe East was able to grow in stability and strengthen and develop these aspects of the organisation. This was even more important because most staff, as well as trustees and other volunteers, were themselves disabled people, from diverse backgrounds and sometimes with lived experience of abuse or other crime. In the latter half of the previous year, Angie Airlie had taken over as Chief Executive and done excellent work in helping to navigate the charity through an especially turbulent period which included the prolonged illness of key organisational founder Ruth Bashall and her unexpected death, just after she retired.

This year, the senior staff team further contributed to stabilising and re-invigorating the organisation, with a combination of continuity and change, working alongside other staff, the Board, funders and partners. This helped other staff to feel adequately supported in responding to sometimes tricky or potentially harrowing situations facing clients, as well as taking opportunities to create a safer and more just environment for disabled people at risk.

As usual, securing the resources needed for advocacy, policy and other work absorbed a lot of attention. Practical concerns included finding, and moving into, accessible and affordable new premises when it was necessary to leave the space long used by Stay Safe East. But much also went on to review and where

appropriate update processes, practices and key documents, in a participatory way.

This included refreshing commitment to, and structures for, Justice, Equity/Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI). Commitment to equity of multiple types and human rights had been a key aspect of Stay Safe East since it was founded. As well as being a project, then independent organisation, led by disabled people with diverse backgrounds and identities, it was recognised from the outset that different kinds of disadvantage and discrimination intersected. But it was now possible to do in-depth work to bring equity-related policies and activities up to date and deepen understanding. And this is an area in which, I believe, even those with extensive experience always have something new to learn, while approaches need to be adapted as organisations develop.

This was especially important at a time when expressing open prejudice appeared increasingly to be treated as acceptable. An outbreak of anti-minority violence in summer 2024 underlined the threats facing some clients, staff and volunteers while, yet more worryingly, negative views on equality and diversity gained ground. In this climate being clear and consistent about our own principles and practices was even more important, alongside work on organisational values as a whole and a new three-year business plan.

Harassment and abuse often undermine confidence in those on the receiving end. In addition, many clients had previously been denied the usual opportunities to take part in community life on equal terms or encouraged to accept lack of control over their own lives as inevitable. Developing recovery and group-based support in 2024-25 assisted a number of these, especially when no longer at immediate risk, to gain useful skills and become more knowledgeable and confident. Meanwhile new clients needing urgent advocacy could access this.

Also, during the year, volunteering opportunities were expanded. And the injustices tackled by Stay Safe East, and value of its work, were highlighted in many places, including the media and Parliament. From frontline client support and high-profile activities to less noticeable yet important tasks, much was achieved in 2024-25. Thanks to the staff, volunteers, funders, donors and clients who made this possible.

**Savitri Hensman Chair,  
Stay Safe East**

## Chief Executive's Report

2024/25 was a year of consolidation for Stay Safe East. After a couple of very difficult years for the charity, the focus for the Board and management team was maintaining full staffing for the organisation; strengthening our systems and processes and ensuring that we could sustain our core services.

We began the year with some changes to the management team, with new appointees to the Operations Manager role: Kiran Chalke (who very ably stepped into Erika Chaubert's shoes) and the VAWG Manager role: Cecilia Brun, who stepped up from her previous role of Senior IDVA following the departure of Gabriella Bogdan in June 2024. Both new managers have proven to be excellent in their roles and alongside Cheryl Lewis, the highly experienced IVA (Independent Victims Advocate) Team Manager, Stay Safe East benefits from a very strong management team.

A key benefit of having a more settled staff team, especially at management level, was the freeing up of some of my time to have more of an external policy focus. Areas of activity this year included:

- ◆ Delivering workshops on best practice in supporting disabled Victim Survivors at Women's Aid Federation England's annual conference, for Hertfordshire Council's VAWG conference and for the National Health Service's London Safeguarding Conference
- ◆ Presenting on hate crime against disabled people at the Crown Prosecution Service's London South regional conference
- ◆ Supporting the planning and delivering of a day of action on the lack of availability of accessible homes with Inclusion London
- ◆ Attending round table discussions organised by the new Government with their focus on halving VAWG in a decade
- ◆ Joining MOPAC's Expert Reference Group
- ◆ Appearing on Sky News and Women's Hour, alongside Stay Safe East clients in relation to the lack of accessible refuge accommodation for disabled victim/survivors
- ◆ Relaunching the Accessibility of Refuges sector working group in partnership with Safety4Sisters, Solace Women's Aid, Women's Aid, Women's Resource Centre and the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office.

Myself and other colleagues at Stay Safe East also delivered a substantial programme of training to external organisations in 2024/25. The package developed included disability awareness, supporting neurodivergent clients, accessibility training for service managers and best practice in supporting

disabled victim/survivors. In this year we trained colleagues from organisations including Advance, Rape Crisis Supportline, IKWRO and Next Chapter.



**Stay Safe East Team members at Inclusion London's action on accessible homes on a hot summer day in July 2024**

Excitingly, we also held the first Ruth Lecture this year in November 2024. Instigated by our trustee, Kirsten Hearn, the Ruth Lecture will be an annual event remembering our co-founder, Ruth Bashall, and featuring a prominent disabled campaigner or academic. This year's lecture was delivered by Marsha de Cordova MP who talked about discrimination and hate against disabled people, coupled with the importance of disability activism.

This year also saw us working towards greater Equity/Equality, Diversity and Inclusion within the organisation. I embarked on an anti-racist leadership programme, Further Faster, a yearlong programme organised through ACEVO (Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations). We also reviewed all policies through the lens of inclusion, for example naming a dedicated whistleblowing trustee and setting up a whistleblowing@ email address to enable staff to contact her directly. In September 2024, we held an organisational away day, led by an external EEDI expert, at the Chelsea Physick Garden to lay the groundwork for the formation of our JEDI (Justice, Equity/Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Steering Group). We also began development of an organisational JEDI action plan: a live document that is regularly reviewed by managers and the Board. The JEDI steering group with four elected staff representatives launched in December 2024 and has met regularly since.

Another important piece of work that took place this year was the formulation of our organisational values, in consultation with the staff team and Board. After a collaborative process including an organisation-wide workshop, we agreed on the following values for Stay Safe East:

### **Justice**

We have our roots in the social model of disability and the disability rights movement. We know that as disabled people, our staff and clients will have experienced many barriers and injustices in their lives, which may be compounded by intersecting experiences of racism, homophobia, sexism and/or other forms of discrimination. As an organisation we will do our best to practice in a non-discriminatory way, but we will go further than this by giving power back wherever we can and by providing expert advocacy to help those we work with to achieve safety and justice; understanding that people's lives are complex and there can be no 'one size fits all approach' at Stay Safe East.

### **Inclusivity**

Reflecting the disability rights movement slogan, 'Nothing About us Without Us', our organisation is client led, with our work based on collaboration and partnership. We know that we are stronger when we work together. Whilst we are all individuals, with different identities and views, we will strive to create true teamwork, whether in our client work, or within our staff team; treating each other with respect and ensuring that everyone is included. We will always go the extra mile to make sure that we are accessible and to support those who might fall between the cracks of other services.

### **Fearless**

We will never stop fighting to improve the lives of disabled people who all too often

### **Learning**

We will strive to be the best that we can be. To achieve this will always be open to new learning.

experience violence and abuse. We will use our valued expertise to influence at the highest level, with the aim of bringing about change. We will remain optimistic despite the many obstacles that we encounter. We will campaign compassionately and honestly to ignite hope that a better future is possible.

We will have a culture of continual improvement and will invest in the development of our staff. In parallel to this we acknowledge that everyone we work with is an expert by experience. We will seek every opportunity to amplify their voices to bring about improvements to policy and practice at all levels; ensuring that client feedback shapes our work.

Also important this year was the collaborative work undertaken to develop our three-year business plan, which maps out the way forward for Stay Safe East. We held a series of workshops with the Board, managers and staff to develop the strategy, which is underpinned by an organisational action plan. The business strategy was signed off by the Board in March 2025. Thanks to our volunteer, Jane Jutsum and the Operations Manager for driving this piece of work forwards.

From a service-delivery perspective, one big change was the introduction of our step-down offer at the beginning of the financial year. We know that Stay Safe East supports clients for longer than mainstream domestic abuse organisations – largely because our advocates are supporting clients with entrenched abuse, that often spans the course of their life. To support victim/survivors in their journey of recovery from abuse, we wanted to create an offer focusing on empowerment and



Clay Flower making by the Stay Safe East women's group

growth, that could be the next stage in support for clients once their immediate crisis-related needs were met. To this end, we created a new Recovery and Group Worker role, with the aim of linking clients up with therapeutic support, fostering community connections and working towards greater financial empowerment. At the same time, we also relaunched our women's group – previously a staple of SSE, the group had been disbanded during the pandemic. The relaunched women's group has been a success from the word go – we were careful to take a consultative approach to the relaunch, focusing group work on areas that members chose. This led to a really varied programme of activities, including workshops focused on topics such as loss, self-esteem and boundaries; a clay flower workshop and a fun trip to Southend during the summer holidays!

One key difficulty this year was our office provision. We were devastated when we got the news in November 2024 that the Waltham Forest Disability Resource Centre was closing its doors due to funding challenges. This was very upsetting for everyone at Stay Safe East, as we had worked closely alongside Peri Stanley and her team, who provided an amazing service to the disabled community in the borough for many years, in our shared office at Crownfield Road. The closure of the Resource Centre service led Waltham Forest Council, our landlords to reevaluate the use of the building at Crownfield Road. Conscious that the building would require substantial investment to rectify structural issues, the decision was taken to close the building, and we ended 2024/25 with staff working solely at home and without an office base, whilst we worked with the Council to source an alternative office.

Despite this challenge and others, I feel that 2024/25 was overall a positive year for Stay Safe East. I have been proud of the way the everyone: staff, volunteers and Board alike, has pulled together to support one another, and to further our aims and objectives and would like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication during this period.

*Angie Airlie*

**Angie Airlie**

**CEO – Stay Safe East**

# **Stay Safe East**

## **Report of activities 2024-2025**

### **1. Introduction**

The Trustees present their report on activities for the year ending March 31, 2025.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in the Notes to the accounts and comply with Stay Safe East's governing document, applicable law, and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for "Accounting and Reporting by Charities." This includes adherence to the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) as well as the Charities Act 2011.

Stay Safe East is a registered charity, established in 2013 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. It is the only user-led, 'by and for' organization in the UK dedicated to providing long-term advocacy and support to disabled victims and survivors of various forms of abuse. This includes domestic and sexual abuse, as well as other forms of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), hate crime, harassment, cuckooing, abuse by care workers or personal assistants (which we classify as domestic abuse), and abuse within residential and institutional settings.

Stay Safe East leverages the expertise and insights gained from our casework to inform our policy initiatives at both the London-wide and national levels. Our objective is to eliminate barriers to justice and ensure equitable responses for disabled survivors, amplifying their voices to ensure they are heard by policymakers and service providers. Additionally, we offer casework advice, training, consultancy, and capacity-building services to both statutory and voluntary organizations operating in this sector.

### **2. Governing document and Objects of the Charity**

Stay Safe East is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). Originally conceived in 2010 as an offshoot of Disability Action Waltham Forest, it was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission in September 2013 and is governed by its charity governing document. Stay Safe East is a disabled people's organisation run by and for the benefit of disabled people.

#### **Stay Safe East's Objects are:**

- (1) To relieve the distress and suffering caused to Deaf and disabled people by hate crime, harassment, domestic or sexual violence or other forms of abuse

- (2) To promote the human rights of Deaf and disabled people in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- (3) Such purposes as are exclusively charitable in accordance with the law of England and Wales as the Trustees may from time to time decide

### **3. Stay Safe East's objectives during its eleventh year:**

- To continue to provide accessible and holistic support and advocacy to disabled survivors of domestic and sexual abuse, hate crime, harassment and other forms of abuse, and to support our staff and volunteers to deliver a quality and safe service to clients.
- To develop our casework with disabled survivors across London through the London Victims and Witness Service, the Ascent Partnership and the CATCH partnership and other partnerships.
- To broaden our reach to disabled survivors of domestic abuse as part of the Pan London Floating Support Service, funded through the MOPAC Safe Accommodation Framework.
- To develop a step-down offer, to support victim/survivors through their journey from crisis towards recovery.
- To share our expertise with Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations and organisations working on Violence against Women and Girls through casework advice, capacity building, training and briefings
- To further develop Stay Safe East's role as an expert organisation speaking out on behalf of disabled survivors of gender-based violence, hate crime and other abuse; ensuring that our voice is heard at the highest level.
- To work to improve operational responses to disabled victims/survivors by the Metropolitan Police, Crown Prosecution Service, local authorities and other agencies.
- To work to ensure that London and national policy and strategies on hate crime, violence against women and girls and victims' rights include appropriate measures to meet the needs of disabled survivors.
- To strengthen the financial and organisational resilience of Stay Safe East, its management structure and processes to help it grow sustainably.

### **4. Trustees**

The Trustees are elected by the Charity's members at the annual general meeting for a period of up to three years. Trustees are offered an induction,

including presentations by staff, background material and information on the Charity's principal activities. Trustees are all unpaid volunteers and may claim reasonable out of pocket expenses. All Trustees contribute to major decisions which impact on the organisation, bring new ideas and experiences and help shape the priorities of the Charity.

The Trustees who served during the year are listed on the first page. There were nine Trustees during the year. One client who is a member of the Board has chosen to remain anonymous to protect their safety. One new Trustee was appointed during the year.

## **5. Organisational Structure and Staffing**

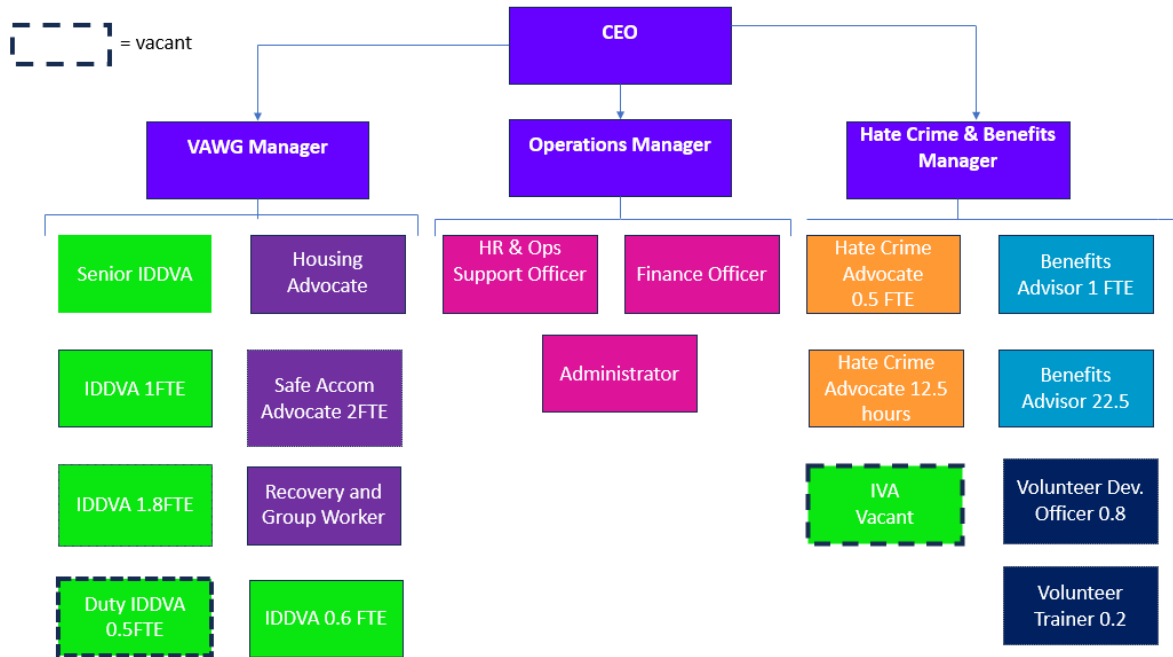
The Stay Safe East Board is responsible for overseeing the work of the organisation and setting strategic direction. The Board has nine members, including two user representatives. The Board appoints the Chair of Stay Safe East, who supports the Chief Executive (CEO). As Stay Safe East has grown, we have changed the way we appoint staff – Board members are now usually only involved in the selection process for senior posts.

The Chair has delegated powers to take necessary decisions between scheduled Board meetings and is responsible for appraising the performance of the CEO on behalf of the Board.

Board meetings were held six times in the year, in addition to our Annual General Meeting in January. All meetings were held remotely on Zoom. Other decisions were made by the Board by e-mail, or in some instances of urgency, Chair's Action. The CEO gives the Board an account of the progress of the Charity's work, reports on financial matters, brings issues requiring particular attention and gets agreement for forward work.

In May 2024, Stay Safe East successfully recruited a new Operations Manager, Kiran Chalke, to assist the CEO with the management of the HR, Finance and Administrative functions. The management team grew further in July with the addition of Cecilia Brun, who had joined the organisation as Senior IDVA earlier in the year.

## Stay Safe East Organisational Structure 2024-25 (correct as of March 2025)



## 6. Financial report

### Stay Safe East: Summary of Financial Activities 2024-25

<b>Income during the year:</b>	<b>£763,252</b>
<b>Expenditure during the year:</b>	<b>£819,577</b>
<b>Surplus of income over expenditure:</b>	<b>-£56,325</b>
<b>Reserves brought forward:</b>	<b>£407,053</b>
<b>Total closing funds of the charity, of which</b>	<b>£350,729</b>
Unrestricted funds	<b>£76,823</b>
Restricted funds	<b>£273,906</b>

***\*Independently Examined Financial Statements are available on the Charity Commission website.***

Stay Safe East ended the year in a sound financial position. The Trustees regularly consider the finances of the Charity and receive reports from the Treasurer and CEO to ensure that it is a going concern. They are satisfied that this is the case at the date of this report. Budgets and cash flow projections are drawn up to ensure proper governance.

Whilst there has been a decrease in our reserves this year, largely due to continuing to fund specialist posts to increase our advocacy, alongside the additional cost of utilising agency staff, the organisation's reserves are still adequate. Of the £350,729 carried forwards, £82,939 is designated as three months running costs/winding down costs, as recommended by CIPFA and the Charity Commission.

Our income came from a mix of grants, contracts for casework and capacity building, training income and donations.

**The Board would like to thank our funders for their support:**

- Three Guineas Trust
- Trust for London
- Mayor's Office on Policing and Crime (MOPAC)
- Home Office
- Ministry of Justice
- Comic Relief
- National Lottery Community Fund
- The Smallwood Trust
- London Community Foundation for the VAWG Grassroots Fund (funded by MOPAC)

Income also came from contracts, all originating with MOPAC:

- London Victim and Witness Service via Victim Support
- CATCH Hate Crime Partnership
- Ascent Partnership
- Pan London Floating Support Service (via Refuge)

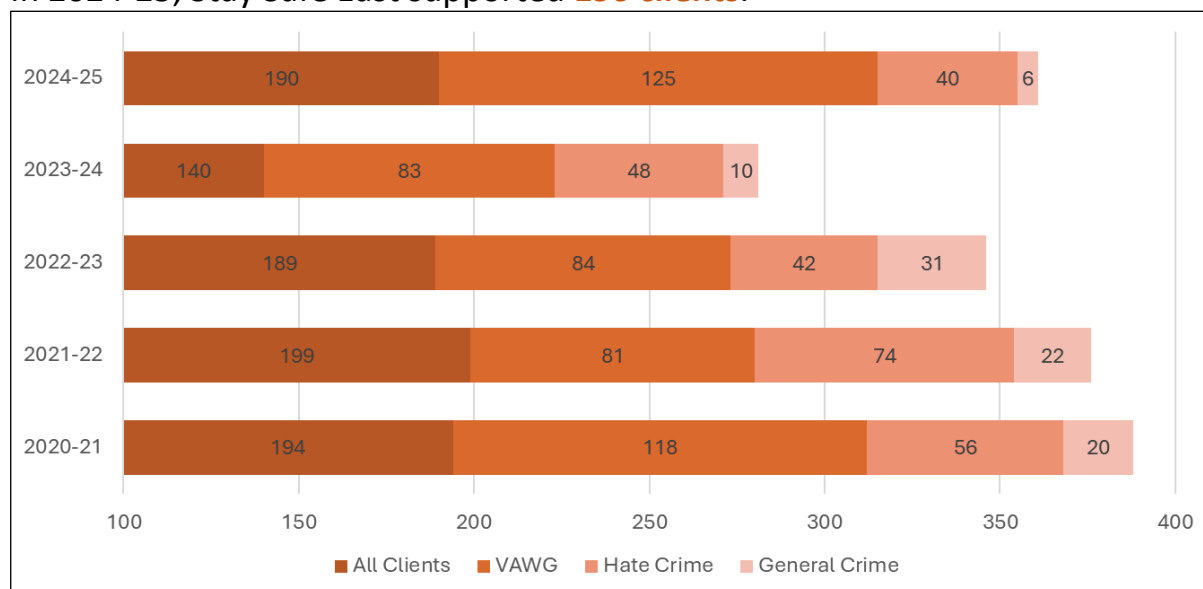
This was the fifth year of our grant for core costs from Three Guineas Trust, which funded 60% of the CEO's salary, Operations Manager, HR Officer and Finance Officer posts plus core administrative costs. We remain extremely thankful for this core funding, as it provides us with security and the funds to create a management structure which is fit for purpose as the charity grows.

## Stay Safe East casework report

### Supporting victims/survivors of abuse and other crimes

#### 1. The numbers

In 2024-25, Stay Safe East supported **190 clients**.



#### Client Equalities Data

Our clients come from a very diverse range of backgrounds, and our advocates work carefully to ensure that their intersecting needs and strands of identity are accounted for within the support that they provide.

A breakdown of the equalities data for our client is shown in the tables below.

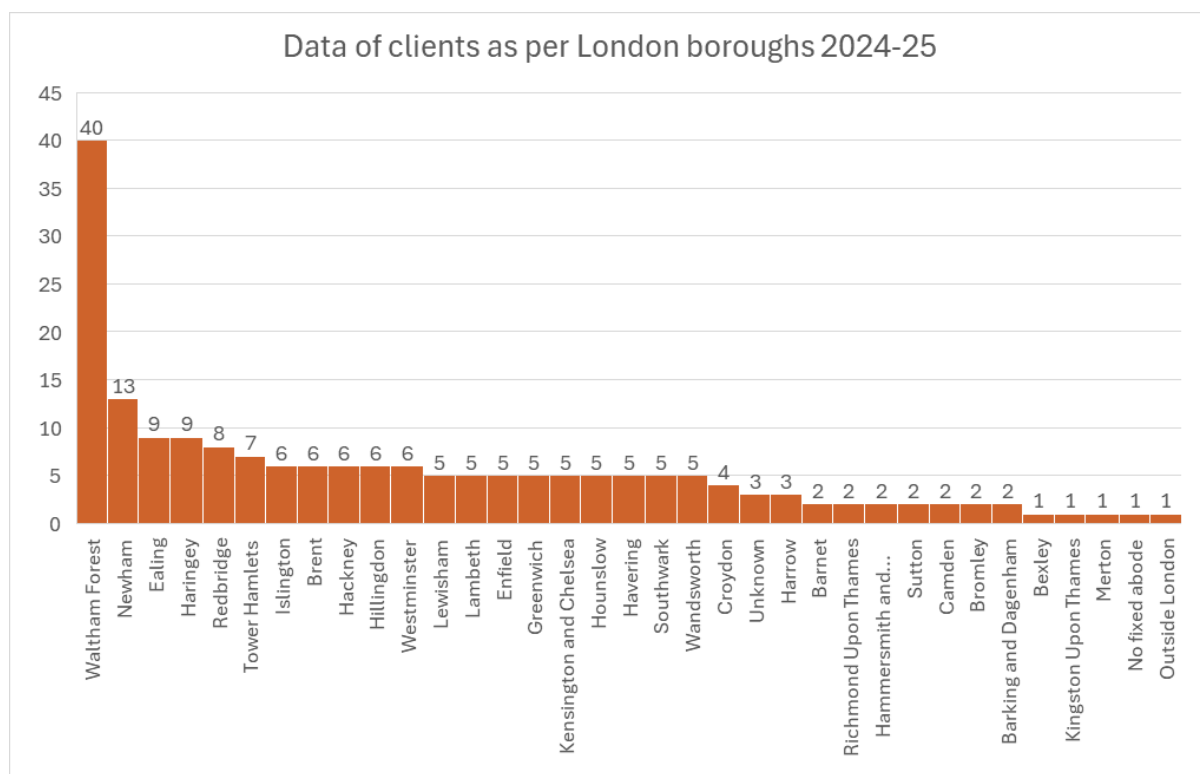
#### Headlines from the data

- ◆ Most clients were female. 11 male clients were supported with domestic abuse; the remainder (23) were supported with hate crime, or general crime.
- ◆ In 2024-25 a high proportion (32%) of our clients came from the three East London boroughs that the organisation originally served (Hackney, Waltham Forest and Newham). However, we supported clients from all the London boroughs, showing the impact of our work Pan London.
- ◆ 2024/25 saw a slight bucking of the trends of previous years, with 52% of clients being under 46 (in 2023/24 52% of clients were **over** 46).
- ◆ Each client had, on average, 3.4 types of impairment, demonstrating the many complex health conditions that our clients are living with.

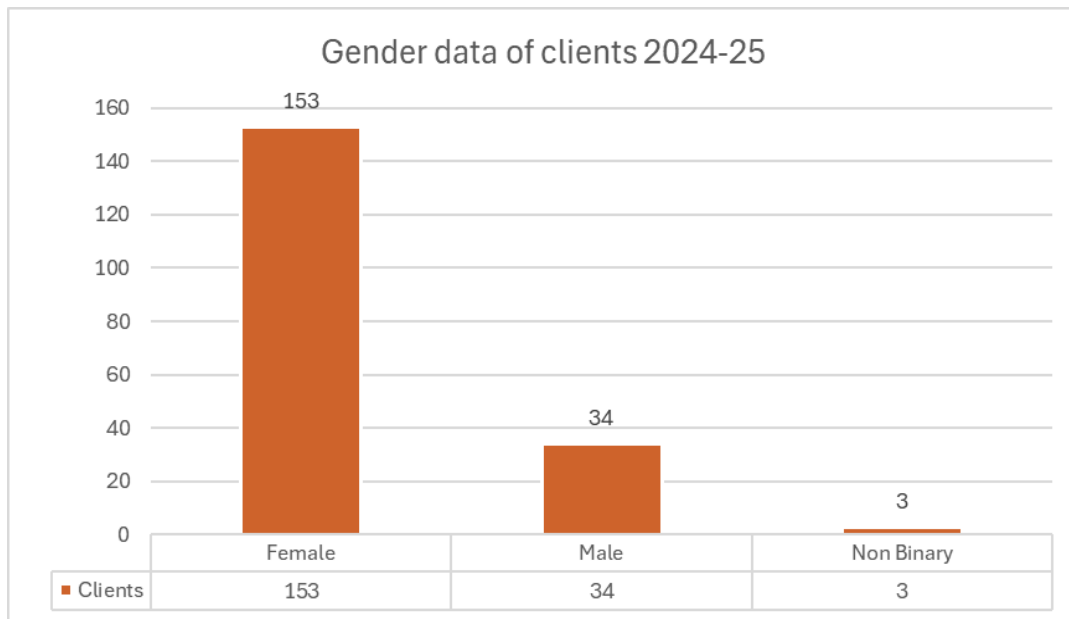
- ◆ 56% of clients identified as being from global majority, or mixed heritage. Many of the clients supported by the hate crime service (and indeed the VAWG service) have been impacted by racism and this may be the trigger for the referral to us, despite their being a disabled person. For this reason, we reference hate crime against disabled people, rather than the less nuanced disability hate crime. This recognises that disabled people are not two dimensional, but will have life experiences relating to their age, sexuality, race, religion and so forth.

## Data tables

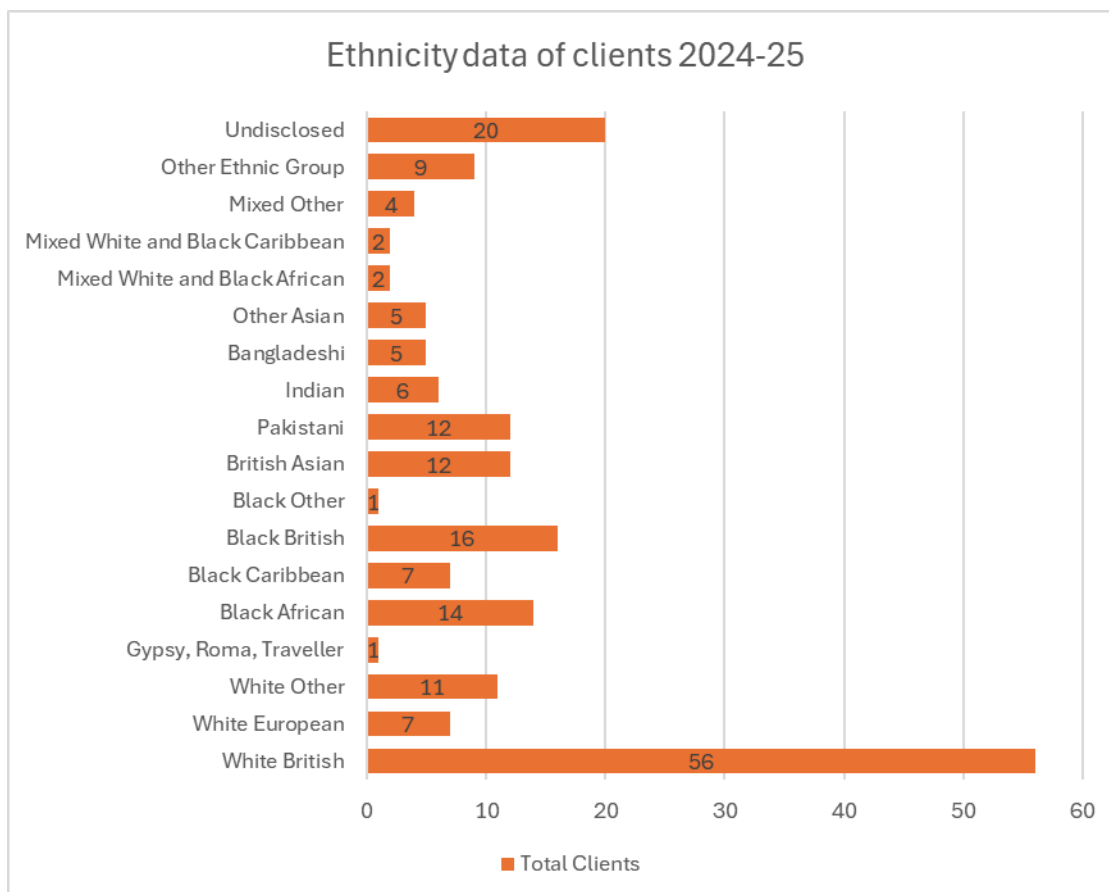
### Location of clients



## Gender of clients



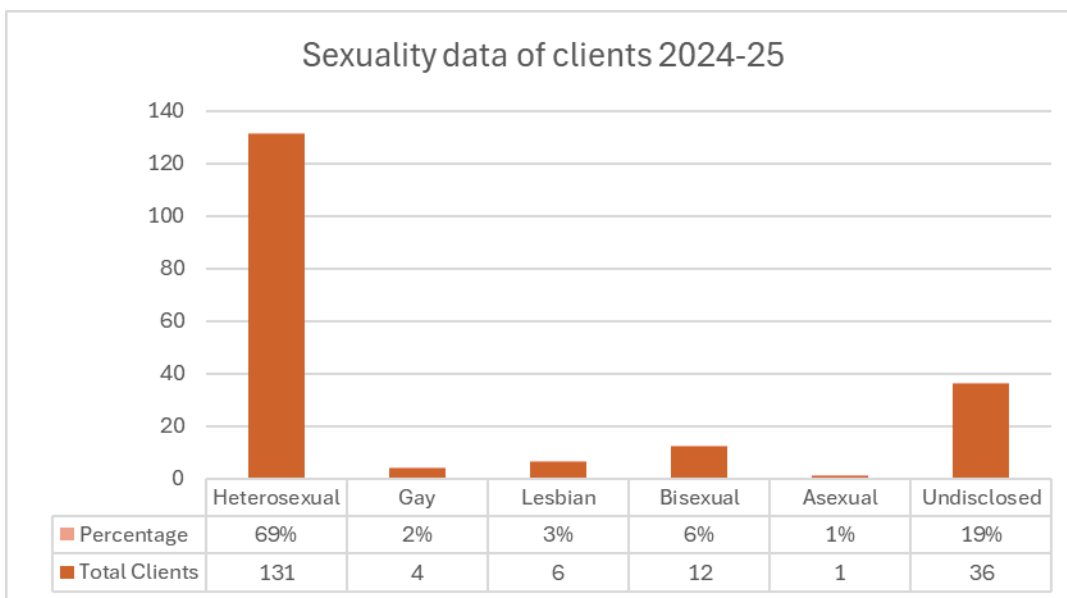
## Ethnicity of clients



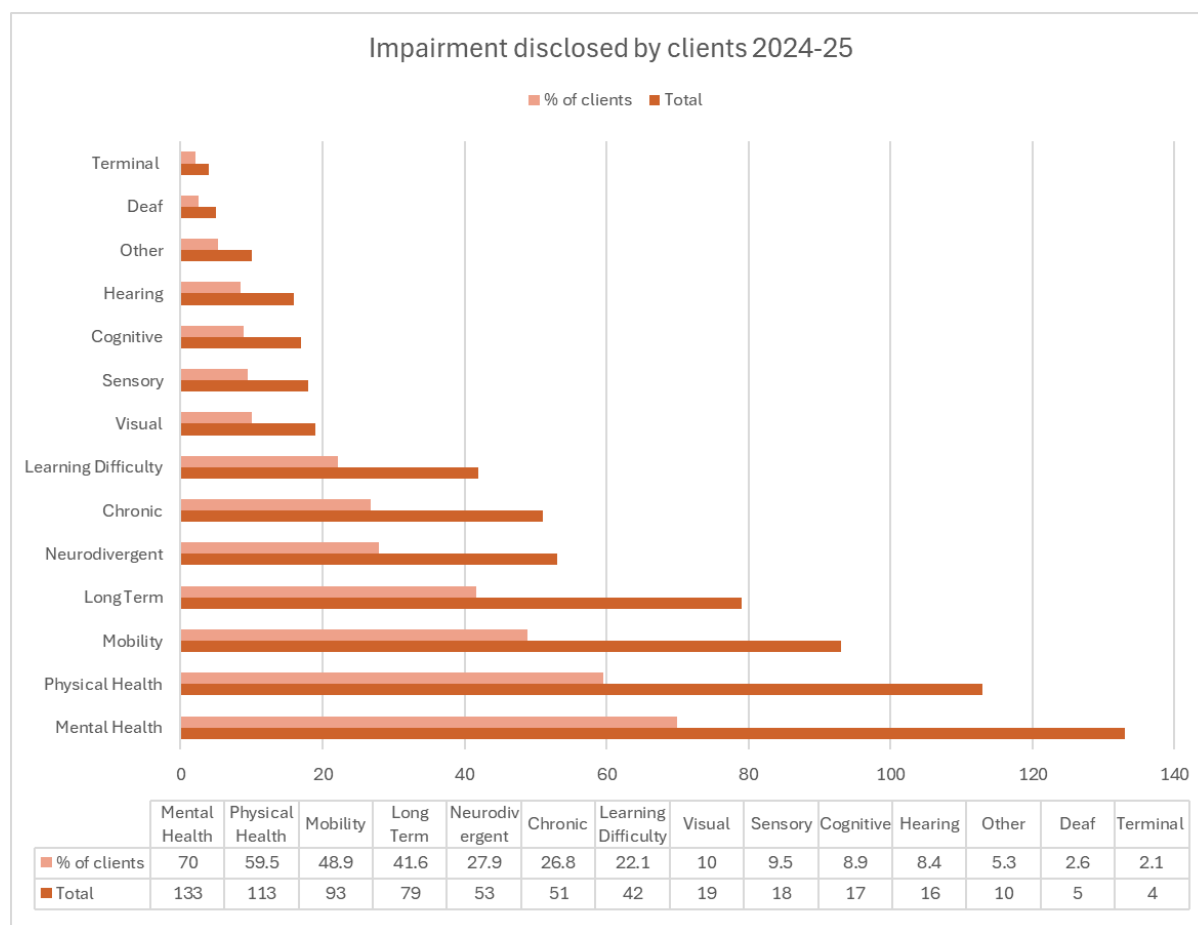
## Age of clients



## Sexuality of clients



## Impairments disclosed by client



## 2. Domestic abuse / Violence Against Disabled Women

During **2024-25**, the domestic abuse team worked with **140 clients**. 125 clients were supported by IDDVA's and 15 clients were supported by the new Recovery and Group Worker.

The team supports survivors of domestic abuse, which occurs within the broader context of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). While many of our clients are women, we actively advocate for survivors of all genders. Our clients often experience multiple forms of abuse, including institutional abuse, sexual violence, rape, trafficking, and other types of abuse. As a 'by and for' specialist VAWG service, we adopt a holistic approach, addressing the entirety of a survivor's experiences and allowing them to set their own priorities.

During 2024, the VAWG team expanded recruiting three IDDVA's, a senior IDDVA, a senior housing advocate and a recovery and group worker. The

expansion of the team has enabled the VAWG team to support more clients, provide specialist housing advice and step-down support.

A Senior IDDVA was recruited was in March and one of their main roles is to line manage some of the team. This has been instrumental to provide support to the IDDVAS but also to the VAWG service manager with performance management and insights into the service.

The Senior Housing Advocate has established pathways with LA housing to support our clients with safe and accessible housing. She has delivered training to housing officers, tenancy officers regarding domestic violence, disability and housing. The Senior Housing Advocate has also supported the VAWG team with complex cases and widening their knowledge to challenge and advocate for their clients.

The Recovery and Group Worker has provided lower level, and non-crisis support to clients. She has been sourcing training or volunteering opportunities which has included referrals to our internal volunteering service. She has referred clients to counselling, their local exercise classes, advocated during child proceedings and supported clients to access employment. The Recovery and Group worker has delivered a women's group which has involved psychoeducation about domestic violence, arts and crafts, sessions on different emotions and organised a summer trip to Margate. She undertook the Own My Life course in November to deliver the course in 2025.

Our Domestic Violence Advocates (IDDVAs) are largely disabled individuals. They work within an intersectional, social model of disability and serve as positive role models for clients by demonstrating leadership and responsibility through their lived experiences as disabled advocates.

### **The Support We Provide to Clients**

Our Domestic Abuse team offers comprehensive, tailored support to clients, addressing a wide range of needs. This includes:

- **Creating a Safe Space:** Providing clients with the time and opportunity to share their story, often for the first time with someone who truly believes them.
- **Accessibility:** Providing different ways clients can self-refer, ensuring clients are supported to access the support in various locations (office, GP

surgery, a private room in a library), resources are available in various formats with clear language avoiding language.

- **Safety and Risk Assessments:** Conducting thorough safety planning and disability risk assessments to ensure clients' safety.
- **Legal Support:** Assisting clients in obtaining non-molestation and occupation orders to remove the abuser from their home, and supporting them through police reporting, including attending Achieving Best Evidence (ABE) interviews.
- **Empowerment and Decision-Making:** Offering accessible options and working closely with survivors, particularly disabled victims, to help them decide the best course of action.
- **Housing and Accessibility Support:** Helping clients secure safe, suitable accommodation that meets their individual access needs and assisting with tenancy management.
- **Care and Health Support:** Assisting clients in applying for care packages, occupational therapy assessments, and advocating for their health needs, including, medication access, and challenging bad practice whereby clients support has not been reviewed when medical circumstances have changed and/or worsened.
- **Safeguarding and Child Protection:** Supporting clients whose cases are referred to adult safeguarding, as well as women involved in child protection plans and care proceedings. We assist them in navigating the Family Courts.
- **Legal and Advocacy Support:** Helping clients understand and respond to legal proceedings by attending care proceedings and post-hearing meetings. We also liaise with external agencies, such as solicitors or MPs, when clients' cases are not being taken seriously.
- **Health and Crisis Intervention:** advocating for clients when they do not feel heard by GPs and healthcare professionals. Supporting clients to access mental health support and providing crisis information.
- **Financial support** – to ensure clients have access to all benefits they are entitled to them, and they are referred to our internal benefits and entitlements team. We have applied and been successful in getting the future and flee funds from Women's Aid. We support clients with budgeting and empower them to reach financial independence.
- **Step Down support and Women's Group-** the step down support involves supporting clients to attend meetings, for example with housing officers, substance misuse meeting/ assessment, link in with volunteering and help to build ties with the local community, search for CV writing courses, help to apply for ESOL classes, signpost to baby and mother groups, and

recreational activities. The women's group bridges the gap between ongoing support and case closure and aims to provide some emotional and practical support after exiting the crisis service.

We have continued our partnership with Refuge on tech and economic abuse. This partnership has been invaluable for both Refuge and Stay Safe East. We have referred clients to Refuge for financial and tech abuse support. They have continued to deliver workshops to staff and consult with our team around materials and resources to make them more accessible.

The VAWG delivered team delivered best practice supporting disabled victim survivors training and training on effective Support for Disabled Survivors of Sexual Abuse and Assault. This training created awareness and provided increased knowledge to staff working in the sector about supporting disabled victims. Positive feedback was received for these trainings.

Towards the end of 2024, there were some long-term sickness absences which meant that one of the IDDVAs and the Senior IDDVAs were not working. This resulted in staff holding higher caseloads and the VAWG service manager managing the whole team for a short period of time. A temporary Senior IDDNA was recruited to support the VAWG Service Manager and the team.

### **Case study:**

O is a 63-year-old Black, Christian disabled woman and survivor of domestic abuse. O faced significant challenges after her divorce from the alleged perpetrator (AP, her husband at the time). These included financial instability due to unresolved property arrangements involving the AP, inaccessible housing, and difficulties accessing healthcare.

Whilst ineligible for housing support due to assets in her name, O was unable to access these and faced challenges finding safe and accessible accommodation. The long-term financial impact of abuse left her at risk of eviction, further exacerbating her circumstances.

#### **Specialist support**

As a by-and-for organisation, our service provided tailored support to O, addressing both immediate and long-term barriers. Our Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) worked closely with O to advocate for accessible housing, secure legal advice, and navigate complex financial

challenges with support from other specialist independent charitable organisations.

Through promoting improved collaboration between agencies such as legal advisors, and healthcare services, we ensured O's rights and needs as a disabled survivor were prioritised and her voice heard.

### **Positive outcomes**

With our specialist support, O successfully secured adaptations for her home to improve accessibility and was connected to essential healthcare and legal resources – O shared *"Your intervention has really cut through the hurdles they put in place."*

O has since become a passionate advocate for other disabled survivors on a wider scale, using her lived experience to influence policy discussions and highlight barriers faced by many. Following case closure, O participated in a survivor's summit, engaging with policymakers to highlight key issues such as financial independence and accessible housing. O also shared positive feedback with our advocate about the opportunity to contribute their insight: *"I know and appreciate [the recommendation for the summit]. Congratulations for all your efforts."*

### **3. Hate crime and cuckooing**

Our hate crime service has two strands: an established local service in East London with a part-time advocate and a second part-time advocate funded by MOPAC via CATCH. These provisions supported **40 disabled victims in 2024-25**

The team supports victims of hate crime, which includes anti-social behaviour and cuckooing. Hate crime experienced by our clients relates to disability, but also other aspects of client's identity, particularly ethnicity and/or sexuality.

#### **Case study 1:**

D is a disabled mother, who self-referred to Stay Safe East, seeking assistance for her disabled daughter, who had been a continuous victim of ongoing harassment, intimidation, and bullying from her neighbours. At the time of referral, the abuse had escalated, despite it being reported to

the police on multiple occasions. The perpetrators were warned by the authorities, yet disregarded these warnings and continued their harassment.

With the mother holding power of attorney, she was compelled to take the difficult step of relocating her daughter to her own home to protect her from the constant harassment and to safeguard her wellbeing. This decision was not an easy one, especially considering that both mother and daughter had their own individual needs and disabilities.

Stay Safe East's Independent Victims Advocate (IVA) has been advocating for the daughter's need for rehousing from the council, to ensure she gets a safe and suitable place to live. We have also supported the client to contact a housing solicitor who can provide legal assistance in dealing with this situation.

The client has been very thankful for the support offered: *"Honestly you have no idea how much it means to have someone care about another one's feelings and I no (sic) there is only so much you can do but you are doing it unlike the rest of people..."*

### **Case Study 2:**

Client T was referred to our service after experiencing persistent homophobic and anti-disability hate crime and harassment from neighbours. T reported that neighbours regularly invaded his privacy, provoked arguments, and sometimes used transphobic as well as homophobic slurs—despite T not being trans. Having previously received support and advice from our CATCH partner, GALOP, T was also keen to explore disability-focused support from our service.

Initially, our Independent Victim Advocate (IVA) listened to T's story and provided emotional support and information about his options, before developing a support and action plan to address the issues T was facing.

T faced additional barriers as a disabled person, including an automated switch to Universal Credit, a process which could lead to T inadvertently incurring rent arrears. T also has a health condition that requires treatments from a health professional- the financial insecurity left T worried about his ability to afford this additional expense going forwards. We referred him to our in-house Benefits and Entitlements service for urgent support to manage the switch, and guidance about the process.

At the same time, our advocate reached out to key professionals, including housing officers, to explore options for improving T's safety and stability, and discussed additional avenues for support with T, such as contacting the

Council, Occupational Therapy, and Police / local Safer Neighbourhoods Teams, to liaise around his situation and options to keep him safe.

Having someone to navigate these complex systems made a significant difference to T, who said: "*[Speaking] to someone who knows it well and can talk me through it, I think I can start to get to grips with it.*"

#### **4. Independent Victims Advocate/General crime**

Our organization takes great pride in having the sole recognized specialist in the UK who serves as a Disability Independent Victims' Advocate (IVA). Her duties involve providing crucial support for disabled individuals who have been victimized through a broad spectrum of crime, including common assault, institutional abuse, financial abuse, theft, sustained and repeated harassment, and any other types of mixed crime (except those covered by our VAWG service).

Our Disability IVA adopts a holistic approach to supporting clients, covering a wide aspect of an individuals' live. This includes supporting individuals to report crimes and incidents to the police, local authority Housing and Anti-Social Behaviour teams. Preparing clients for their cases going to court, ensuring that the victim's case is fully prepared for court. This includes coordinating pre-trial court visits. Crucial to the court process is supporting and advocating for clients when at court, liaising with court officials on the client's behalf as required according to their wishes.

This is the fifth year of this vital service. Our specialist IVA continues to work to address the unique needs of disabled victims and ensuring they receive the comprehensive support and advocacy essential for their well-being and in pursuit of justice.

The part-time IVA supported **6 clients** in 2024-25.

#### **5. Benefits and Entitlements Advocates (BEAs)**

Our two Benefits and Entitlement Advocates (1.5 FTE), funded by Comic Relief, Trust for London and The Smallwood Trust, supported **43** of our clients this year. The support they offer is aimed at enabling survivors of abuse to respond to the impacts of economic abuse, with a particular focus on income maximisation and financial empowerment. The support offered by the BEAs included:

- Support with claiming Personal Independence Payment (PIP), or with challenging inappropriate PIP award decisions

- Support to migrate from Employment Support Allowance to Universal Credit
- Assistance in managing debt
- Support with claiming other welfare benefits
- Securing direct payments
- Provision of food packages
- Claiming small and medium grants e.g. for travel and white goods.

The gross total generated for clients across all strands of Benefits & Entitlements work in 2024/25 was **£261,403.62**.

### *Case Study:*

LS was referred to the Benefits and Entitlements team for help with income maximisation. LS resided in supported housing and was struggling financially. LS suffers from severe mental health and mobility issues and was having to pay shortfall of £280 a month for his local authority care package.

LS was already claiming Universal Credit and Personal Independence Payment (enhanced rate for both components). We looked at whether any of his bills could be reduced. His council tax bill was extremely high; no discounts had been applied for his disability. The advocate contacted the council and immediately applied for a 25% single persons discount as LS was currently living in the property alone. This was awarded and it reduced the bill by £600. The advocate has subsequently applied for a further discount for LS's disability and council tax reduction support.

The process of supporting LS generated questions about what bills he should be paying as a supported accommodation tenant. He had no tenancy agreement when referred to the Benefits and Entitlements service and was unsure what his tenancy situation was. The advocate probed this with LS' landlord, who finally confirmed what bills were included in the rent figure and provided a tenancy agreement. Based on this, the advocate has been challenging the landlord to take responsibility for payment of council tax on the property.

LS has showed so much gratitude for our service; he appreciates the time

and work we put in. He finally understands his living arrangements; questions he had are now being answered and he has some clarity.

## 6. Volunteer Programme

This year saw the launch of Stay Safe East's volunteer programme, funded by Propel. The programme is designed to support disabled people in pathways towards meaningful careers; addressing two distinct issues: the lack of quality employment opportunities for disabled people and the staffing shortages experienced within the wider domestic abuse/VAWG sector. The Volunteer Development Officer and Volunteer Trainer commenced work in March 2024. The first tranche of volunteers undertook the two-day induction programme in July-August 2024. A further two programmes took place within this year and feedback from participants has been excellent:

*"I found the training extremely interesting and learnt a lot of useful information about the organisation and especially how to conduct yourself during casework, knowledge which was a building block for me moving on from when I used to work for the [Government].*

*My overall experience at Stay Safe East has been really great. All the staff are helpful, friendly and the volunteer coordinator K has been especially warm, supportive and understanding. I would recommend Stay Safe East to another potential volunteer and actually did email Stay Safe East on behalf of someone who I met who was interested in volunteering as well. I have been out of work for over ten years and my experience of Stay Safe East has been excellent so far."*

Building on this success, Stay Safe East has partnered with University College London (UCL), offering places on the volunteer programme to three Law Masters students – a partnership that we are continuing to develop.

We are grateful for the support of the Propel funders in enabling this programme to develop.

### **Stay Safe East** **Policy and Change Work**

Stay Safe East's policy work is about speaking out about the violence against disabled people, and particularly disabled women. The responses we write to dry policy documents, the meetings we attend, the letters we write, or co-sign

are about our passion to ensure that disabled survivors get the support, safety and justice they need and deserve – and most of all that the abuse is prevented. We are grateful to the **Three Guineas Trust** for their continued support which has helped us give survivors a national voice.

## 1. Violence against women and girls

Whilst there are no completely accurate records of the number of disabled women murdered, the Government's online Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) library, launched in June 2023, highlights the disproportionality of disabled people's experiences of domestic abuse – and the seriousness of the consequences. Of the 637 DHRs within the online library:

- ◆ 64 (10%) related to a victim with a physical disability
- ◆ 349 (55%) related to a victim with a mental health disorder
- ◆ 159 (25%) related to a victim with a serious life-limiting illness
- ◆ 19 (3%) related to a neurodivergent victim

This year Stay Safe East has continued to raise awareness of the experiences of disabled victim/survivors of domestic abuse at the highest level. Stay Safe East is a participant in a number of advisory groups:

- **The National Expert Steering Group on Domestic Abuse** convened by MHCLG
- The **London Mayor's Office on Policing (MOPAC) VAWG Expert Reference Group** and the **London Domestic Abuse Partnership Board**
- The **NHS England and Department of Health bimonthly call on violence against women and girls**
- **The Ministry of Justice's Victims and Witness Sector Engagement Group**
- We support the **Domestic Abuse Commissioner (DAC)** with advice on disability related matters; attending the monthly DAC office call

Stay Safe East is also a key contributor to the monthly VAWG Sector call, providing updates relating to disabled victim/survivors. In this capacity, we took the lead on relaunching the Accessibility of Refuges Working Group, originally convened by EVAW. We also participated in the Communication Barriers working group.

We took part in many consultations this year, especially relating to safe accommodation and the Part IV duty. We were particularly pleased to be invited to round table events organised by the new Government relating to different

aspects of VAWG and a VAWG Reception at the Home Office organised very early in the new Government's term of office.

## **2. Work with other Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations**

At Stay Safe East we very much value our status as a by-and-for Deaf and Disabled People's organisation (DDPO) and appreciate opportunities to work collaboratively with other DDPOs. This year a big focus has been on housing. We joined Inclusion London's Housing Network at the end of 2023/24 and in 2024/25 our new Senior Housing Advocate, Kasia, became an active member. In July 2024, we were delighted to support Inclusion London's Housing Action, calling on the Government to raise the minimum accessibility standards for new homes across the UK. We helped to make banners for the event, and several of the team attended. With Angie Airlie amongst those making speeches in Parliament Square.

Angie was also part of the Community of Practice for DDPO staff working in strategic communications and, as part of this group, benefited from consultancy on organisational comms with Equally Ours. Further consultancy support, from Inclusion London, helped with carrying out an organisational review, and also offered IT training to SSE staff. We are very thankful for this practical and helpful support from Inclusion London and their consultants. We are also grateful to Inclusion London for the peer support offered by the Power Up CEO Network, which launched in July 2024. This has proven to be a valuable space for discussing some of the particular issues experienced by the DDPO sector leadership.

## **3. Partnership on Tech Abuse with Refuge**

In 2023 we began working in partnership with Refuge whereby they deliver regular tech facilitated abuse and economic training courses to the staff, and we provide consultation on digital safety guides, other content relevant to the project such as on emerging trends. We also have accessibility working groups where Refuge share materials they are developing, and we provide our expertise, suggestions and knowledge to ensure the material is more accessible for our clients. Since early 2025, Refuge has been delivering economic abuse and tech abuse workshops to victim survivors both online and in person.

This project builds on our work with Refuge in the Pan London Floating Support Service, and cements our status as a valued by and for partner.

#### 4. Hate crime policy and partnerships

Stay Safe East is a founding member of the London Disabled People's Organisations Hate Crime Partnership led by Inclusion London, and one of three Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations who are part of the CATCH hate crime partnership, delivery support to victims of hate crime across London. As the only specialist organisation working solely with disabled victims of abuse, we bring evidence and unique expertise to both partnerships. We regularly attend the **Pan London Hate Crime Stake Holder Reference Group**.

We were delighted to be invited to speak at a Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) London South conference in October 2024, alongside Galop, where we spoke about disability hate crime and the impacts on disabled people. It was particularly inspiring to meet fellow speaker, Paralympian gold medallist Ayaz Bhuta at this event – and to hold his gold medal! As a result of attending this conference, Angie was invited to be a member of the CPS Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel.



Angie Airlie and Paralympian Ayaz Bhuta at a CPS Conference

#### 5. Training and events

Growing our external training offer was a big focus this year. We developed a menu of training to realistically cost the time taken to develop and deliver training. However, the focus for Stay Safe East will always be widening understanding of the needs of disabled victim/survivors. With this in mind, we provide training free or very low cost to smaller organisations; we also arrange reciprocal training, or skills swaps.

In this year we were commissioned to deliver a substantial package of training to Advance. We also trained staff from Rape Crisis' Support Line, IKWRO (Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation), Difference North East (a fellow DDPO) and Next Chapter, an Essex based domestic abuse organisation.

## **6. Research into the needs of Deaf and disabled survivors of rape and sexual violence**

In January 2022, the Ministry of Justice awarded a contract to a partnership led by the University of Leeds with Stay Safe East, SignHealth and Liverpool Hope University to carry out qualitative research into the needs of Deaf and disabled survivors of rape and sexual violence.

The review identified the lack of evidence on the experiences of Deaf and disabled survivors. will help shape support services for survivors in England and Wales. The evidence from the research will inform the recommissioning by the Ministry of Justice of support services to survivors of rape and sexual violence. We hope it will also help bring about changes in the way that support organisations and the criminal justice system respond to Deaf and disabled survivors. The findings of the research project were published in 2023, and can be viewed [here](#).

In 2024, Dr Andrea Hollomotz was further commissioned by the Home Office to carry out a qualitative analysis of disabled women's experiences or reporting rape and serious sexual offences (RASSO) to the police, analysing the Ministry of Justice research data outlined above and a further dataset involving interviews with women with Multiple Sclerosis who had experienced domestic abuse. Stay Safe East was credited as a research advisor for this important work.

Charity registration number: 1153615

Stay Safe East  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
For the year ended  
31 March 2025

## Stay Safe East

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Independent examiner's report to the trustees	2
Statement of financial activities	4
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Statement of cash flows	6
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## Stay Safe East

### Reference and administrative details

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The trustees present their report (contained in a separate document) and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Status Stay Safe East is a registered charitable organisation (CIO).

Governing Document The charity was established under the Charities Act 2011.

Charity Registration Number 1153615

Principle office 1 Russell Road  
London  
E10 7ES

The Trustees Savitri Hensman  
Jonathan Grosskopf (appointed 23 May 2024, left 14 August 2025)  
Isabel Rós Lopez  
Alex Irving  
Alexandra Delameilleure  
Bennett Obong  
Kirsten Hearn  
Storme Toolis, service user representative  
S, service user representative  
Jane Jutsum (appointed 25 September 2025)

*With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the name of one service user representative is withheld to protect their safety.*

Independent examiner Carbon Accountancy Limited  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

## **Stay Safe East**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2025**

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I report on the financial statements of the company for the period ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 8 to 13. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (section 132 of the Charities Act 2011).

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 114(2) of the Charity Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the institute of Chartered Accountants Ireland.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under charities act and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of Independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Stay Safe East

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements,
  - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011: and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of regulations 2008 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*John Leyden*

Countersigned on 22 January 2026 @ 13:28  
.....

John Leyden FCA  
Carbon Accountancy Limited  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

22 January 2026

Stay Safe East

**Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted Funds £	Total funds £	2024 Total Funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
<u>Grants and donations</u>					
Grants		130,000	343,159	473,159	399,448
Other donations		6,303	-	6,303	3,052
	<b>4</b>	<u>136,303</u>	<u>343,159</u>	<u>479,462</u>	<u>402,500</u>
<u>Charitable activities</u>					
Contracts		-	268,141	268,141	217,592
Other charitable activities		11,050	-	11,050	250
	<b>5</b>	<u>11,050</u>	<u>268,141</u>	<u>279,191</u>	<u>217,842</u>
Other income	<b>6</b>	<u>4,599</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,599</u>	<u>4,227</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<u>151,952</u>	<u>611,300</u>	<u>763,252</u>	<u>624,569</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	<b>7</b>	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	<b>8,9</b>	212,589	606,988	819,577	641,282
		<u>212,589</u>	<u>606,988</u>	<u>819,577</u>	<u>641,282</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>212,589</u>	<u>606,988</u>	<u>819,577</u>	<u>641,282</u>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<u>(60,637)</u>	<u>4,312</u>	<u>(56,324)</u>	<u>(16,713)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		159,678	247,375	407,053	423,766
Transfers in year		(22,219)	22,219	-	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>76,823</u>	<u>273,906</u>	<u>350,729</u>	<u>407,053</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.


**The notes on pages 7 to 21 form part of these financial statements**

## Stay Safe East

### Statement of Financial Position For the year ended 31 March 2025

		2025	2024
	Note	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	16	1,466	591
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	17	189,056	207,100
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>193,488</u>	<u>259,963</u>
		<u>382,544</u>	<u>467,063</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	18	<u>(33,281)</u>	<u>(60,601)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>349,263</u>	<u>406,462</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>350,729</u>	<u>407,053</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>350,729</u>	<u>407,053</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		273,906	247,375
Unrestricted funds		<u>76,823</u>	<u>159,678</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	21	<u>350,729</u>	<u>407,053</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 22 January 2026, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

  
Signed on 22 January 2026 @ 09:15  
Savitri Hensman  
Trustee

**The notes on pages 7 to 21 form part of these financial statements.**

## Stay Safe East

### Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended 31 March 2025

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	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	(56,324)	(16,713)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	223	26
Accrued expenses and deferred income	1,549	15,363
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	18,043	64 282
Trade and other creditors	(28,868)	(16,366)
Net cash from operating activities	<u>(65,377)</u>	<u>46,593</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of tangible assets	<u>(1,098)</u>	<u>(616)</u>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	(66,475)	45,976
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<u>259,963</u>	<u>213,987</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<u>193,488</u>	<u>259,963</u>

**Stay Safe East**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

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**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The address of the principal office is 1 Russell Road, London E10 7ES.

**2. Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from January 2019.

**3. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared using the historic cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis in accounting in preparation of financial statements.

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are no judgements nor any key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of material misstatement to the carry amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements.

### **3. Accounting policies *(continued)***

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the trustees' discretion to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

#### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

#### **Tangible assets**

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The costs of minor additions are not capitalised.

#### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 25% straight line basis

#### **Impairment of fixed assets**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

#### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

#### Defined contribution pension plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 4. Grants and Donations – current year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£	£
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	-	-
Trust for London	-	6,117	6,117
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	-	-
Three Guineas Trust	130,000	-	130,000
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	-	-
London Community Response Fund	-	-	-
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	62,500	62,500
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	138,267	138,267
Comic Relief	-	60,044	60,044
Lottery	-	66,491	66,491
Smallwood Trust	-	9,740	9,740
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	130,000	343,159	473,159
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£	£
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	6,303	-	6,303
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 4. Grants and Donations – prior year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	-	-
Trust for London	-	70,785	70,785
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	-	-
Three Guineas Trust	139,000	-	139,000
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	-	-
London Community Response Fund	-	-	-
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	12,500	12,500
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	73,459	73,459
Comic Relief	-	66,227	66,227
Lottery	-	37,476	37,476
	<hr/> 139,000	<hr/> 260,448	<hr/> 399,448
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	<hr/> 3,052	<hr/> -	<hr/> 3,052

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 5. Charitable activities

	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2025 £</b>	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
<u>Contracts</u>				
Victim Support (LVWS)	88,320	88,320	107,070	107,070
Pan London Safeguarding Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	129,309	129,309	68,157	68,157
Ascent Plus	23,513	23,513	22,500	22,500
	27,000	27,000	19,865	19,865
	<u>268,141</u>	<u>268,141</u>	<u>217,592</u>	<u>217,592</u>

During the year, the above contract funds were reclassified as restricted contract funds.

	Unrestricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2025 £</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
<u>Other charitable activities</u>				
Training and consultancy	10,750	10,750	250	250
Advocacy	-	-	-	-
Other income	300	300	-	-
	<u>11,050</u>	<u>11,050</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>

#### 6. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2025 £</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Access to work claim	4,599	4,599	3,427	3,427
Grants for beneficiaries	-	-	800	800
	<u>4,599</u>	<u>4,599</u>	<u>4,227</u>	<u>4,227</u>

**7. Costs of raising donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2025</b>
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-

**8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2025</b>
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	208,468	553,716	762,185
Support costs (including governance costs)	4,121	53,271	57,392
	<u>212,589</u>	<u>606,988</u>	<u>819,577</u>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	206,972	359,737	566,709
Support costs (including governance costs)	25,166	49,406	74,572
	<u>232,138</u>	<u>409,143</u>	<u>641,281</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support Costs £	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	Total 2024 £
Promote the human rights of disabled people	762,185	53,792	815,977	636,801
Governance costs	-	3,600	3,600	4,480
	<u>762,185</u>	<u>57,392</u>	<u>819,577</u>	<u>641,281</u>

#### 10. Analysis of support costs

	<b>Promote the Human Rights of disabled people</b> £	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	Total 2024 £
Rent	7,664	7,664	(2,010)
Telephone	14,306	14,306	11,843
Postage, printing & stationery	7,522	7,522	3,581
Payroll admin fee	5,238	5,238	1,008
Bookkeeping	7,934	7,934	6,657
Insurance	5,731	5,731	4,099
Recruitment	(513)	(513)	5,820
Equipment	1,664	1,664	4,291
I.T costs	11,909	11,909	14,208
Depreciation	223	223	26
Compensation	(7,886)	(7,886)	15,154
Legal costs	-	-	1,415
Miscellaneous	-	-	4,000
	<u>53,792</u>	<u>53,792</u>	<u>70,092</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>£</b>	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>223</u>	<u>26</u>

#### 12. Independent examination fees

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>£</b>	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>3,600</u>	<u>3,600</u>

#### 13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	548,241	348,179
Social security costs	44,777	27,129
Employer contributions to pension plans	32,058	4,538
	<u>625,077</u>	<u>379,847</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 21 (2024: 13).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: Nil).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

- No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees; or
- None of the trustees has been paid remuneration or received other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity.
- No trustee expenses have been incurred.

#### 15. Transfers between funds

Transfers from unrestricted funds to restricted funds are to make good funding shortfalls and eliminate negative fund balances.

#### 16. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures, fittings and equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2024	6,360
Additions	1,098
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<u>7,458</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2024	5,770
Charge for the year	223
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<u>5,993</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<u>1,466</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>591</u>

#### 17. Debtors

	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
Trade debtors	179,642	197,094
Prepayments and accrued income	4,052	6,284
Other debtors	5,362	3,721
	<u>189,056</u>	<u>207,100</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*  
For the year ended 31 March 2025

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**18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>£</b>	£
Trade creditors	5,272	15,990
Accruals and deferred income	23,887	34,838
Social security and other taxes	-	8,592
Other creditors	4,122	1,181
	<u>33,281</u>	<u>60,601</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income there is an amount of £Nil for rent charges which have not been invoiced (2024: £2,167).

Included in other creditors there is £4,122 (2024: £1,154) of unpaid pension contributions.

**19. Deferred income**

Included in accruals and deferred income in note 18 is the following deferred income:

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>£</b>	£
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	12,500
	<u>-</u>	<u>12,500</u>

**20. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits**

**Defined contribution pension plans**

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £32,058 (2024: £4,538)

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At <b>31 March</b> <b>2025</b> £
General funds	<u>159,678</u>	<u>151,952</u>	<u>(212,588)</u>	<u>(22,219)</u>	<u>76,823</u>

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	<u>263,718</u>	<u>146,528</u>	<u>(232,137)</u>	<u>(18,430)</u>	<u>159,678</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds (current year)

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	46,351	85,757	(76,605)	-	55,504
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	71,317	-	-	-	71,317
Trust for London	17,933	6,117	(37,705)	13,655	-
MOJ Covid	1,609	-	-	-	1,609
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	624	-	-	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	62,500	(51,242)	-	11,258
MOJ IDVA Fund	10,273	52,510	(51,709)	-	11,075
Comic Relief	51,366	60,044	(76,858)	-	34,552
Lottery	26,153	66,491	(52,857)	-	39,787
Victim Support (LVWS)	8,450	88,320	(70,328)	-	26,443
Pan London Safeguarding	2,959	129,309	(140,832)	8,564	-
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	23,513	(23,472)	-	41
Ascent Plus	-	27,000	(22,854)	-	4,146
Smallwood Trust	-	9,740	(2,527)	-	7,213
	<u>247,375</u>	<u>611,300</u>	<u>(606,988)</u>	<u>22,219</u>	<u>273,906</u>

During the year, the Trustees transferred £22,219 from unrestricted funds to cover deficits in the Trust for London Fund (£13,655) and the Pan London Fund (£8,564).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds (prior year)

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	42,838	71,910	(68,397)	-	46,351
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	71,317	-	-	-	71,317
Trust for London	(415)	70,785	(52,437)	-	17,933
MOJ Covid	2,809	(1,200)	-	-	1,609
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	624	-	-	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	(11,929)	12,500	(10,213)	9,642	-
MOJ IDVA Fund	35,686	2,750	(28,163)	-	10,273
Comic Relief	8,780	66,227	(23,641)	-	51,366
Lottery	-	37,476	(11,323)	-	26,153
Victim Support (LVWS)	-	107,070	(98,620)	-	8,450
Pan London Safeguarding	-	68,157	(65,198)	-	2,959
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	22,500	(23,159)	659	-
Ascent Plus	-	19,865	(27,994)	8,129	-
	<u>160,048</u>	<u>478,040</u>	<u>(409,143)</u>	<u>18,430</u>	<u>247,375</u>

During the prior year, the Trustees transferred £18,430 from unrestricted funds to cover deficits in the MOPAC VAWG Fund (£9,642), Community Alliance To Combat Hate Fund (£659) and the Ascent Plus Fund (£8,129).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2025</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,466	-	1,466
Current assets	108,637	273,906	382,543
Creditors less than one year	<u>(33,280)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(33,280)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>76,823</u>	<u>273,906</u>	<u>350,729</u>

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	591	-	591
Current assets	207,188	259,875	467,063
Creditors less than one year	<u>(48,101)</u>	<u>(12,500)</u>	<u>(60,601)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>159,678</u>	<u>247,375</u>	<u>407,053</u>

#### 23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	<b>At 1 April 2024</b>	<b>Cash flows</b>	<b>At 31 March 2025</b>
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>259,963</u>	<u>(66,475)</u>	<u>193,488</u>

#### 24. Related parties

There have not been any related party transactions during this or the previous year.

**25. Contingent liabilities and litigation**

In the year to March 2024, three claims were made against Stay Safe East by the same claimant. Of these claims, one claim resulted in a judgement of £15,154 awarded to the claimant, which was appealed by the Board. The outcome of the appeal was received on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025, when crucial elements of the previous judgement were overturned. As a result, the award to the claimant was reduced to £7,268.

Included in accruals is £7,268 (2024: £16,569) in respect of compensation and legal costs incurred in claims against the charity.

The second and third claims made against Stay Safe East are yet to be heard. These claims are believed by the Board to be not likely to succeed and the Board intend to defend these claims fully. The Board has sought legal counsel and representation. At the present time, the potential legal costs of defending and appealing the claims are unknown.

Charity registration number: 1153615

Stay Safe East  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
For the year ended  
31 March 2025

## Stay Safe East

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## Stay Safe East

### Reference and administrative details

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The trustees present their report (contained in a separate document) and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Status Stay Safe East is a registered charitable organisation (CIO).

Governing Document The charity was established under the Charities Act 2011.

Charity Registration Number 1153615

Principle office 1 Russell Road  
London  
E10 7ES

The Trustees Savitri Hensman  
Jonathan Grosskopf (appointed 23 May 2024, left 14 August 2025)  
Isabel Rós Lopez  
Alex Irving  
Alexandra Delameilleure  
Bennett Obong  
Kirsten Hearn  
Storme Toolis, service user representative  
S, service user representative  
Jane Jutsum (appointed 25 September 2025)

*With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the name of one service user representative is withheld to protect their safety.*

Independent examiner Carbon Accountancy Limited  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

## **Stay Safe East**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2025**

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I report on the financial statements of the company for the period ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 8 to 13. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (section 132 of the Charities Act 2011).

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 114(2) of the Charity Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the institute of Chartered Accountants Ireland.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under charities act and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of Independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Stay Safe East

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements,
  - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011: and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of regulations 2008 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*John Leyden*

Countersigned on 22 January 2026 @ 13:28  
.....

John Leyden FCA  
Carbon Accountancy Limited  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

22 January 2026

Stay Safe East

Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted Funds £	Total funds £	2024 Total Funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
<u>Grants and donations</u>					
Grants		130,000	343,159	473,159	399,448
Other donations		6,303	-	6,303	3,052
	<b>4</b>	<u>136,303</u>	<u>343,159</u>	<u>479,462</u>	<u>402,500</u>
<u>Charitable activities</u>					
Contracts		-	268,141	268,141	217,592
Other charitable activities		11,050	-	11,050	250
	<b>5</b>	<u>11,050</u>	<u>268,141</u>	<u>279,191</u>	<u>217,842</u>
Other income	<b>6</b>	<u>4,599</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,599</u>	<u>4,227</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<u>151,952</u>	<u>611,300</u>	<u>763,252</u>	<u>624,569</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	<b>7</b>	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	<b>8,9</b>	212,589	606,988	819,577	641,282
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>212,589</u>	<u>606,988</u>	<u>819,577</u>	<u>641,282</u>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<u>(60,637)</u>	<u>4,312</u>	<u>(56,324)</u>	<u>(16,713)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		159,678	247,375	407,053	423,766
Transfers in year		(22,219)	22,219	-	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>76,823</u>	<u>273,906</u>	<u>350,729</u>	<u>407,053</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.


**The notes on pages 7 to 21 form part of these financial statements**

## Stay Safe East

### Statement of Financial Position For the year ended 31 March 2025

		2025	2024
	Note	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	16	1,466	591
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	17	189,056	207,100
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>193,488</u>	<u>259,963</u>
		<u>382,544</u>	<u>467,063</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	18	<u>(33,281)</u>	<u>(60,601)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>349,263</u>	<u>406,462</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>350,729</u>	<u>407,053</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>350,729</u>	<u>407,053</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		273,906	247,375
Unrestricted funds		<u>76,823</u>	<u>159,678</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	21	<u>350,729</u>	<u>407,053</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 22 January 2026, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

  
Signed on 22 January 2026 @ 09:15  
Savitri Hensman  
Trustee

**The notes on pages 7 to 21 form part of these financial statements.**

## Stay Safe East

### Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended 31 March 2025

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	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	(56,324)	(16,713)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	223	26
Accrued expenses and deferred income	1,549	15,363
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	18,043	64 282
Trade and other creditors	(28,868)	(16,366)
Net cash from operating activities	<u>(65,377)</u>	<u>46,593</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of tangible assets	<u>(1,098)</u>	<u>(616)</u>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	(66,475)	45,976
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<u>259,963</u>	<u>213,987</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<u>193,488</u>	<u>259,963</u>

**Stay Safe East**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

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**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The address of the principal office is 1 Russell Road, London E10 7ES.

**2. Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from January 2019.

**3. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared using the historic cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis in accounting in preparation of financial statements.

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are no judgements nor any key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of material misstatement to the carry amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements.

### **3. Accounting policies *(continued)***

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the trustees' discretion to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

#### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

#### **Tangible assets**

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The costs of minor additions are not capitalised.

#### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 25% straight line basis

#### **Impairment of fixed assets**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

### **3. Accounting policies *(continued)***

#### **Financial instruments**

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

#### **Defined contribution pension plans**

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 4. Grants and Donations – current year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£	£
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	-	-
Trust for London	-	6,117	6,117
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	-	-
Three Guineas Trust	130,000	-	130,000
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	-	-
London Community Response Fund	-	-	-
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	62,500	62,500
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	138,267	138,267
Comic Relief	-	60,044	60,044
Lottery	-	66,491	66,491
Smallwood Trust	-	9,740	9,740
	<hr/> 130,000	<hr/> 343,159	<hr/> 473,159
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£	£
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	<hr/> 6,303	<hr/> -	<hr/> 6,303

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 4. Grants and Donations – prior year

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	-	-
Trust for London	-	70,785	70,785
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	-	-
Three Guineas Trust	139,000	-	139,000
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	-	-
London Community Response Fund	-	-	-
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	12,500	12,500
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	73,459	73,459
Comic Relief	-	66,227	66,227
Lottery	-	37,476	37,476
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	139,000	260,448	399,448
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	3,052	-	3,052
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 5. Charitable activities

	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2025 £</b>	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
<u>Contracts</u>				
Victim Support (LVWS)	88,320	88,320	107,070	107,070
Pan London Safeguarding Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	129,309	129,309	68,157	68,157
Ascent Plus	23,513	23,513	22,500	22,500
	27,000	27,000	19,865	19,865
	<u>268,141</u>	<u>268,141</u>	<u>217,592</u>	<u>217,592</u>

During the year, the above contract funds were reclassified as restricted contract funds.

	Unrestricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2025 £</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
<u>Other charitable activities</u>				
Training and consultancy	10,750	10,750	250	250
Advocacy	-	-	-	-
Other income	300	300	-	-
	<u>11,050</u>	<u>11,050</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>

#### 6. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2025 £</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Access to work claim	4,599	4,599	3,427	3,427
Grants for beneficiaries	-	-	800	800
	<u>4,599</u>	<u>4,599</u>	<u>4,227</u>	<u>4,227</u>

**7. Costs of raising donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2025</b>
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-

**8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2025</b>
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	208,468	553,716	762,185
Support costs (including governance costs)	4,121	53,271	57,392
	<u>212,589</u>	<u>606,988</u>	<u>819,577</u>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	206,972	359,737	566,709
Support costs (including governance costs)	25,166	49,406	74,572
	<u>232,138</u>	<u>409,143</u>	<u>641,281</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support Costs £	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	Total 2024 £
Promote the human rights of disabled people	762,185	53,792	815,977	636,801
Governance costs	-	3,600	3,600	4,480
	<u>762,185</u>	<u>57,392</u>	<u>819,577</u>	<u>641,281</u>

#### 10. Analysis of support costs

	<b>Promote the Human Rights of disabled people</b> £	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	Total 2024 £
Rent	7,664	7,664	(2,010)
Telephone	14,306	14,306	11,843
Postage, printing & stationery	7,522	7,522	3,581
Payroll admin fee	5,238	5,238	1,008
Bookkeeping	7,934	7,934	6,657
Insurance	5,731	5,731	4,099
Recruitment	(513)	(513)	5,820
Equipment	1,664	1,664	4,291
I.T costs	11,909	11,909	14,208
Depreciation	223	223	26
Compensation	(7,886)	(7,886)	15,154
Legal costs	-	-	1,415
Miscellaneous	-	-	4,000
	<u>53,792</u>	<u>53,792</u>	<u>70,092</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>£</b>	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>223</u>	<u>26</u>

#### 12. Independent examination fees

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>£</b>	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>3,600</u>	<u>3,600</u>

#### 13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	548,241	348,179
Social security costs	44,777	27,129
Employer contributions to pension plans	32,058	4,538
	<u>625,077</u>	<u>379,847</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 21 (2024: 13).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: Nil).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

- No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees; or
- None of the trustees has been paid remuneration or received other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity.
- No trustee expenses have been incurred.

#### 15. Transfers between funds

Transfers from unrestricted funds to restricted funds are to make good funding shortfalls and eliminate negative fund balances.

#### 16. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures, fittings and equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2024	6,360
Additions	1,098
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<u>7,458</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2024	5,770
Charge for the year	223
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<u>5,993</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<u>1,466</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>591</u>

#### 17. Debtors

	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
Trade debtors	179,642	197,094
Prepayments and accrued income	4,052	6,284
Other debtors	5,362	3,721
	<u>189,056</u>	<u>207,100</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*  
For the year ended 31 March 2025

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**18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>£</b>	£
Trade creditors	5,272	15,990
Accruals and deferred income	23,887	34,838
Social security and other taxes	-	8,592
Other creditors	4,122	1,181
	<u>33,281</u>	<u>60,601</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income there is an amount of £Nil for rent charges which have not been invoiced (2024: £2,167).

Included in other creditors there is £4,122 (2024: £1,154) of unpaid pension contributions.

**19. Deferred income**

Included in accruals and deferred income in note 18 is the following deferred income:

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>£</b>	£
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	12,500
	<u>-</u>	<u>12,500</u>

**20. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits**

**Defined contribution pension plans**

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £32,058 (2024: £4,538)

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At <b>31 March</b> <b>2025</b> £
General funds	<u>159,678</u>	<u>151,952</u>	<u>(212,588)</u>	<u>(22,219)</u>	<u>76,823</u>

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	<u>263,718</u>	<u>146,528</u>	<u>(232,137)</u>	<u>(18,430)</u>	<u>159,678</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds (current year)

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	46,351	85,757	(76,605)	-	55,504
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office Trust for London	71,317 17,933	- 6,117	- (37,705)	- 13,655	71,317 -
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	1,609 624	- -	- -	- -	1,609 624
London Community Response Fund	-	62,500	(51,242)	-	11,258
MOPAC VAWG Fund	10,273	52,510	(51,709)	-	11,075
MOJ IDVA Fund	51,366	60,044	(76,858)	-	34,552
Comic Relief	26,153	66,491	(52,857)	-	39,787
Lottery	8,450	88,320	(70,328)	-	26,443
Victim Support (LVWS)	2,959	129,309	(140,832)	8,564	-
Pan London Safeguarding Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	23,513	(23,472)	-	41
Ascent Plus	-	27,000	(22,854)	-	4,146
Smallwood Trust	-	9,740	(2,527)	-	7,213
	<u>247,375</u>	<u>611,300</u>	<u>(606,988)</u>	<u>22,219</u>	<u>273,906</u>

During the year, the Trustees transferred £22,219 from unrestricted funds to cover deficits in the Trust for London Fund (£13,655) and the Pan London Fund (£8,564).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds (prior year)

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	42,838	71,910	(68,397)	-	46,351
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	71,317	-	-	-	71,317
Trust for London	(415)	70,785	(52,437)	-	17,933
MOJ Covid	2,809	(1,200)	-	-	1,609
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	624	-	-	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	(11,929)	12,500	(10,213)	9,642	-
MOJ IDVA Fund	35,686	2,750	(28,163)	-	10,273
Comic Relief	8,780	66,227	(23,641)	-	51,366
Lottery	-	37,476	(11,323)	-	26,153
Victim Support (LVWS)	-	107,070	(98,620)	-	8,450
Pan London Safeguarding	-	68,157	(65,198)	-	2,959
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	22,500	(23,159)	659	-
Ascent Plus	-	19,865	(27,994)	8,129	-
	<u>160,048</u>	<u>478,040</u>	<u>(409,143)</u>	<u>18,430</u>	<u>247,375</u>

During the prior year, the Trustees transferred £18,430 from unrestricted funds to cover deficits in the MOPAC VAWG Fund (£9,642), Community Alliance To Combat Hate Fund (£659) and the Ascent Plus Fund (£8,129).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2025</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Tangible fixed assets	1,466	-	1,466
Current assets	108,637	273,906	382,543
Creditors less than one year	<u>(33,280)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(33,280)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>76,823</u>	<u>273,906</u>	<u>350,729</u>

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Tangible fixed assets	591	-	591
Current assets	207,188	259,875	467,063
Creditors less than one year	<u>(48,101)</u>	<u>(12,500)</u>	<u>(60,601)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>159,678</u>	<u>247,375</u>	<u>407,053</u>

#### 23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	<b>At 1 April 2024</b>	<b>Cash flows</b>	<b>At 31 March 2025</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>259,963</u>	<u>(66,475)</u>	<u>193,488</u>

#### 24. Related parties

There have not been any related party transactions during this or the previous year.

**25. Contingent liabilities and litigation**

In the year to March 2024, three claims were made against Stay Safe East by the same claimant. Of these claims, one claim resulted in a judgement of £15,154 awarded to the claimant, which was appealed by the Board. The outcome of the appeal was received on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025, when crucial elements of the previous judgement were overturned. As a result, the award to the claimant was reduced to £7,268.

Included in accruals is £7,268 (2024: £16,569) in respect of compensation and legal costs incurred in claims against the charity.

The second and third claims made against Stay Safe East are yet to be heard. These claims are believed by the Board to be not likely to succeed and the Board intend to defend these claims fully. The Board has sought legal counsel and representation. At the present time, the potential legal costs of defending and appealing the claims are unknown.

**STAY SAFE EAST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1153615

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# Accounts

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**Stay Safe East**  
Trustees' Annual Report

2023-24



Charity Number 1153615

## Stay Safe East

### Trustee's Annual Report 2023-24

<b>Charity name:</b>	Stay Safe East
<b>Registration Number:</b>	<b>1153615</b> Stay Safe East is registered as a <b>Charitable Incorporated Organisation</b> with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.
<b>Principal office:</b>	90 Crownfield Road, London E15 2BG
<b>Trustees:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Savitri Hensman (Chair)</li><li>○ Paul Dowling (Treasurer) until 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023</li><li>○ Isabel Rós Lopez – from 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023</li><li>○ Alexandra Delameilleure – from 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024</li><li>○ Alex Irving – from 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024</li><li>○ Bennett Obong</li><li>○ Kirsten Hearn</li><li>○ Storme Toolis, service user representative</li><li>○ S, service user representative</li></ul> <p><b>* With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the names of the one service user representatives are withheld to protect their safety.</b></p>
<b>Staff and volunteers:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Chief Executive:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Ruth Bashall (<i>Acting CEO until 31.09.23 and Policy Advisor until 31.10.23</i>)</li><li>○ Angie Airlie (<i>from 16.10.23</i>)</li></ul></li><li>● Cheryl Lewis (Acting Deputy CEO until 15.10.23 and Independent Victims Advocate Team Manager)</li><li>● <b>Administrator (part time):</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Hannah Robinson (<i>from 26.04.23</i>)</li></ul></li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Operations Manager</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Erika Chaubert (<i>until 07.02.24</i>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Finance Officer (part time): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Michael Tang (<i>from 31.10.2023</i>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● HR Officer (part time)</li> <li>● Hate Crime Advocates (2 part-time)</li> <li>● Violence against Women and Girls Manager</li> <li>● Senior IDDVA</li> <li>● Domestic Violence Advocates (IDDVAS) (3 part-time, 2 full time)</li> <li>● Safe Accommodation Advocate (2 full time)</li> <li>● Benefits and Entitlements Advocate (1 part-time; 1 full time)</li> <li>● Independent Victims Advocate</li> <li>● Volunteer Development Officer</li> <li>● Volunteer Trainer</li> <li>● Volunteer</li> </ul> <p><i><b>*Due to the nature of our work and to ensure their safety, names of advocacy staff and volunteers are not listed in this report.</b></i></p>
<b>Bank:</b>	<b>The Cooperative Bank,</b> PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT
<b>Bookkeeping and payroll:</b>	Jane Roche
<b>Independent Examiner:</b>	<b>Carbon Accountancy,</b> 80-83 Long Lane, London EC1A 9ET



### **Thank you to our Funders and Commissioners!**

- **Three Guineas Trust**
- **The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)**
- **The Home Office (via Refuge)**
- **Trust for London**
- **Victim Support for London Victim and Witness Service (funded by MOPAC)**
- **Ministry of Justice**
- **Solace Women's Aid for Ascent Partnership (funded by MOPAC)**
- **Refuge for Pan London Floating Support Service (funded by MOPAC)**
- **GALOP for CATCH (funded by MOPAC)**
- **Comic Relief**
- **National Lottery Community Fund (Propel)**
- **VAWG Grassroots Fund (funded by MOPAC)**

### **Thank you to our supporters and partners and in particular:**

- **Members of the Disability and Domestic Abuse Advisory Group**
- **Inclusion London**
- **Our partners in the VAWG sector**
- **All individuals and organisations who made donations to Stay Safe East or provided other kinds of assistance.**
- **Our longstanding volunteer, DD.**

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**Please note: for reasons of accessibility, the Independent Examiner's Unaudited Financial Statement is contained in a separate document.**

**The Trustees' Annual Report for 2023-24 was approved on 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2024 and signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:**

**Savitri Hensman** *S. Hensman*

**Chair: 23/01/2024**

**This report is dedicated to Ruth Bashall: leading light behind Stay Safe East and staunch human rights campaigner. Ruth passed away very shortly after retiring from Stay Safe East at the end of October, 2023.**

**23<sup>rd</sup> May 1952 – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2023**



## Chair's Report

2023-24 was an exceptionally challenging year for Stay Safe East. On top of the impact of austerity, including overstretched public services, on client safety and staff workload and stress, the organisation faced major change, uncertainty and profound loss. But due to outstanding efforts by manager, staff and volunteers, vital support was consistently provided and justice for diverse Deaf and disabled people promoted. Funders and partners too were supportive. And by the end of the financial year, a sense of stability had been largely restored, morale improved, new activities underway and firm foundations laid for 2024-25.

Advocacy and advice for disabled people (mainly women) facing domestic abuse, as well as those targeted for hate crime and general crime, remained central to our work. However, we also continued to contribute to knowledge about violence and harassment against disabled people – often reflecting intersecting types of injustice – and enable statutory and other organisations to respond more effectively, as well as seeking to learn and develop ourselves. We were able to expand opportunities to disabled people wanting to make a difference, and possibly gain skills and experience in the sector, through a volunteer project in addition to ongoing activities.

The previous Chief Executive (CEO), Ioana Hanis, left at the end of March 2023. Recruiting for this key position was clearly a priority, but the Board was aware that some months' notice might be required. Ruth Bashall, who had previously stepped back from being CEO to take on a part-time role as Policy Advisor, was seventy years old and moving towards retirement. She generously agreed to serve as acting CEO temporarily. Cheryl Lewis, the Independent Victims Advocacy Manager, also agreed to act as deputy CEO for a period. Additionally, the Operations Manager offered to take on extra responsibilities in the interim.

Ruth had founded this groundbreaking organisation (alongside the late Nicholas Russell), overseen its growth and developed others' skills and confidence as well as helping to gain society's recognition of the importance of this work. In this, she built on a long track record of activism not only for disabled people's rights and safety for women and children but also equality and human rights of other kinds. Meanwhile the long-serving Treasurer, Paul Dowling, was considering ending his service on the Board. Once one of the pioneers in the field of tackling hate crime and cuckooing, he had helped to establish Stay Safe East, then been a trustee for many years.

After a rigorous selection process, an outstanding candidate, Angie Airlie, was selected. But amidst gladness that a new CEO with extensive knowledge, experience and commitment would soon be in post, concern was growing about Ruth as she became increasingly unwell, though she struggled to do what she could. The Deputy CEO, Cheryl Lewis, stepped in to provide leadership to the staff team until Angie began in mid-October. At the end of that month, Ruth retired. Sadly, she had no time to enjoy this: less than a fortnight later her condition went rapidly downhill, and she died in hospital on 11 November. Among many who knew her, there was a devastating sense of loss – yet the tributes which poured in were also a reminder of the vital importance of Stay Safe East’s work and, through this period, clients continued to receive in-depth holistic support.

As well as endings, there were also beginnings, including more new staff joining the team; and, while Paul could not easily be replaced, two fresh Board members were appointed, both highly capable. Despite ongoing sadness, stability was rebuilt and the ongoing work of providing, developing and resourcing services continued, including looking to strengthen reserves.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank Angie, the other managers and all staff who worked dedicatedly in 2023-24; funders and donors and those who have worked with us to increase safety and promote justice and dignity for disabled people. I would also like to thank fellow trustees – and the service users who have so often managed to survive and sometimes thrive against the odds.

While I have many memories of Ruth which I treasure, including her warmth, humour and passion for justice, I will draw attention here to her encouragement and confidence in people, which has helped many of us do things we did not expect we could. I will also mention that, while she could be very determined and hard to budge, she also remained curious and willing to learn. That assurance, support and openness to ongoing learning and growth are qualities which, I hope, have continued to sustain Stay Safe East.

**Savitri Hensman**

**Chair, Stay Safe East**

## Chief Executive's Report

2023-24, the year that I joined Stay Safe East as Chief Executive Officer, was a year of many contrasting challenges for the organisation. Thanks to the dedication of our hard-working team we continued to successfully support Disabled victim/survivors of abuse and crime.

Ruth Bashall particularly also continued to promote the needs of Disabled victim/survivors with key stakeholders, including the London Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and the Home Office. She was also supported by some of the advocates in contributing to work with researchers, such as Andrea Hollomotz from the University of Leeds, who examined the support needs of disabled adult victim/survivors of sexual violence for the MoJ.

Whilst Stay Safe East maintained a successful outward face, in this year, behind the scenes, the organisation was troubled by staffing and recruitment difficulties, especially in filling advocacy roles. We carried vacancies in some of our key contracts, reflecting a wider recruitment crisis in our sector (and many others), post Pandemic.

This put a lot of pressure on the existing staff team, and I am so thankful for their incredible work in keeping the organisation going during this period. I would particularly like to thank Cheryl Lewis, who acted up as Deputy CEO, prior to my joining, at the point that Ruth was so ill. I know that this was a very hard time, and the trustees and I are incredibly grateful for her support, which really went above and beyond.

Despite the difficult staffing environment that characterised most of 2023-24, the advocates still managed to support 140 clients. All of whom had individually tailored support. All clients have experienced abuse and/or crime, and their advocates expertly guide them through the process of responding to these experiences as Disabled people.

In recognition of the difficult emotional labour that our advocates and managers perform in their day-to-day work, I am pleased that 2023-24 saw Stay Safe East introduce clinical supervision for all advocates and managers. This is in addition to the funding that the Board makes available for counselling, or reflective practice for staff.

In the latter part of the financial year we did successfully recruit to all vacant posts and I am proud that in keeping with our status as a Deaf and Disabled People's Organisation, we continued to employ mainly Disabled staff (75% of staff and 100% of trustees identified as Disabled at the end of 2023/24).

Knowing how important it is to create routes into careers in the advocacy sector, and to create meaningful job opportunities for Disabled people, who are under-represented in the workforce, we were delighted to secure funding for a new volunteer programme, from the National Lottery Community Fund in this year. To kickstart this work, which is aimed at training Disabled people to take up paid work within Stay Safe East and partner organisations, we welcomed a Volunteer Development Officer and Volunteer Trainer to our team in March 2024, to begin the process of creating a compelling volunteer programme for the organisation.

Since joining Stay Safe East in October 2023, it has been my privilege to get to know this organisation, and the wonderful team. Whether existing staff of many years' service, or newer joiners, I have been supported and welcomed by everyone. We had some tough times in this year, with the pinnacle being the loss of Ruth Bashall in November 2023, but we also had some fun and genuinely inspiring moments. Thank you, team, for being with me in the journey so far.

Ruth's legacy lives on in Stay Safe East. I vividly recall the forceful statements she would make at sector meetings: highlighting the difficulties that disabled victim/survivors of domestic abuse face in accessing safe accommodation – something that inspired me to join the organisation myself. Still now I channel my 'inner Ruth' when challenging poor practice by other organisations or working in the policy sphere. We are all proud to continue her work.

**Angie Airlie**

**CEO – Stay Safe East**

## Stay Safe East

### Report of activities 2023-2024

#### 1. Introduction

The Trustees present their report on activities for the year ending March 31, 2024.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in the Notes to the accounts and comply with Stay Safe East's governing document, applicable law, and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for "Accounting and Reporting by Charities." This includes adherence to the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) as well as the Charities Act 2011.

Stay Safe East is a registered charity, established in 2013 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. It is the only user-led, 'by and for' organization in the UK dedicated to providing long-term advocacy and support to disabled victims and survivors of various forms of abuse. This includes domestic and sexual abuse, as well as other forms of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), hate crime, harassment, cuckooing, abuse by care workers or personal assistants (which we classify as domestic abuse), and abuse within residential and institutional settings.

Stay Safe East leverages the expertise and insights gained from our casework to inform our policy initiatives at both the London-wide and national levels. Our objective is to eliminate barriers to justice and ensure equitable responses for disabled survivors, amplifying their voices to ensure they are heard by policymakers and service providers. Additionally, we offer casework advice, training, consultancy, and capacity-building services to both statutory and voluntary organizations operating in this sector.

#### 2. Governing document and Objects of the Charity

Stay Safe East is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission in September 2013 and is governed by its charity governing document. Stay Safe East is a disabled people's organisation run by and for the benefit of disabled people.

##### **Stay Safe East's Objects are:**

- (1) To relieve the distress and suffering caused to Deaf and disabled people by hate crime, harassment, domestic or sexual violence or other forms of abuse

- (2) To promote the human rights of deaf and disabled people in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- (3) Such purposes as are exclusively charitable in accordance with the law of England and Wales as the Trustees may from time to time decide

### **3. Stay Safe East's objectives during its eleventh year:**

- To continue to provide accessible and holistic support and advocacy to disabled survivors of domestic and sexual abuse, hate crime, harassment and other forms of abuse, and to support our staff and volunteers to deliver a quality and safe service to clients.
- To develop our casework with disabled survivors across London through the London Victims and Witness Service, the Ascent Partnership and the CATCH partnership and other partnerships.
- To broaden our reach to disabled survivors of domestic abuse as part of the Pan London Floating Support Service, funded through the MOPAC Safe Accommodation Framework.
- To share our expertise with Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations (DDPOs) and organisations working on Violence against Women and Girls through casework advice, capacity building, training and briefings
- To further develop Stay Safe East's role as an expert organisation speaking out on behalf of disabled survivors of gender-based violence, hate crime and other abuse; ensuring that our voice is heard at the highest level.
- To work to improve operational responses to disabled victims/survivors by the Metropolitan Police, Crown Prosecution Service, local authorities and other agencies.
- To work to ensure that London and national policy and strategies on hate crime, violence against women and girls and victims' rights include appropriate measures to meet the needs of disabled survivors.
- To strengthen the financial and organisational resilience of Stay Safe East, its management structure and processes in order to help it grow sustainably.

### **4. Trustees**

The Trustees are elected by the Charity's members at the annual general meeting for a period of up to three years. Trustees are offered an induction, including presentations by staff, background material and information on the

Charity's principal activities. Trustees are all unpaid volunteers and may claim reasonable out of pocket expenses. All Trustees contribute to major decisions which impact on the organisation, bring new ideas and experiences and help shape the priorities of the Charity.

The Trustees who served during the year are listed on the first page. There were nine Trustees during the year. One trustee who is a member of the Board has chosen to remain anonymous to protect their safety. Three new Trustees were appointed during the year. This year also saw the retirement of Paul Dowling, our Treasurer, from the Board of Stay Safe East. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Paul, who had supported the organisation since its earliest days, for his tremendous contribution to Stay Safe East across the years. Thank you, Paul.

## **5. Organisational Structure and Staffing**

The Stay Safe East Board is responsible for overseeing the work of the organisation and setting strategic direction. The Board has nine members, including two user representatives. The Board appoints the Chair of Stay Safe East, who supports the Chief Executive (CEO). As Stay Safe East has grown, we have changed the way we appoint staff – Board members are now usually only involved in the selection process for senior posts.

The Chair has delegated powers to take necessary decisions between scheduled Board meetings and is responsible for appraising the performance of the CEO on behalf of the Board.

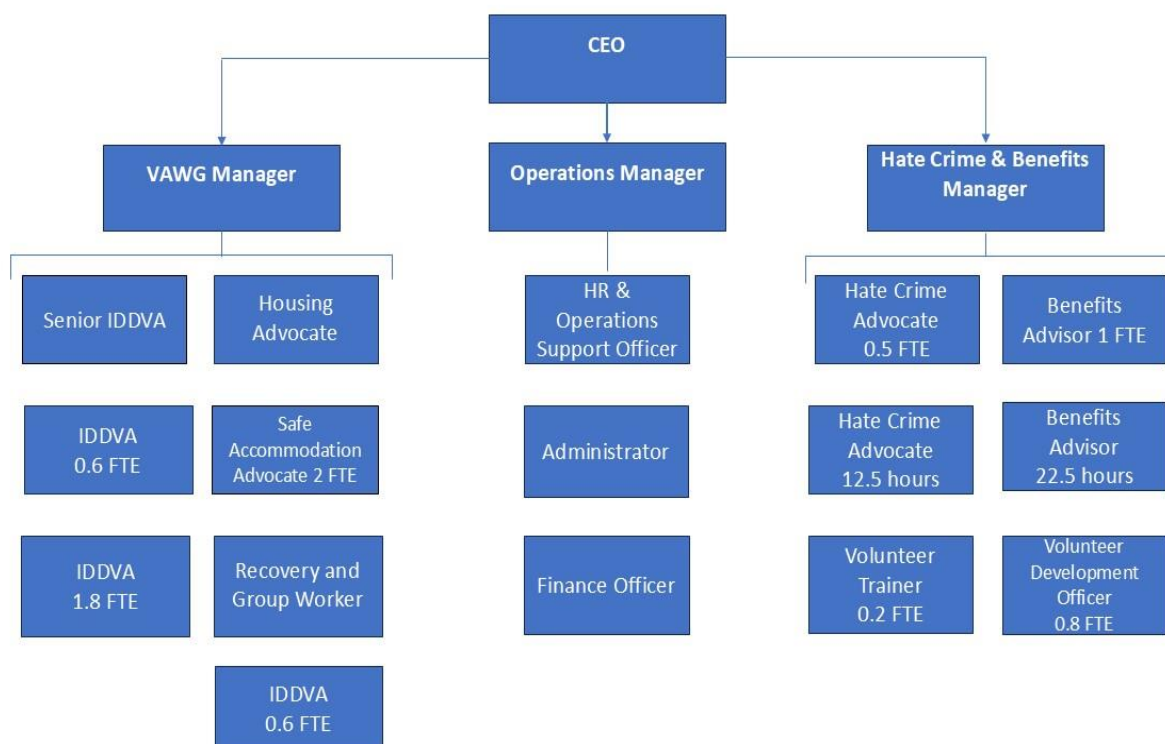
Board meetings were held six times in the year, in addition to our Annual General Meeting in January. All meetings were held remotely on Zoom. Other decisions were made by the Board by e-mail, or in some instances of urgency, Chair's Action. The CEO gives the Board an account of the progress of the Charity's work, reports on financial matters, brings issues requiring particular attention and gets agreement for forward work.

In October 2023, Stay Safe East successfully recruited new CEO, Angie Airlie. With extensive experience in charity management and a proven track record in the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) sector, Angie brings a unique combination of frontline expertise and strategic leadership. Known for her problem-solving skills, logical thinking, and ability to manage teams and volunteers, she is also highly proficient in fundraising and grant writing. Holding an MA in Woman and Child Abuse Studies from London Metropolitan University,

Angie’s dedication and expertise align perfectly with our mission to promote equity and safety for all.

We also welcomed a part-time Finance Officer to assist the CEO with day-to-day financial administration and work alongside the bookkeeper to prepare management reports. Additionally, our administrator transitioned from an Agency post to a part-time contract to provide vital support to the Operations Manager and assist the charity staff with administrative tasks. Towards the end of the year, we said goodbye to the Operations Manager, Erika Chaubert, who moved on to an exciting new career opportunity, but remained in the VAWG sector. Erika was instrumental in improving many of the organisational systems in processes during her time with us.

### Stay Safe East Organisational Structure 2023-24



## 6. Financial report

### Stay Safe East: Summary of Financial Activities 2023-24

Income during the year:	<b>£624,568</b>
Expenditure during the year:	<b>£641,281</b>
Surplus of income over expenditure:	<b>-£16,713</b>

<b>Reserves brought forward:</b>	<b>£423,766</b>
<b>Total funds of the charity of which</b>	<b>£407,053</b>
Unrestricted funds	<b>£159,678</b>
Restricted funds	<b>£247,375</b>

***\*Independently Examined Financial Statements are available on the Charity Commission website.***

Stay Safe East ended the year in a sound financial position. The Trustees regularly consider the finances of the Charity and receive reports from the Treasurer and CEO to ensure that it is a going concern. They are satisfied that this is the case at the date of this report. Budgets and cash flow projections are drawn up to ensure proper governance.

Whilst there has been a small decrease in our reserves this year, largely due to continuing to fund specialist posts to increase our advocacy, alongside the additional cost of utilising agency staff, the organisation's reserves are still healthy. The unrestricted reserves represent three months running costs/winding down costs, as recommended by CIPFA and the Charity Commission.

Our income came from a mix of grants, contracts for casework and capacity building, and donations.

**The Board would like to thank our funders for their support:**

- Three Guineas Trust
- Trust for London
- Mayor's Office on Policing and Crime (MOPAC)
- Home Office
- Ministry of Justice
- Comic Relief
- National Lottery Community Fund

Income also came from contracts, all originating with MOPAC:

- London Victim and Witness Service via Victim Support

- CATCH Hate Crime Partnership
- Ascent Partnership
- Pan London Floating Support Service (via Refuge)

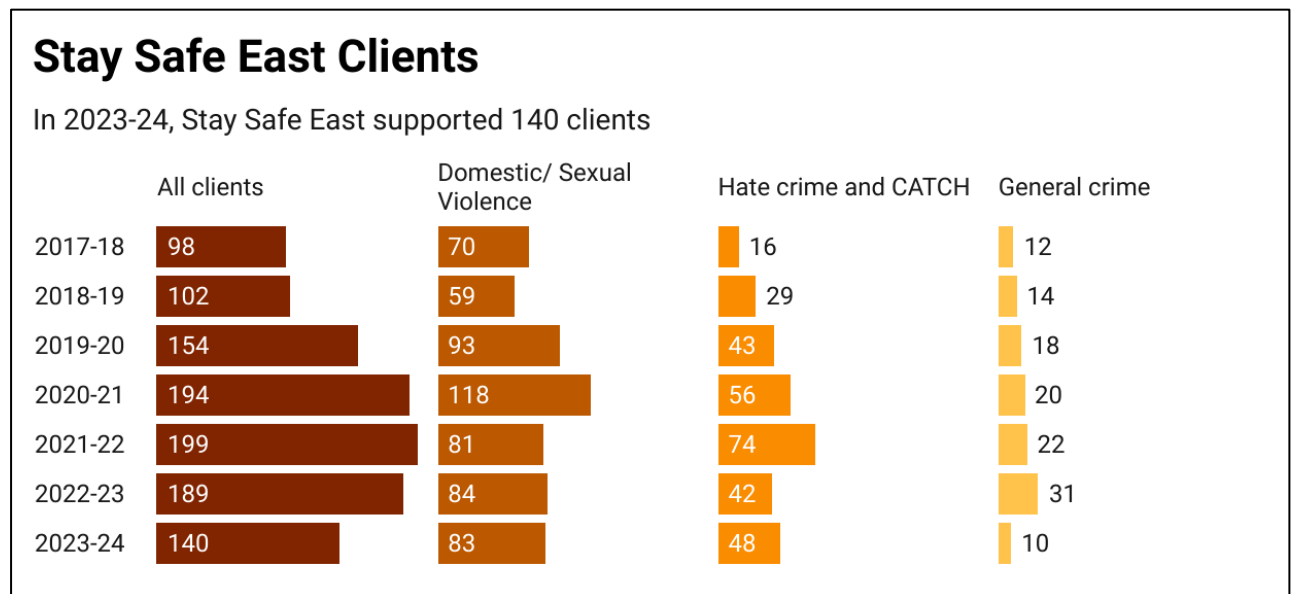
This was the fourth year of our grant for core costs from Three Guineas Trust, which funded 60% of the CEO’s salary, Operations Manager, HR Officer and Finance Officer posts plus core administrative costs. We remain extremely grateful for this core funding, as it provides us with security and the funds to create a management structure which is fit for purpose as the charity grows.

## Stay Safe East casework report

### Supporting victims/survivors of abuse and other crimes

#### 1. The numbers

In 2023-24, Stay Safe East supported **140 clients**.



**\*1 client supported by both Hate Crime and VAWG teams in this year. 28 clients also accessed support from the Benefits and Entitlements Advocates. Some clients also had support from our volunteer.**

## Client Equalities Data

Our clients come from a very diverse range of backgrounds, and our advocates work carefully to ensure that their intersecting needs and strands of identity are accounted for within the support that they provide.

A breakdown of the equalities data for our client is shown in the tables below.

### Headlines from the data

- ◆ Most clients were female. 6 male clients were supported with domestic abuse; the remainder (21) were supported with hate crime, or general crime. All clients who identified as a gender different from their assigned sex at birth received support for domestic abuse.
- ◆ Although in 2023-24 a high proportion (39%) of our clients came from the three East London boroughs that the organisation originally served (Hackney, Waltham Forest and Newham). Interestingly though, a relatively high proportion of clients (18%) came from five West London boroughs (Barnet, Ealing, Hillingdon, Harrow and Hounslow. We in fact supported clients from all of the London boroughs bar one (Bexley), showing the impact of our work Pan London.
- ◆ More than half of our clients (52%) were aged 46 or older in 2023/4. 46% of the VAWG service's clients were aged 46 or older. Data from the Crime Survey of England and Wales shows that generally younger people are more likely to experience domestic abuse – with only 18% of female victim/survivors of domestic abuse in the most recent data being in the 46+ age bracket (CSEW, 2023). Stay Safe East's data bucks that trend, likely because many people do not become disabled until later life.
- ◆ Each client had, on average, 2.4 types of impairment (although many had more than one condition that could be included in each category e.g. multiple chronic illnesses, or mental health conditions).
- ◆ 50% of clients identified as people of colour. Many of the clients supported by the hate crime service (and indeed the VAWG service) have been impacted by racism and this may be the trigger for the referral to us, despite their being a disabled person. For this reason, we reference hate crime against disabled people, rather than the less nuanced disability hate crime. This recognises that disabled people are not two dimensional, but will have life experiences relating to their age, sexuality, race, religion and so forth.

## Data tables

### Gender of clients 2023-24

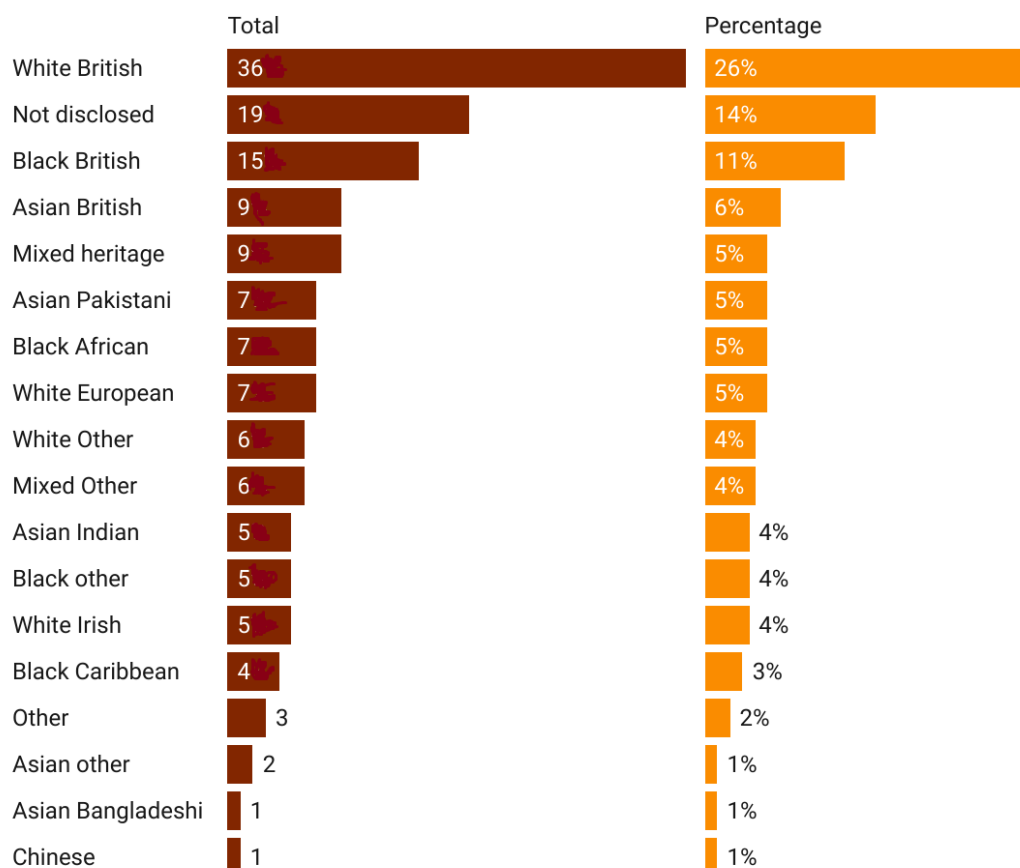


### Sexuality of clients 2023-24



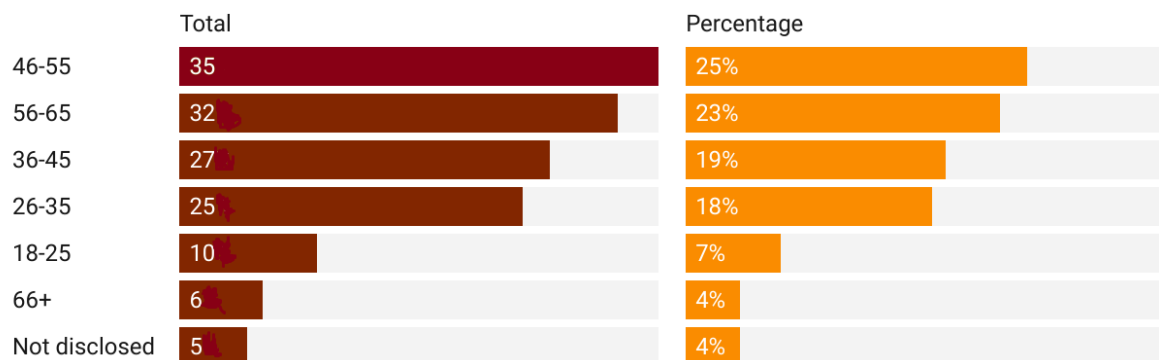
### Ethnicity of clients 2023-24

■ Total ■ Percentage

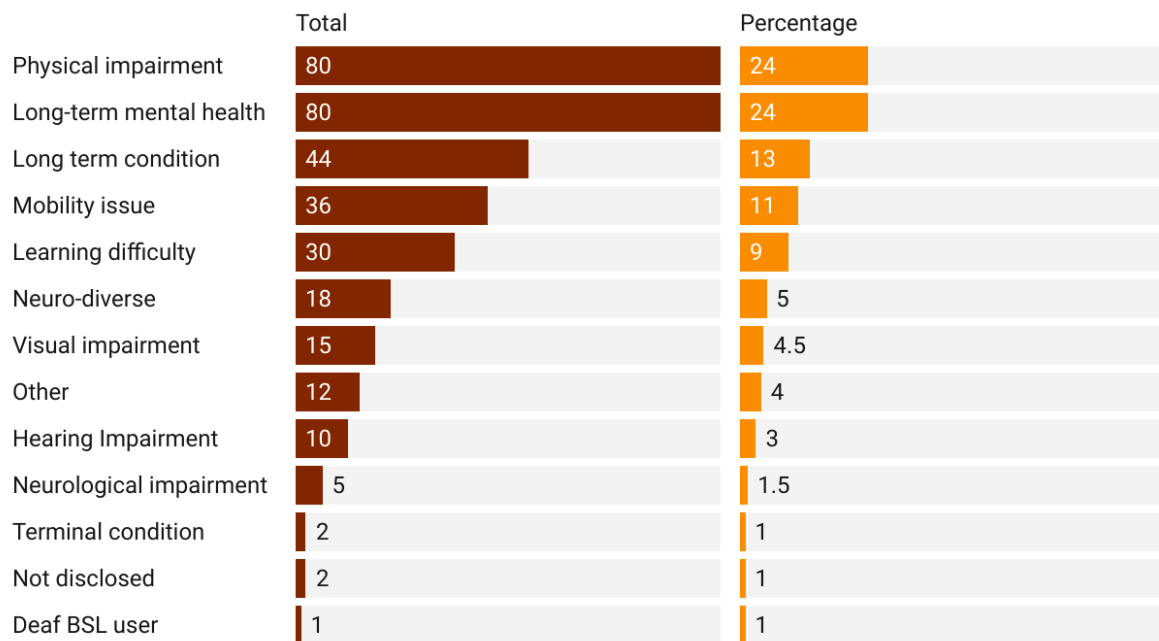


## Range of age of clients 2023-24

■ Total ■ Percentage



## Impairment disclosed by clients 2023-24



\*72 % of clients disclosed more than 1 impairment

## 2. Domestic abuse / Violence Against Disabled Women

During **2023-24**, the domestic abuse team worked with **83 clients**. We also received **6** referrals where support was either declined or the survivor could not be contacted. In two cases the victim/survivor lived outside of London and therefore was not eligible for our service.

The team supports survivors of domestic abuse, which occurs within the broader context of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). While the majority of our clients are women, we actively advocate for survivors of all genders. Our clients often experience multiple forms of abuse, including institutional abuse, sexual violence, rape, trafficking, and other types of abuse. As a 'by and for' specialist VAWG service, we adopt a holistic approach, addressing the entirety of a survivor's experiences and allowing them to set their own priorities.

Our domestic abuse workers are Independent Disability and Domestic Violence Advocates (IDDVAs), who are largely disabled individuals. They work within an intersectional, social model of disability and focus on empowerment, bearing in mind that many of our clients will have been very disempowered, both through their experiences of abuse, but also through dealings with other professionals in some cases.

Stay Safe East staff have successfully embraced a hybrid working model, with staff now attending the office once a week. This flexible approach has proven beneficial, helping us balance staff well-being, particularly for those handling challenging cases, with the need for in-person interaction. Regular face-to-face contact has been essential for fostering team connection and support. We continue to offer one-to-one supervision, virtual team meetings—including weekly meetings for the domestic abuse team—and access to counselling and reflective practice sessions to ensure ongoing staff support. Clinical supervision has now been made available for all advocates and this is proving very helpful.

### **The Support We Provide to Clients**

Our Domestic Abuse team offers comprehensive, tailored support to clients, addressing a wide range of needs. This includes:

- **Creating a Safe Space:** Providing clients with the time and opportunity to share their story, often for the first time with someone who truly believes them.
- **Safety and Risk Assessments:** Conducting thorough safety planning and disability risk assessments to ensure clients' safety.
- **Legal Support:** Assisting clients in obtaining non-molestation and occupation orders to remove the abuser from their home, and supporting

them through police reporting, including attending Achieving Best Evidence (ABE) interviews.

- **Empowerment and Decision-Making:** Offering accessible options and working closely with survivors, particularly disabled victims, to help them decide the best course of action.
- **Housing and Accessibility Support:** Helping clients secure safe, suitable accommodation that meets their individual access needs and assisting with tenancy management.
- **Care and Health Support:** Assisting clients in applying for care packages, occupational therapy assessments, and advocating for their health needs, including mental health support, medication access, and challenging discriminatory practices such as the denial of services to women with contested diagnoses like Borderline Personality Disorder.
- **Safeguarding and Child Protection:** Supporting clients whose cases are referred to adult safeguarding, as well as women involved in child protection plans and care proceedings. We assist them in navigating the Family Courts, especially during lockdown, where remote hearings often exacerbated discrimination against disabled mothers.
- **Legal and Advocacy Support:** Helping clients understand and respond to legal proceedings by attending care proceedings and post-hearing meetings. We also liaise with external agencies, such as solicitors or MPs, when clients' cases are not being taken seriously.

Throughout, we work at the client's pace, taking into account their specific circumstances and accessibility requirements. Our holistic approach is reflected in the following case studies, which illustrate the breadth and depth of the support we provide.

### **Case study 1:**

The client is a 46-year-old woman, who was referred to our service as a disabled survivor of domestic abuse, facing ongoing abuse from her husband.

The client is visually impaired, experiences cognitive disorientation, is neurodivergent and has mental health issues. After 14 years of physical abuse, verbal abuse, emotional abuse, manipulation, coercion, and aggression from heavy drinking from her husband, the client fled their jointly owned home with her three children to her parents' rental home. Her priorities after fleeing are

her children, her mental health and rebuilding her life and financial capacity- all whilst struggling with the physical and emotional aftermath of the abuse.

The risk she faces is high due to the recent separation and the fact that she lives only ten minutes away from her husband who remains in the property that she jointly owns and fled from. Consequently, they utilise and share the same local amenities so the client can run into him at any point as well as the fact that he knows her address. Additionally, there are two active court cases against him- one being a child arrangements case and the other being applications for a non-molestation order (NMO) and an occupation order (OO).

Since the referral, our IDDVA has conducted thorough risk assessments (including DASH RIC and individualised safety and support plans), and has referred her case to MARAC to address her immediate priorities: ongoing court cases, her children, her care needs, financial capacity, mental health and housing.

We conduct regular check-ins with the client via phone call and email which are the client's preferred methods of communication. We have supported the client with her Family Court cases by attending court hearings and liaising with her solicitors and barristers. We have reached out to adult social care to request a care assessment and care package to be implemented to support the client. We also applied to the emergency flee and future fund in order for the client to receive a grant of funds.

Positive outcomes include the client qualifying for Legal Aid and receiving the legal support for her Family Court cases. The client underwent a care act assessment and now has a care package under adult social care, which she says works really well for her. Furthermore, the client's application we submitted to the emergency flee fund was successful and the client received a £500 grant.

We are addressing barriers related to the dates the court has set for the upcoming hearings, as they have all been set for a year's time. Given the nature of her case and the risk she still faces from her husband we believe that these dates should be brought forward to the earliest time available. The client currently only has an undertaking in place, which her husband has already breached by harassing her via email and the longer she does not have an NMO in place the less protected she is and is at greater risk. This is negatively affecting the client's mental health and increases her anxiety with regards to how safe she feels. We are actively petitioning the court and liaising with her solicitors to have these dates reconsidered whilst providing emotional support to the client.

The client has expressed gratitude for the empathetic support provided - and said that she has felt “really supported by Stay Safe East with her court hearings and could not have gone through it alone”.

### **3. Hate crime and cuckooing**

Our hate crime service has two strands: an established local service in East London with a part-time advocate and a second part-time advocate funded by MOPAC via CATCH. These provisions supported **48 disabled victims in 2023-24**

The team supports victims of hate crime, which includes anti-social behaviour and cuckooing. Hate crime experienced by our clients relates to disability, but also other aspects of client's identity, particularly ethnicity and/or sexuality.

#### ***Case study 1 :***

B sought our advocacy and advice support service following a traumatic physical attack that B perceived to be motivated by disability hate towards her as a disabled woman with long-term health conditions and mobility impairment. Additionally, B faced disablist abuse from neighbours and council contractors misusing her designated disabled parking bay, significantly impacting her well-being.

The assault occurred when B, alone at the time, confronted an individual unlawfully parked in her disabled bay. The situation escalated into violence, leaving B feeling vulnerable and unsafe. Despite reporting the incident to the police, the case was closed due to a lack of evidence. Following this, B experienced another distressing event when her front room window was broken, which she believed was connected to the previous assault and the perpetrator being aware she had reported it. Feeling increasingly unsafe in her own home, B reached out to the council for support in repairing the window but felt her concerns were not being taken seriously, and that the extent of the risk involved was not being recognised.

Our advocate provided crucial support to B throughout these challenges. Initially offering emotional support and explaining her rights and options, we assisted B

in engaging with the council and escalating her complaints. At B's request, our advocate co-ordinated with the council to arrange a joint meeting, to ensure her voice is heard and her concerns addressed. Our advocate is also assisting B in requesting a Victim's Right to Review from the police, advocating for a thorough re-evaluation of her case.

While the outcome of B's case is ongoing, our intervention has empowered her to assert her rights, seek justice and gain confidence in navigating systems that previously felt indifferent to her needs. In B's own words, "I couldn't thank you enough, and really appreciate your help and attention that you have dedicated to me in order to hopefully get a positive outcome."

### *Case Study 2:*

A is a disabled woman with autism and learning disability, who was facing targeted harassment from street drinkers in her local community, as well as individuals in her social network whom she considered friends. A believed that she was singled out due to her disability, and her reports were not taken seriously by the services she reached out to. This situation not only compromised A's sense of safety but also had a detrimental impact on her mental health.

Our advocate provided comprehensive support to A throughout the ordeal. We assisted her in liaising with the police, exploring accessible ways for her to stay safe when navigating the community. Our team accompanied her to multiagency professional meetings and safeguarding planning sessions to ensure her voice was heard and her needs were addressed. Emotional support was a constant, with guidance on practical safety measures such as journey planning. Recognising the importance of A's existing support network, we supported her in engaging with them and facilitated improved communication between services. This aimed to create a better holistic support system for A's future well-being.

In response to the challenges A faced with the police, our advocate helped her submit a formal complaint. A felt that her access needs were not adequately considered by the police, leading to her reports being dismissed or only recorded as incidents. We sought formal, written recognition of her complaint, allowing A the time to review it at her own pace, and giving her a record to refer back to in the future.

The outcome of our intervention was positive, as A reported, "I'm not being targeted anymore, but I know what to do if it happens again... thanks for being on my side".

#### **4. Independent Victims Advocate/General crime**

Our organization takes great pride in having the sole recognized specialist in the UK who serves as a Disability Independent Victims' Advocate (IVA). Her duties involve providing crucial support for disabled individuals who have been victimized through a broad spectrum of crime, including common assault, institutional abuse, financial abuse, theft, sustained and repeated harassment, and any other types of mixed crime (except those covered by our VAWG service).

Our Disability IVA adopts a holistic approach to supporting clients, covering a wide aspect of an individuals' live. This supporting individuals to report crimes and incidents to the police, local authority Housing and Anti-Social Behaviour teams. Preparing clients for their cases going to court, ensuring that the victim's case is fully prepared for court. This includes coordinating pre-trial court visits. Crucial to the court process is supporting and advocating for clients when at court, liaising with court officials on the client's behalf as required according to their wishes.

This is the fourth year of this vital service, our specialist IVA continues to work to address the unique needs of disabled victims and ensuring they receive the comprehensive support and advocacy essential for their well-being and in pursuit of justice.

The part-time IVA supported **10 clients** in 2023-24.

#### **Case study:**

#### **Stay Safe East LVWS IVA Victim Case Study – Q1-April – June 2023**

<b>Needs</b>	Client needed support to achieve:
<b>Situation:</b>	Crime type: Victim of Anti-social Behaviour by neighbour and negligence by Housing Association
<b>Summary of presenting situation:</b>	

Client has been a victim of anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance by her neighbours who moved in few years ago. Client's neighbours play loud music and carry out large parties outside the social activity hours. Client's house is at the end of the terrace. Her garden door opens into an unmonitored carpark and her garage. Neighbour's son, along with his friends, smokes cannabis in this area and create quite a commotion. The poor-quality windows (single glazed with gaps) lead the smoke of the cannabis and noise into her house, which has deteriorated her health. On one occasion, the neighbour lit fire in her front garden.

Client has had conversation and confrontation with neighbour, which aggravated the problem. She informed us that she has been a tenant for 33 years and have never had issues until the family next door moved in. She feels intimidated by her neighbours and is too scared to step out of the house. She lives in the fear that her neighbour or his friends might break into house, hence she locks herself in and do not open windows not even in summer. She also raised issues about her garage being constantly blocked and bay being used by other.

Client has several mental and physical health conditions, which affects her daily living very significantly. All above ongoing issues have worsened her health.

**Services provided:**

We have provided a range of support to this client, including:

- Established the issues surrounding the reported crime.
- Referred to Shelter for specialist housing support around the accessibility and repair of the house.
- Arranged a meeting with Client's Housing officer (HO) and agreed on points to be actioned for
- Scheduled to contact police to get update on the incidents reported and investigation carried out.
- Raised Stage 1 complaint with Housing Association
- Obtained permission from Housing Association for installation of video doorbell.
- Organised Video Doorbell for client's security

**Outcome:**

Following meeting with the Housing Manager and client following points of action were agreed:

- Mediation with neighbour: HO will visit the neighbour and make neighbours aware of the issues reported by client
- Looked into safety measures: installation of camera at the front and back door
- SSE surveyed the parking lot with HO who agreed that the lot is not secured, monitored and dark. He will raise the matter with his senior: get lights installed and consider other options to increase security.
- SSE suggested that HA marks a designated bay for client. HO will raise the issue with enforcement team around allocated marked bay for client.
- Client also expressed that she is experiencing neglect by the GP. Client consented that I speak with to another specialist advocacy service and signpost her for further support.

**Quotes:**

“I have only got you who listens and supports.”

“The housing officer would have never visited me, had you not gotten involved in this.”

“Thank you for the counselling services, I feel I am letting all the frustration out which has been building since years and affecting my health.”

“I do not say this often, but I appreciate your support.”

## **5. Benefits and Entitlements Advocates (BEAs)**

Our two Benefits and Entitlement Advocates (1.5 FTE), funded by Comic Relief and Trust 4 London, supported **28** of our clients this year. The support they offer is aimed at supporting survivors of abuse to respond to the impacts of economic abuse, with a particular focus on income maximisation and financial empowerment. The support offered by the BEAs included:

- Support with claiming Personal Independence Payment (PIP), or with challenging inappropriate PIP award decisions
- Support with claiming other welfare benefits
- Securing direct payments

- Provision of food packages
- Debt management help
- Claiming small and medium grants e.g. for travel and white goods.

The gross total generated for clients across all strands Benefits & Entitlements in 2023/24 was **£253,540.21**.

One example of a stunningly successful outcome involved that of supporting and advocating for a client at First Tier Tribunal Appeal, resulting in the DWP agreeing to backdating an award of PIP enhanced daily living component, back to 2019, awarding it this year, with the client gaining a total amount of £13046.58. Such achieved outcomes further confirm the effectiveness and the necessity of services such as this project funds.

*“Can just say a massive thank you to both of you for the amazing support you have given me ... I have been under immense pressure and my anxiety was at such a high level, you gave me so much comfort and support, without which I would have been getting further anxious.”* BEA Service Client

## Stay Safe East Policy and Change Work

Stay Safe East's policy work is about speaking out about the violence against disabled people, and particularly disabled women. The responses we write to dry policy documents, the meetings we attend, the letters we write or co-sign are about our passion to ensure that disabled survivors get the support, safety and justice they need and deserve – and most of all that the abuse is prevented. We are grateful to the **Three Guineas Trust** for their continued support which has helped us give survivors a national voice.

### 1. Violence against women and girls

There are no accurate records of the number of disabled women murdered, or who they were, but we do know that disabled women are almost three times more likely to experience domestic abuse than non-disabled women, and twice as likely to be the victim of rape or sexual assault, and that disabled men are much more likely than non-disabled men to be victims of domestic abuse. For example, data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales shows that people classify themselves as long-term/short-term sick or ill (a category that many of our clients would fall into in terms of economic status) were 2.5 x more likely than employed people to have experienced domestic abuse in the year up to March 2023<sup>1</sup>.

This year Stay Safe East has continued to raise awareness of the experiences of disabled survivors of domestic abuse at the highest level. Stay Safe East is a participant in a number of advisory groups:

- **the National Expert Steering Group on Domestic Abuse** (convened by what was DCLG)
- The **London Mayor's Office on Policing (MOPAC) VAWG Expert Reference Group** and
- The **NHS England and Department of Health bimonthly call on violence against women and girls**
- We support the **Domestic Abuse Commissioner (DAC)** with advice on disability related matters; attending the monthly DAC office call

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<sup>1</sup> [Domestic abuse victim characteristics, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/domestic-abuse-victim-characteristics-england-and-wales)

As part of our ongoing commitment to ending violence against women and girls (VAWG), Stay Safe East played a pivotal role in shaping the **VAWG General Election Manifesto 2023**, developed by over 70 leading organizations. Our contributions focused on ensuring the manifesto addressed the specific needs and experiences of disabled survivors, a group often overlooked in mainstream strategies.

Key highlights of our impact include:

- **Advocating for Inclusion:** We championed the need for policies that recognize the unique vulnerabilities of disabled survivors, including those experiencing abuse by paid and unpaid carers, and emphasized the importance of accessible and equitable support services.
- **Policy Advocacy:** Stay Safe East's proposed amendments to the Domestic Abuse Bill were instrumental in broadening legal definitions to provide better protection for disabled women and improve their access to safeguarding services.
- **Driving Intersectional Approaches:** Our expertise shaped the manifesto's intersectional focus, ensuring the compounded challenges faced by marginalized groups, including disabled women, were central to the policy recommendations.

These contributions have influenced national priorities and policy discussions post-election, further solidifying Stay Safe East's role as a leading voice for disabled survivors in the fight to end VAWG.

We took part in many consultations this year, especially relating to safe accommodation. One of the highlights of the year was being invited to meet with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences, Reem Alsalem on her visit to the UK in February, 2024. Along with our sister VAWG organisations, we highlighted funding difficulties for grassroots organisations, such as Stay Safe East.

## 2. MoJ Victims Code Campaign

We supported a campaign to raise awareness of the Victims' Code. The Ministry of Justice identified low awareness of the Victims' Code. The Ministry of Justice identified low awareness of the Victims' Code when it carried out market testing in 2022. We supported work to create an inclusive website and campaign materials, which included consultation at all stages whilst the campaign was being formulated.

### **3. Partnership on Tech Abuse with Refuge**

In 2023 we began working in partnership with Refuge whereby they deliver regular tech facilitated abuse and economic training courses to the staff, and we provide consultation on digital safety guides, other content relevant to the project such as on emerging trends. We also have accessibility working groups where Refuge share materials they are developing, and we provide our expertise, suggestions and knowledge to ensure the material is more accessible for our clients. Early in 2025, Refuge will be delivering economic abuse and tech abuse workshops to victim survivors both online and in person.

This project builds on our work with Refuge in the Pan London Floating Support Service, and cements our status as a valued by and for partner.

### **4. Hate crime policy and partnerships**

Stay Safe East is a founding member of the London Disabled People's Organisations Hate Crime Partnership led by Inclusion London, and one of three Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations who are part of the CATCH hate crime partnership, delivery support to victims of hate crime across London. As the only specialist organisation working solely with disabled victims of abuse, we bring evidence and unique expertise to both partnerships. We regularly attend the **Pan London Hate Crime Stake Holder Reference Group**.

This year saw the end of the five-year London DDPO Hate Crime Partnership, funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, Three Guineas Trust, and Trust for London. This project established a Pan-London partnership between Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations (DDPO) and was designed to upskill DDPO staff around supporting disabled people with experiences of hate crime. Our advocate, TP, who has been described as 'one of the most experienced hate crime advocates in London' spent time working with ten DDPO's for six month periods, providing training in understanding hate crime and conveying best practice.

As well as capacity building within DDPO the project also strengthened our collective voice in terms of policy and campaigns work. It also increased awareness of hate crime, as experienced by disabled people, with the aim that no Disabled person need suffer alone, if they experience hate crime. The last two years of the partnership saw the Hate Crime Data and Insight Project set up, as it became clear that no other agency was gathering data and insights on the anti hate crime work of London-based DDPOs.

Ruth Bashall was instrumental in backing this project, alongside TP. The project also had leadership Merton Centre for Independent Living, and was greatly supported by Anne Novis MBE, a tireless campaigner against hate crime, as experienced by disabled people.

## **5. Training and events**

Due to the staffing shortages experienced within the organisation this year, there was no capacity to deliver external training, except in a very limited way during the 16 Days of Activism on VAWG. However, having a more internal focus meant that we could develop some interesting new training for staff, such as our Safeguarding Practice Workshop and Group Work training (ahead of the Women's Group relaunch). In September, Ruth delivered her last training on supporting disabled victim/survivors to our new starters.

## **6. Research into the needs of Deaf and disabled survivors of rape and sexual violence**

In January 2022, the Ministry of Justice awarded a contract to a partnership led by the University of Leeds with Stay Safe East, SignHealth and Liverpool Hope University to carry out qualitative research into the needs of Deaf and disabled survivors of rape and sexual violence. This ground-breaking project arose from the End-to End Rape Review looking at the poor experiences of survivors and the falling conviction rates of abusers.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/end-to-end-rape-review-report-on-findings-and-actions> .

The review identified the lack of evidence on the experiences of Deaf and disabled survivors. will help shape support services for survivors in England and Wales. The evidence from the research will inform the recommissioning by the Ministry of Justice of support services to survivors of rape and sexual violence. We hope it will also help bring about changes in the way that support organisations and the criminal justice system respond to Deaf and disabled survivors.

The findings of the research project were published in 2023, and can be viewed [here](#).

We are pleased to have continued working with Dr Hollomotz and her team on the next iteration of work on this subject.

Charity registration number: 1153615

Stay Safe East  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
For the year ended  
31 March 2024

## Stay Safe East

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## Stay Safe East

### Reference and administrative details

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The trustees present their report (contained in a separate document) and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Status Stay Safe East is a registered charitable organisation (CIO).

Governing Document The charity was established under the Charities Act 2011.

Charity Registration Number 1153615

Principle office 90 Crownfield Road  
London  
E15 2BG

The Trustees Savitri Hensman  
Alexandra Delameilleure  
Jonathan Grosskopf  
Kirsten Hearn  
Alex Irving  
Isabel Rós Lopez  
Bennett Obong  
S, service user representative  
S, service user representative

*With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the names of the two service user representatives are withheld to protect their safety.*

Independent examiner Carbon Accountancy Limited  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

## **Stay Safe East**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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I report on the financial statements of the company for the period ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 8 to 13. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (section 132 of the Charities Act 2011).

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 114(2) of the Charity Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the institute of Chartered Accountants Ireland.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under charities act and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of Independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Stay Safe East

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements,
  - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of regulations 2008 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*John Leyden*  
Signed on 24/01/25 @ 18:06

.....  
John Leyden FCA  
Carbon Accountancy Limited  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

24 January 2025

Stay Safe East

Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	Total funds £	2023 Total Funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
<u>Grants and donations</u>					
Grants		139,000	260,448	399,448	452,968
Other donations		3,052	-	3,052	1,150
	4	142,052	260,448	402,500	454,118
<u>Charitable activities</u>					
Contracts		-	217,592	217,592	258,744
Other charitable activities		250	-	250	20,258
	5	250	217,592	217,842	279,002
Other income	6	4,227	-	4,227	16,202
<b>Total income</b>		146,529	478,040	624,569	749,322
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising					
donations and legacies	7	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	8,9	232,139	409,143	641,282	554,566
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		232,139	409,143	641,282	554,566
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		(85,610)	68,897	(16,713)	194,756
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		263,718	160,048	423,766	229,010
Transfers in year		(18,430)	18,430	-	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		159,678	247,375	407,053	423,766

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.


**The notes on pages 7 to 21 form part of these financial statements**

**Stay Safe East**

**Statement of Financial Position  
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Note</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	<b>16</b>	591	-
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	<b>17</b>	207,100	271,383
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>259,963</u>	<u>213,987</u>
		<u>467,063</u>	<u>485,370</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>18</b>	<u>(60,601)</u>	<u>(61,603)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>406,462</u>	<u>423,766</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>407,053</u>	<u>423,766</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>407,053</u>	<u>423,766</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		247,375	160,048
Unrestricted funds		<u>159,678</u>	<u>263,718</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	<b>21</b>	<u>407,053</u>	<u>423,766</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 24 January 2025, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

  
Signed on 24/01/25 @ 16:06

Savitri Hensman  
Trustee

**The notes on pages 7 to 21 form part of these financial statements.**

**Stay Safe East****Statement of Cash Flows  
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	(16,713)	194,756
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	26	1,436
Accrued expenses and deferred income	15,363	(747)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	64,282	(124,951)
Trade and other creditors	(16,366)	(30,925)
Net cash from operating activities	<u>46,593</u>	<u>39,569</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of tangible assets	<u>(616)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	45,976	39,569
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<u>213,987</u>	<u>174,418</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<u>259,963</u>	<u>213,987</u>

## **Stay Safe East**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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#### **1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The address of the principal office is 90 Crownfield Road, London E15 2BG.

#### **2. Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from January 2019.

#### **3. Accounting Policies**

##### **Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared using the historic cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

##### **Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis in accounting in preparation of financial statements.

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

##### **Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are no judgements nor any key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of material misstatement to the carry amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the trustees' discretion to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

#### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The costs of minor additions are not capitalised.

##### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 25% straight line basis

##### Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

**3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

**Financial instruments**

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

**Defined contribution pension plans**

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 4. Grants and Donations – current year

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	-	-
Trust for London	-	70,785	70,785
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	-	-
Three Guineas Trust	139,000	-	139,000
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	-	-
London Community Response Fund	-	-	-
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	12,500	12,500
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	73,459	73,459
Comic Relief	-	66,227	66,227
Lottery	-	37,476	37,476
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	139,000	260,448	399,448
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	3,052	-	3,052

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 4. Grants and Donations – prior year

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	-	-
Trust for London	-	36,750	36,750
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	85,139	85,139
Three Guineas Trust	171,077	-	171,077
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	-	-
London Community Response Fund	-	-	-
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	24,983	24,983
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	135,019	135,019
Comic Relief	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	171,077	281,891	452,968
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	1,150	-	1,150
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 5. Charitable activities

	Restricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
<u>Contracts</u>				
Victim Support (LVWS)	107,070	107,070	88,320	88,320
Pan London Safeguarding Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	68,157	68,157	119,174	119,174
Ascent Plus	22,500	22,500	22,500	22,500
	19,865	19,865	28,750	28,750
	<u>217,592</u>	<u>217,592</u>	<u>258,744</u>	<u>258,744</u>

During the year, the above contract funds were reclassified as restricted contract funds.

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
<u>Other charitable activities</u>				
Training and consultancy	250	250	20,208	20,208
Advocacy	-	-	-	-
Other income	-	-	50	50
	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>20,258</u>	<u>20,258</u>

#### 6. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Access to work claim	3,427	3,427	9,102	9,102
Grants for beneficiaries	800	800	7,100	7,100
	<u>4,227</u>	<u>4,227</u>	<u>16,202</u>	<u>16,202</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 7. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

#### 8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Promote the human rights of disabled people	206,972	359,737	566,709
Support costs (including governance costs)	25,166	49,406	74,572
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	232,138	409,143	641,281
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Promote the human rights of disabled people	313,015	182,558	495,574
Support costs (including governance costs)	39,687	19,305	58,992
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	352,703	201,863	554,566
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support Costs £	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	Total 2023 £
Promote the human rights of disabled people	566,709	70,092	636,801	550,516
Governance costs	-	4,480	4,480	4,050
	<u>566,709</u>	<u>74,572</u>	<u>641,281</u>	<u>554,566</u>

#### 10. Analysis of support costs

	<b>Promote the Human Rights of disabled people £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	Total 2023 £
Rent	(2,010)	(2,010)	8,670
Telephone	11,843	11,843	7,915
Postage, printing & stationery	3,581	3,581	2,746
Payroll admin fee	1,008	1,008	1,756
Bookkeeping	6,657	6,657	4,084
Insurance	4,099	4,099	3,445
Recruitment	5,820	5,820	7,743
Equipment	4,291	4,291	4,220
I.T costs	14,208	14,208	10,927
Depreciation	26	26	1,436
Compensation	15,154	15,154	-
Legal costs	1,415	1,415	-
Miscellaneous	4,000	4,000	2,000
	<u>70,092</u>	<u>70,092</u>	<u>54,942</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### For the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>26</u>	<u>1,436</u>

#### 12. Independent examination fees

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>3,600</u>	<u>3,600</u>

#### 13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	348,179	330,306
Social security costs	27,129	24,139
Employer contributions to pension plans	4,538	6,498
	<u>379,847</u>	<u>360,943</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 13 (2023: 14).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

- No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees; or
- None of the trustees has been paid remuneration or received other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity.
- No trustee expenses have been incurred.

#### 15. Transfers between funds

Transfers from unrestricted funds to restricted funds are to make good funding shortfalls and eliminate negative fund balances.

#### 16. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures, fittings and equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2023	5,744
Additions	616
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<u>6,360</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2023	5,744
Charge for the year	26
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<u>5,770</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<u>591</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>

#### 17. Debtors

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Trade debtors	197,094	156,743
Prepayments and accrued income	6,284	109,232
Other debtors	3,721	5,408
	<u>207,100</u>	<u>271,383</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	£
Trade creditors	15,990	23,528
Accruals and deferred income	34,838	19,473
Social security and other taxes	8,592	16,154
Other creditors	1,181	2,448
	<u>60,601</u>	<u>61,603</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income there is an amount of £2,167 for rent charges which have not been invoiced (2023: £15,827).

Included in other creditors there is £1,154 (2023: £1,439) of unpaid pension contributions.

#### 19. Deferred income

Included in accruals and deferred income in note 18 is the following deferred income:

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	£
MOPAC VAWG Fund	12,500	-
	<u>12,500</u>	<u>-</u>

#### 20. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

##### Defined contribution pension plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £4,538 (2023: £6,498)

**Stay Safe East**

**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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**21. Analysis of charitable funds**

**Unrestricted funds**

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At <b>31 March</b> <b>2024</b> £
General funds	<u>263,718</u>	<u>146,528</u>	<u>(232,137)</u>	<u>(18,430)</u>	<u>178,109</u>

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	<u>148,989</u>	<u>467,431</u>	<u>(352,702)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>263,718</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds (current year)

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	42,838	71,910	(68,397)	-	46,351
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office Trust for London	71,317 (415)	- 70,785	- (52,437)	-	71,317 17,933
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	2,809	(1,200)	-	-	1,609
London Community Response Fund	624	-	-	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	(11,929)	12,500	(10,213)	9,642	-
MOJ IDVA Fund	35,686	2,750	(28,163)	-	10,273
Comic Relief Lottery	8,780 -	66,227 37,476	(23,641) (11,323)	-	51,366 26,153
Victim Support (LVWS)	-	107,070	(98,620)	-	8,450
Pan London Safeguarding	-	68,157	(65,198)	-	2,959
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	22,500	(23,159)	659	-
Ascent Plus	-	19,865	(27,994)	8,129	-
	<u>160,048</u>	<u>478,040</u>	<u>(409,143)</u>	<u>18,430</u>	<u>247,375</u>

During the year, the Trustees transferred £18,430 from unrestricted funds to cover deficits in the MOPAC VAWG Fund (£9,642), Community Alliance To Combat Hate Fund (£659) and the Ascent Plus Fund (£8,129).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds (prior year)

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	12,877	53,101	(23,140)	-	42,838
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	36,647	85,139	(50,469)	-	71,317
Trust for London	1,774	36,750	(38,939)	-	(415)
MOJ Covid	2,809	-	-	-	2,809
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	624	-	-	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	6,172	24,983	(43,084)	-	(11,929)
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	81,918	(46,232)	-	35,686
Comic Relief	8,780	-	-	-	8,780
	<u>80,021</u>	<u>281,891</u>	<u>(201,863)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>160,048</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Tangible fixed assets	591	-	591
Current assets	207,188	259,875	467,063
Creditors less than one year	<u>(48,101)</u>	<u>(12,500)</u>	<u>(60,601)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>159,678</u>	<u>247,375</u>	<u>407,053</u>

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	325,322	160,048	485,370
Creditors less than one year	<u>(61,603)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(61,603)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>263,718</u>	<u>160,048</u>	<u>423,766</u>

#### 23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	<b>At 1 April 2023</b>	<b>Cash flows</b>	<b>At 31 March 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>213,987</u>	<u>45,976</u>	<u>259,963</u>

#### 24. Related parties

There have not been any related party transactions during this or the previous year.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### For the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### **25. Contingent liabilities and litigation**

During the year, three claims were made against Stay Safe East. Of these claims, one claim resulted in a judgement of £15,154 awarded to the claimant, which has been appealed by The Board with no outcome as of the date of signing of these financial statements.

Included in accruals is £16,569 (2023: £Nil) in respect of compensation and legal costs incurred in claims against the charity.

The second and third claims made against Stay Safe East are believed by the board to be not likely to succeed, and the Board intend to defend these claims fully. The Board has sought legal counsel and representation. At the present time, the potential legal costs of defending the claims are unknown.

Charity registration number: 1153615

Stay Safe East  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
For the year ended  
31 March 2024

## Stay Safe East

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Independent examiner's report to the trustees	2
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Statement of cash flows	6
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## Stay Safe East

### Reference and administrative details

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The trustees present their report (contained in a separate document) and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Status Stay Safe East is a registered charitable organisation (CIO).

Governing Document The charity was established under the Charities Act 2011.

Charity Registration Number 1153615

Principle office 90 Crownfield Road  
London  
E15 2BG

The Trustees Savitri Hensman  
Alexandra Delameilleure  
Jonathan Grosskopf  
Kirsten Hearn  
Alex Irving  
Isabel Rós Lopez  
Bennett Obong  
S, service user representative  
S, service user representative

*With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the names of the two service user representatives are withheld to protect their safety.*

Independent examiner Carbon Accountancy Limited  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

## **Stay Safe East**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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I report on the financial statements of the company for the period ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 8 to 13. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (section 132 of the Charities Act 2011).

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 114(2) of the Charity Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the institute of Chartered Accountants Ireland.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under charities act and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of Independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Stay Safe East

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements,
  - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of regulations 2008 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*John Leyden*

Signed on 24/01/25 @ 18:06

.....  
John Leyden FCA  
Carbon Accountancy Limited  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

24 January 2025

**Stay Safe East**

**Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

		<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Note</b>	Unrestricted funds <b>£</b>	Restricted Funds <b>£</b>	<b>funds £</b>	Total Funds <b>£</b>
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
<u>Grants and donations</u>					
Grants		139,000	260,448	399,448	452,968
Other donations		3,052	-	3,052	1,150
	<b>4</b>	<u>142,052</u>	<u>260,448</u>	<u>402,500</u>	<u>454,118</u>
<u>Charitable activities</u>					
Contracts		-	217,592	217,592	258,744
Other charitable activities		250	-	250	20,258
	<b>5</b>	<u>250</u>	<u>217,592</u>	<u>217,842</u>	<u>279,002</u>
Other income	<b>6</b>	<u>4,227</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,227</u>	<u>16,202</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<u>146,529</u>	<u>478,040</u>	<u>624,569</u>	<u>749,322</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	<b>7</b>	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	<b>8,9</b>	232,139	409,143	641,282	554,566
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>232,139</u>	<u>409,143</u>	<u>641,282</u>	<u>554,566</u>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<u>(85,610)</u>	<u>68,897</u>	<u>(16,713)</u>	<u>194,756</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		263,718	160,048	423,766	229,010
Transfers in year		<u>(18,430)</u>	<u>18,430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>159,678</u>	<u>247,375</u>	<u>407,053</u>	<u>423,766</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

**The notes on pages 7 to 21 form part of these financial statements**

**Stay Safe East**

**Statement of Financial Position  
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Note</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	<b>16</b>	591	-
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	<b>17</b>	207,100	271,383
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>259,963</u>	<u>213,987</u>
		<u>467,063</u>	<u>485,370</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>18</b>	<u>(60,601)</u>	<u>(61,603)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>406,462</u>	<u>423,766</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>407,053</u>	<u>423,766</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>407,053</u>	<u>423,766</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		247,375	160,048
Unrestricted funds		<u>159,678</u>	<u>263,718</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	<b>21</b>	<u>407,053</u>	<u>423,766</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 24 January 2025, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

  
Signed on 24/01/25 @ 16:06

Savitri Hensman  
Trustee

**The notes on pages 7 to 21 form part of these financial statements.**

**Stay Safe East****Statement of Cash Flows  
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	(16,713)	194,756
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	26	1,436
Accrued expenses and deferred income	15,363	(747)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	64,282	(124,951)
Trade and other creditors	(16,366)	(30,925)
Net cash from operating activities	<u>46,593</u>	<u>39,569</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of tangible assets	<u>(616)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	45,976	39,569
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<u>213,987</u>	<u>174,418</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<u>259,963</u>	<u>213,987</u>

## **Stay Safe East**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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#### **1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The address of the principal office is 90 Crownfield Road, London E15 2BG.

#### **2. Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from January 2019.

#### **3. Accounting Policies**

##### **Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared using the historic cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

##### **Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis in accounting in preparation of financial statements.

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

##### **Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are no judgements nor any key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of material misstatement to the carry amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements.

### **3. Accounting policies *(continued)***

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the trustees' discretion to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

#### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

## **Stay Safe East**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*** **For the year ended 31 March 2024**

---

#### **3. Accounting policies *(continued)***

##### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### **Tangible assets**

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The costs of minor additions are not capitalised.

##### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 25% straight line basis

##### **Impairment of fixed assets**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

**3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

**Financial instruments**

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

**Defined contribution pension plans**

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 4. Grants and Donations – current year

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	-	-
Trust for London	-	70,785	70,785
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	-	-
Three Guineas Trust	139,000	-	139,000
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	-	-
London Community Response Fund	-	-	-
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	12,500	12,500
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	73,459	73,459
Comic Relief	-	66,227	66,227
Lottery	-	37,476	37,476
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	139,000	260,448	399,448
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	3,052	-	3,052

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 4. Grants and Donations – prior year

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	-	-
Trust for London	-	36,750	36,750
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	85,139	85,139
Three Guineas Trust	171,077	-	171,077
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	-	-
London Community Response Fund	-	-	-
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	24,983	24,983
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	135,019	135,019
Comic Relief	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	171,077	281,891	452,968
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	1,150	-	1,150
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 5. Charitable activities

	Restricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
<u>Contracts</u>				
Victim Support (LVWS)	107,070	107,070	88,320	88,320
Pan London Safeguarding Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	68,157	68,157	119,174	119,174
Ascent Plus	22,500	22,500	22,500	22,500
	19,865	19,865	28,750	28,750
	<u>217,592</u>	<u>217,592</u>	<u>258,744</u>	<u>258,744</u>

During the year, the above contract funds were reclassified as restricted contract funds.

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
<u>Other charitable activities</u>				
Training and consultancy	250	250	20,208	20,208
Advocacy	-	-	-	-
Other income	-	-	50	50
	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>20,258</u>	<u>20,258</u>

#### 6. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Access to work claim	3,427	3,427	9,102	9,102
Grants for beneficiaries	800	800	7,100	7,100
	<u>4,227</u>	<u>4,227</u>	<u>16,202</u>	<u>16,202</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 7. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

#### 8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Promote the human rights of disabled people	206,972	359,737	566,709
Support costs (including governance costs)	25,166	49,406	74,572
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	232,138	409,143	641,281
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Promote the human rights of disabled people	313,015	182,558	495,574
Support costs (including governance costs)	39,687	19,305	58,992
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	352,703	201,863	554,566
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support Costs £	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	Total 2023 £
Promote the human rights of disabled people	566,709	70,092	636,801	550,516
Governance costs	-	4,480	4,480	4,050
	<u>566,709</u>	<u>74,572</u>	<u>641,281</u>	<u>554,566</u>

#### 10. Analysis of support costs

	<b>Promote the Human Rights of disabled people</b> £	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	Total 2023 £
Rent	(2,010)	(2,010)	8,670
Telephone	11,843	11,843	7,915
Postage, printing & stationery	3,581	3,581	2,746
Payroll admin fee	1,008	1,008	1,756
Bookkeeping	6,657	6,657	4,084
Insurance	4,099	4,099	3,445
Recruitment	5,820	5,820	7,743
Equipment	4,291	4,291	4,220
I.T costs	14,208	14,208	10,927
Depreciation	26	26	1,436
Compensation	15,154	15,154	-
Legal costs	1,415	1,415	-
Miscellaneous	4,000	4,000	2,000
	<u>70,092</u>	<u>70,092</u>	<u>54,942</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>26</u>	<u>1,436</u>

#### 12. Independent examination fees

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>3,600</u>	<u>3,600</u>

#### 13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	348,179	330,306
Social security costs	27,129	24,139
Employer contributions to pension plans	4,538	6,498
	<u>379,847</u>	<u>360,943</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 13 (2023: 14).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

- No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees; or
- None of the trustees has been paid remuneration or received other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity.
- No trustee expenses have been incurred.

#### 15. Transfers between funds

Transfers from unrestricted funds to restricted funds are to make good funding shortfalls and eliminate negative fund balances.

#### 16. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures, fittings and equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2023	5,744
Additions	616
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<u>6,360</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2023	5,744
Charge for the year	26
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<u>5,770</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<u>591</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>

#### 17. Debtors

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Trade debtors	197,094	156,743
Prepayments and accrued income	6,284	109,232
Other debtors	3,721	5,408
	<u>207,100</u>	<u>271,383</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	£
Trade creditors	15,990	23,528
Accruals and deferred income	34,838	19,473
Social security and other taxes	8,592	16,154
Other creditors	1,181	2,448
	<u>60,601</u>	<u>61,603</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income there is an amount of £2,167 for rent charges which have not been invoiced (2023: £15,827).

Included in other creditors there is £1,154 (2023: £1,439) of unpaid pension contributions.

#### 19. Deferred income

Included in accruals and deferred income in note 18 is the following deferred income:

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	£
MOPAC VAWG Fund	12,500	-
	<u>12,500</u>	<u>-</u>

#### 20. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

##### Defined contribution pension plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £4,538 (2023: £6,498)

**Stay Safe East**

**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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**21. Analysis of charitable funds**

**Unrestricted funds**

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At <b>31 March 2024</b> £
General funds	<u>263,718</u>	<u>146,528</u>	<u>(232,137)</u>	<u>(18,430)</u>	<u>178,109</u>

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	<u>148,989</u>	<u>467,431</u>	<u>(352,702)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>263,718</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds (current year)

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	42,838	71,910	(68,397)	-	46,351
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office Trust for London	71,317 (415)	- 70,785	- (52,437)	-	71,317 17,933
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	2,809	(1,200)	-	-	1,609
London Community Response Fund	624	-	-	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	(11,929)	12,500	(10,213)	9,642	-
MOJ IDVA Fund	35,686	2,750	(28,163)	-	10,273
Comic Relief	8,780	66,227	(23,641)	-	51,366
Lottery	-	37,476	(11,323)	-	26,153
Victim Support (LVWS)	-	107,070	(98,620)	-	8,450
Pan London Safeguarding	-	68,157	(65,198)	-	2,959
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	22,500	(23,159)	659	-
Ascent Plus	-	19,865	(27,994)	8,129	-
	<u>160,048</u>	<u>478,040</u>	<u>(409,143)</u>	<u>18,430</u>	<u>247,375</u>

During the year, the Trustees transferred £18,430 from unrestricted funds to cover deficits in the MOPAC VAWG Fund (£9,642), Community Alliance To Combat Hate Fund (£659) and the Ascent Plus Fund (£8,129).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds (prior year)

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	12,877	53,101	(23,140)	-	42,838
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	36,647	85,139	(50,469)	-	71,317
Trust for London	1,774	36,750	(38,939)	-	(415)
MOJ Covid	2,809	-	-	-	2,809
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	624	-	-	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	6,172	24,983	(43,084)	-	(11,929)
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	81,918	(46,232)	-	35,686
Comic Relief	8,780	-	-	-	8,780
	<u>80,021</u>	<u>281,891</u>	<u>(201,863)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>160,048</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	591	-	591
Current assets	207,188	259,875	467,063
Creditors less than one year	<u>(48,101)</u>	<u>(12,500)</u>	<u>(60,601)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>159,678</u>	<u>247,375</u>	<u>407,053</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	325,322	160,048	485,370
Creditors less than one year	<u>(61,603)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(61,603)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>263,718</u>	<u>160,048</u>	<u>423,766</u>

#### 23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2023	Cash flows	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>213,987</u>	<u>45,976</u>	<u>259,963</u>

#### 24. Related parties

There have not been any related party transactions during this or the previous year.

## **Stay Safe East**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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#### **25. Contingent liabilities and litigation**

During the year, three claims were made against Stay Safe East. Of these claims, one claim resulted in a judgement of £15,154 awarded to the claimant, which has been appealed by The Board with no outcome as of the date of signing of these financial statements.

Included in accruals is £16,569 (2023: £Nil) in respect of compensation and legal costs incurred in claims against the charity.

The second and third claims made against Stay Safe East are believed by the board to be not likely to succeed, and the Board intend to defend these claims fully. The Board has sought legal counsel and representation. At the present time, the potential legal costs of defending the claims are unknown.

**STAY SAFE EAST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1153615

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# Accounts

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**Stay Safe East**  
Trustees' Annual Report

2022-23



Charity Number 1153615

## Stay Safe East

### Trustee's Annual Report 2022-23

<b>Charity name:</b>	Stay Safe East
<b>Registration Number:</b>	<b>1153615</b> Stay Safe East is registered as a <b>Charitable Incorporated Organisation</b> with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.
<b>Principal office:</b>	90 Crownfield Road, London E15 2BG
<b>Trustees:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Savitri Hensman (Chair)</li><li>○ Paul Dowling (Treasurer)</li><li>○ Bennett Obong</li><li>○ Kirsten Hearn</li><li>○ Storme Toolis, service user representative</li><li>○ S, service user representative</li></ul> <p><i>* With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the names of the one service user representatives is withheld to protect their safety.</i></p>
<b>Staff and volunteers:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Chief Executive:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Ioana Hanis (to 31.03.22)</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Administrator</b> (part-time):<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Charlotte Payne</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Operations Manager</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Erika Chaubert (from 20.03.23)</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Policy Officers:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Miranda Weston (until 01.06.22)</li><li>○ Ashley Stephen (until 15.07.22)</li><li>○ Ruth Bashall (Policy Advisor)</li></ul></li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independent Victim’s Advocate/ Hate Crime Team Manager (full-time)</li> <li>• Hate Crime Advocates (2 part-time)</li> <li>• Violence against Women and Girls/Domestic Abuse Casework Manager/ Independent Disability and Domestic Violence Advocate (full-time)</li> <li>• Domestic Violence Advocates (IDDVAS) (5 part-time, one full time)</li> <li>• Benefits and Entitlements Advocate</li> <li>• General Advocate</li> <li>• Volunteer</li> </ul> <p><i>*Due to the nature of our work and to ensure their safety, names of advocacy staff and volunteers are not listed in this report.</i></p>
<b>Bank:</b>	<b>The Cooperative Bank,</b> PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT
<b>Bookkeeping and payroll:</b>	Jane Roche
<b>Independent Examiner:</b>	<b>Carbon Accountancy,</b> 80-83 Long Lane, London EC1A 9ET



### Thank you to our Funders and Commissioners!

- Three Guineas Trust
- The Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)
- The Home Office
- Trust for London
- Victim Support for London Victim and Witness Service
- Inclusion London
- Ministry of Justice
- Ascent Partnership (funded by MOPAC)
- Refuge for Pan London Floating Support Service (funded by MOPAC)
- GALOP for CATCH (funded by MOPAC)

**Thank you to our supporters and partners and in particular:**

- **Members of the Disability and Domestic Abuse Advisory Group**
- **Inclusion London**
- **Our partners in the VAWG sector**
- **All individuals and organisations who made donations to Stay Safe East or provided other kinds of assistance.**

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**Please note: for reasons of accessibility, the Independent Examiner's Unaudited Financial Statement is contained in a separate document.**

**The Trustees' Annual Report for 2022-23 was approved on January 25th 2024 and signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:**

**Savitri Hensman** *S. Hensman*

**Chair: 25.01.2024**

**This report is dedicated to Ruth Bashall:  
leading light behind Stay Safe East and staunch human rights campaigner.**

**23<sup>rd</sup> May 1952 – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2023**



## Chair's Report

I write this in the shadow of the sad death of Ruth Bashall, the key founder of Stay Safe East, after a period of illness. With the help of the late Nicholas Russell and others, she set up what was at first a project, then an independent charity, and served it initially as Chief Executive, then as policy and projects advisor, though ready to assist in other areas as needed.

The tributes which have poured in are a reminder of the vital, groundbreaking work undertaken by Stay Safe East in providing support to disabled survivors from diverse communities who face domestic abuse, sexual violence, hate crime, harassment and other forms of abuse, as well as pushing, at policy level, for disabled people's human rights to be respected. Her care, warmth, dedication, skill, knowledge and passion for justice are much missed – but others in Stay Safe East are committed to continuing to build on this legacy.

During 2022-23, the organisation continued to provide specialist holistic advocacy and advice, extending our scope through partnership working, as well as encouraging and assisting other organisations to be more responsive to the needs of disabled service users facing violence, harassment and abuse. Policy collaboration and coproduction of research are among the ways we have tried to deepen insights and awareness.

We also sought to strengthen our systems and support for those undertaking frontline activities and increased our reserves to enhance stability. While being appreciative of those willing to take on additional responsibilities on a temporary basis, we were pleased to be able, by the end of the financial year, to appoint an Operations Manager and take steps towards recruiting a permanent manager for the Violence Against Women and Girls service, in place of interim arrangements.

However the environment in which we were working remained deeply challenging, amidst a cost-of-living crisis, discrimination of various kinds and huge strains on (and turnover in) public services, as well as the ongoing impact of COVID. The shortage of accessible housing and difficulties in the benefit

system added to the problems faced by so many disabled people just wanting to be safe and treated with dignity and added to pressure on staff and volunteers.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank Ioana, the other managers and others who worked for Stay Safe East in the year for their skill and commitment, which has made such a huge difference to so many lives, despite the frustrations and challenges. Thanks too to our funders, donors, partners and all whose professional advice and assistance has helped us take forward the organisation's vital work.

As well as compassion, humour and vast experience in the field, Ruth's gifts included persuasiveness and persistence. These were essential to getting Stay Safe East off the ground and moving forward, especially in dealing with systems and structures which were the opposite of inclusive. I have been deeply grateful to learn with and from her. Those of us who remain will take forward that legacy, as the needs addressed throughout the year remain as urgent as ever

**Savitri Hensman**

**Chair, Stay Safe East**

## Chief Executive's Report

The year 2022-23 was largely a period of consolidation for Stay Safe East. We continued to sustain our core advocacy and policy work, with most projects continuing from previous years. We received contract extensions from our existing funders, such as Trust for London, Three Guineas and MOPAC.

In June 2022 we also became a partner within a brand new project funded by MOPAC and led by Refuge: the Pan London Floating Support Service. Funded as part of MOPAC's response to the Domestic Abuse Act, the purpose of the service is to support domestic abuse victim/survivors in safe accommodation other than refuge. Stay Safe East was commissioned to provide specialist support to disabled victim/survivors across London through two new safe accommodation advocates and a senior advocacy post.

Increasing our frontline service provision created a need for additional back office support provision. To achieve this, we extended our admin support function.

This year also posed some challenges, not least the continued impact of Covid-19. With a staff team consisting of many clinically vulnerable people, staff continued to work mainly at home. Whilst home working has its advantages, it can also be isolating, particularly when our work is so intense. We had to work hard to ensure staff were supported – holding regular virtual team meetings and check-ins, and ensuring that staff were utilising their counselling and reflective practice provision.

The rising cost of living also made life difficult for many of our staff (as we know, disabled people have been disproportionately impacted by the 'cost of living crisis'). This, coupled with difficulties in recruiting for vacant roles across the board, meant that it became imperative to carry out a review of salaries. A salary increase was implemented for all roles in 2022/23.

Although I was not in post at Stay Safe East during 2022/23, I was working closely with the organisation as the lead on the Pan London Floating Support Service for Refuge. In this role, it became clear to me how hard the Stay Safe East team works to promote the rights of disabled victim/survivors – whether through the work done to advocate on all sorts of issues, or by speaking out about injustice at every opportunity. I developed huge respect for Stay Safe East and it is a privilege to me to step into the shoes of Ioana and Ruth as leader of this fantastic organisation.

**Angie Airlie**  
**CEO – Stay Safe East**

# **Stay Safe East**

## **Report of activities 2022-2023**

### **1. Introduction**

The Trustees present their report of activities for the year ended March 31<sup>st</sup> 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the Notes to the accounts and comply with Stay Safe East's governing document, applicable law and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" preparing accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Stay Safe East is a registered charity (as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation) established in 2013. It remains the only user-led 'by and for' organisation in the UK providing long-term advocacy and support to disabled victims/survivors of multiple forms of abuse: domestic and sexual abuse and other forms of Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG), hate crime, harassment, cuckooing, abuse by care workers or personal assistants (which we consider to be domestic abuse), and abuse in residential and other institutions.

Stay Safe East seeks to use the expertise and evidence from our casework to inform our policy work at London-wide and national level. We aim to help remove the barriers to justice and equal responses to disabled survivors and to ensure that the voices of disabled survivors are heard by policy makers and other providers. We also provide casework advice, training, consultancy and capacity building services to statutory and voluntary organisations in the field.

### **2. Governing document and Objects of the Charity**

Stay Safe East is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission in September 2013 and is governed by its charity governing document. Stay Safe East is a disabled people's organisation run by and for the benefit of disabled people.

#### **Stay Safe East's Objects are:**

- (1) To relieve the distress and suffering caused to Deaf and disabled people by hate crime, harassment, domestic or sexual violence or other forms of abuse
- (2) To promote the human rights of deaf and disabled people in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

- (3) Such purposes as are exclusively charitable in accordance with the law of England and Wales as the Trustees may from time to time decide

### **3. Stay Safe East's objectives during its tenth year:**

- To continue to provide accessible and holistic support and advocacy to disabled survivors of domestic and sexual abuse, hate crime, harassment and other forms of abuse, and to support our staff and volunteers to deliver a quality and safe service to clients. This was revised to include supporting our clients through the Covid 19 pandemic.
- To develop our casework with disabled survivors across London through the London Victims and Witness Service, the Ascent Partnership and the CATCH partnership and other partnerships.
- To broaden our reach to disabled survivors of domestic abuse as part of the Pan London Floating Support Service, funded through the MOPAC Safe Accommodation Framework.
- To share our expertise with Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations (DDPOs) and organisations working on Violence against Women and Girls through casework advice, capacity building, training and briefings
- To further develop Stay Safe East's role as an expert organisation speaking out on behalf of disabled survivors of gender-based violence, hate crime and other abuse; ensuring that our voice is heard at the highest level.
- To work to improve operational responses to disabled victims/survivors by the Metropolitan Police, Crown Prosecution Service, local authorities and other agencies.
- To work to ensure that London and national policy and strategies on hate crime, violence against women and girls and victims' rights include appropriate measures to meet the needs of disabled survivors.
- To strengthen the financial and organisational resilience of Stay Safe East, its management structure and processes in order to help it grow sustainably.

### **4. Trustees**

The Trustees are elected by the Charity's members at the annual general meeting for a period of up to three years. Trustees are offered an induction, including presentations by staff, background material and information on the Charity's principal activities. Trustees are all unpaid volunteers and may claim reasonable out of pocket expenses. The Trustees who served during the year are

listed on the first page. There were six Trustees during the year. One client who is a member of the Board has chosen to remain anonymous to protect their safety. There were no new Trustees appointed during the year. All Trustees contribute to major decisions which impact on the organisation, bring new ideas and experiences and help shape the priorities of the Charity.

## **5. Organisational Structure and Staffing**

The Stay Safe East Board is responsible for overseeing the work of the organisation and setting strategic direction. The Board has six members, including two user representatives. The Board appoints the Chair of Stay Safe East, who supports the Chief Executive (CEO). As Stay Safe East has grown, we have changed the way we appoint staff – Board members are now usually only involved in the selection process for senior posts.

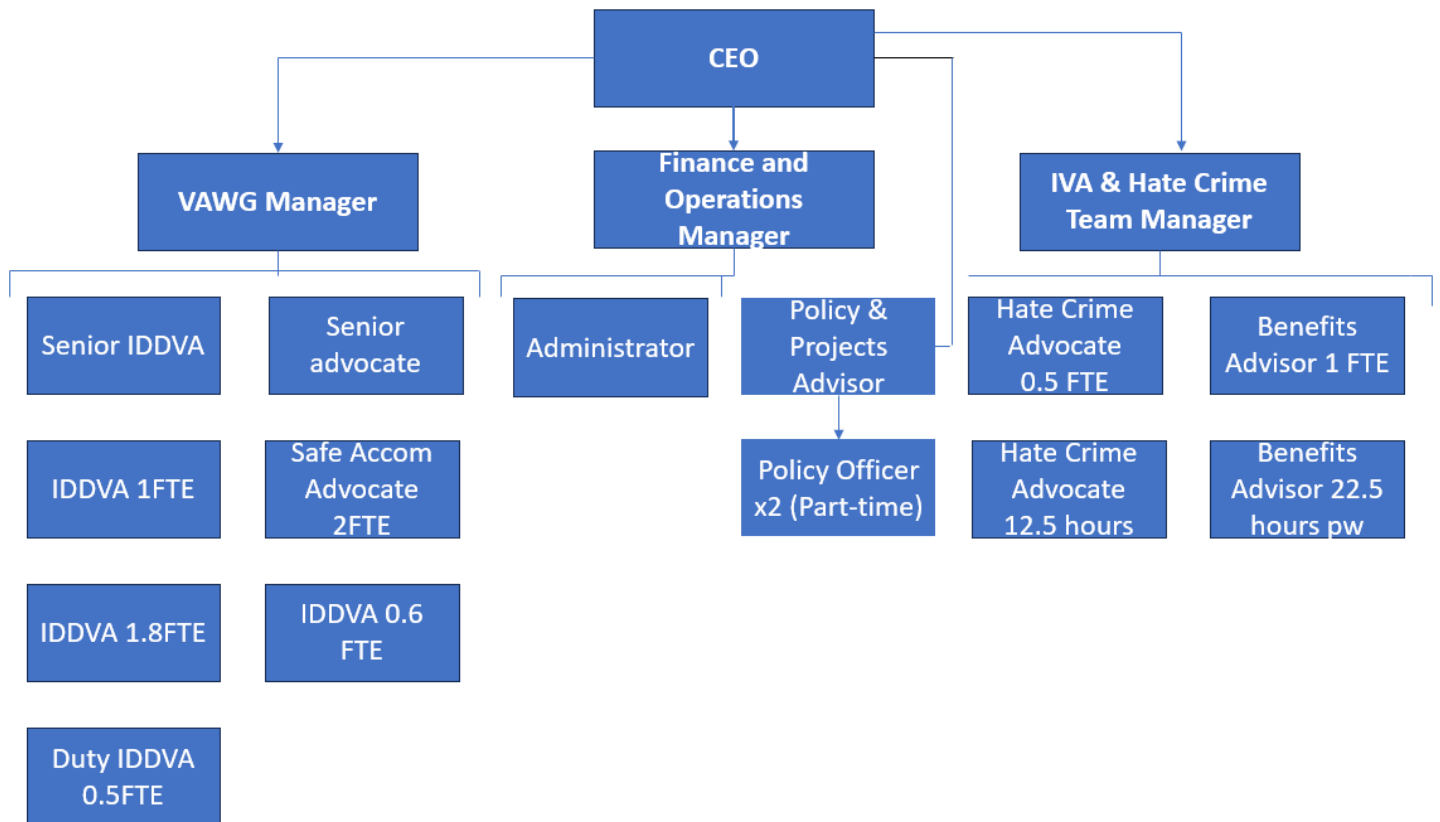
The Chair has delegated powers to take necessary decisions between scheduled Board meetings and is responsible for appraising the performance of the CEO on behalf of the Board.

Board meetings were held 4 times in the year, in addition to our Annual General Meeting in January. All meetings were held remotely on Zoom. Other decisions were made by the Board by e-mail, or in some instances of urgency, Chair's Action. The CEO gives the Board an account of the progress of the Charity's work, reports on financial matters, brings issues requiring particular attention and gets agreement for forward work.

During the year, the day-to-day financial administration was managed by a bookkeeper who worked with the CEO and interim financial manager to prepare management information for the Board. Ruth Bashall acted as interim financial manager and prepared reports to funders alongside the CEO; the decision having been made to split the finance and operations manager roles, to make it easier to recruit candidates with the right set of skills and experience for each area of work. In March 2023, we were delighted to recruit Erika Chaubert for the role of Operations Manager.

Ruth Bashall, the policy and projects adviser, acted as interim financial manager and prepared reports to funders alongside the CEO, Ioana Hanis, who, with the Board, oversaw the organisation's work. Unfortunately, for the organisation at the end of March 2022 Ioana made the difficult decision to leave Stay Safe East for personal reasons.

## Stay Safe East Organisational Structure 2022-23



## 6. Financial report

Stay Safe East ended the year in a sound financial position. The Trustees regularly consider the finances of the Charity and receive reports from the Treasurer and CEO to ensure that it is a going concern. They are satisfied that this is the case at the date of this report. Budgets and cash flow projections are drawn up to ensure proper governance.

***\*Independently Examined Financial Statements are available on the Charity Commission website.***

### **Stay Safe East: Summary of financial activities 2022-23**

<b>Income during the year:</b>	<b>£ 749,322</b>
<b>Expenditure during the year:</b>	<b>£ 554,566</b>
Surplus of income over expenditure:	£ 194,756
Reserves brought forward	£ 229,010
<b>Total funds of the charity</b>	<b>£ 423,766</b>
of which -	
Restricted funds:	£ 263,717
Unrestricted funds:	£ 160,048

The Board has been steadily increasing our reserves. The unrestricted reserves represent three months running costs/winding down costs, as recommended by CIPFA and the Charity Commission.

Our income came from a mix of grants, contracts for casework and capacity building, and donations.

**The Board would like to thank our funders for their support:**

- Three Guineas Trust
- Trust for London
- Mayor's Office on Policing and Crime (MOPAC)
- Home Office
- Ministry of Justice

Income also came from contracts, the first four of which originate with MOPAC:

- London Victim and Witness Service via Victim Support
- CATCH Hate Crime Partnership
- Ascent Partnership
- Pan London Floating Support Service (via Refuge)
- Hate Crime Advocacy Capacity Building (via Inclusion London)

This was the third year of our grant for core costs from Three Guineas Trust, which funded 60% of the CEO's salary, Policy Advisor and Policy Officer posts and Finance and Operations Manager post plus core administrative costs. We remain extremely grateful for this core funding, as it provides us with security and the funds to create a management structure which is fit for purpose as the charity grows.

## Stay Safe East casework report

### Supporting victims/survivors of abuse and other crimes

#### 1. The numbers

In 2022-23, Stay Safe East supported **189 clients**.

Year	All clients	Domestic/ sexual violence	Hate crime and CATCH	General crime
2017-18	98	70	16	12
2018-19	102	59	29	14
2019-20	154	93	43	18
2020-21	194	118	56	20
2021-22	199	81	74	22
<b>2022-23</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>31</b>

*\*10 unique clients also accessed supported from the Benefits Advocate. Some clients also had support from the general advocate and the volunteer.*

Sex	Totals	
	No.	%
Female	146	77%
Male	40	21%
Other	3	2%

Sexuality	Totals	
	No.	%
Heterosexual	95	50%
Lesbian	3	2%
Gay men	3	2%
Bisexual	5	3%
Not disclosed	83	43%

Age	Totals	
	No.	%
18-25	10	5%
26-35	23	12%
36-45	27	14%

46-55	50	26%
56-65	48	25%
66+	10	5%
Not disclosed	21	11%

Ethnicity	No.	Total %
Asian British	11	6%
Asian Indian	4	2%
Asian Pakistani	5	3%
Asian Bangladeshi	1	1%
Asian Sri Lankan	0	0%
East Asian	0	0%
Asian other	4	2%
Black British	15	8%
Black African	11	6%
Black Caribbean	3	2%
Black other	1	1%
Mixed heritage	9	5%
White British	41	22%
White European	6	3%
White Irish	3	2%
White Other	3	2%
European other	0	0%
Mixed Other	0	0%
Arab Middle Eastern	2	1%
Other	2	1%
Not disclosed	68	36%

Impairment * <i>clients may have more than 1 impairment</i>	No.	%
Physical impairment	87	20%
Deaf BSL user	3	1%
Hearing Impairment	10	2%
Visual impairment	10	2%
Learning disability	27	6%

Long-term mental health	71	<b>16%</b>
Long term condition	75	<b>17%</b>
Mobility issue	64	<b>15%</b>
Neurological impairment	10	<b>2%</b>
Neuro-diverse	31	<b>7%</b>
Terminal condition	6	<b>1%</b>
Other	14	<b>3%</b>
Not disclosed	25	<b>6%</b>

## **2. Domestic abuse/ Violence Against Disabled Women**

During **2022-23**, the domestic abuse team worked with **84 clients**. We also received **16** referrals where support was either declined, or the survivor could not be contacted.

The team supports survivors of domestic abuse which takes place in a context of widespread Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG): our clients are mainly women, although we do advocate for clients of other genders. Our clients have rarely experienced only one form of abuse, and may be survivors of institutional abuse, sexual violence or rape, trafficking or other forms of abuse. Like all 'by and for' VAWG specialist services, we do not limit our work to supporting clients around domestic abuse but deal with the survivor's whole experience and let her set the priorities.

Our domestic abuse workers are Independent Disability and Domestic Violence Advocates (IDDVAs) who are disabled women. They work within an intersectional social model of disability approach and act as positive role models for clients through being disabled women in a position of responsibility.

Following on from the Covid-19 pandemic, Stay Safe East staff including our VAWG team have been hybrid working. We have been working towards a limited return to the office, with staff coming in for at least one day per week. Moving towards greater face-to-face contact is very important for the well-being of all staff, who are working daily with challenging cases. We continue to offer one-to-one supervision, virtual team meetings, including weekly team meetings for the domestic abuse team and access to counselling and reflectively practice.

### **The support we provide to clients**

The support given by the domestic abuse team support to clients includes:

- Giving the client time to tell their story, sometimes for the first time – or often for the time to someone who believes them
- Safety planning and disability risk assessment
- Supporting clients to obtain non-molestation orders and occupation orders to remove the abuser from their home
- supporting clients to report to the police (including attending Achieving Best Evidence interviews with the client)
- Making options accessible and working with the survivor to help her decide what actions she wants to take options for disabled victims of domestic abuse.
- Support to access safe and suitable accommodation for their individual access needs; help with tenancy management
- Support to apply for care packages and OT assessments
- Support for the client if the case is referred to adult safeguarding
- Support to women on child protection plans and going through care proceedings who are facing their children being removed from their care and helping them to negotiate the Family Courts - however during lockdown this has involved remote hearings by phone which has meant increased discrimination and injustice for disabled mothers.
- Support around child protection, safeguarding and care proceedings
- Supporting clients around mental health issues such as helping them speak to mental health professionals and helping them get their repeat prescription. Support to challenge discriminatory approaches, for example refusal of services to women labelled with the controversial diagnosis of “Borderline Personality Disorder”
- Support to attend care proceedings cases and post hearing meetings to explain what was said during the hearings and what this meant for clients, and assist them to respond to legal documents.
- Contacting other agencies such as solicitors or MPs when agencies do not take client’s cases seriously.
- Support to client who was hospitalised with Covid to be discharged safely from the hospital

All clients were provided with emotional support. We work at clients’ pace and work with them in a way that takes into consideration their access needs.

The following case studies illustrate the holistic nature of our work.

### *Case study 1:*

The client is a 42 year old Asian man, who was referred to our service as a disabled survivor of domestic abuse, facing ongoing abuse from his ex-wife and stepson. Suffering from multiple long-term health conditions, mobility impairment, and undiagnosed mental health issues, he sought refuge after a violent attack by his stepson, who attempted to strangle him in his sleep and had been threatening to kill him. This incident left him homeless, with no fixed abode, and struggling with the physical and emotional aftermath of the abuse.

The risk associated with street homelessness is particularly heightened for him, because of his multiple long-term health conditions, including breathing problems worsened by the cold, and mental health. Isolation from his children, lack of legal support for the Family Court case, and financial instability further intensify these risks.

Since the referral, our IDDVA has conducted thorough risk assessments (including DASH RIC and our own Disability and Domestic Violence risk assessments, and individualised safety and support plans), addressing his immediate priorities: housing, finance, and access to visit his children.

We conduct regular check-ins with the client, facilitated where possible by telephone interpreters for own-language interpretation to ensure effective communication. We have completed referrals to solicitors for support with his upcoming Family Court hearings, and to our Benefits and Entitlements team for support with his finances, to improve his options for housing and entitlements. We have also reached out to other professionals associated with his case, such as a caseworker supporting him with his immigration status, and his GP for support accessing mental health services.

Positive outcomes include the client's progress in the Legal Aid application process, signaling a step towards legal support for the Family Court case. Following regular contact with the solicitors around an upcoming court hearing. We are also providing support with a Personal Independence Payment (PIP) application for the client.

We are addressing barriers related to benefits, specifically the client's ineligibility for some property viewings due to not being in receipt of PIP at the time, so that we can enhance his access to housing support and other services. The absence of stable accommodation not only impacts his health and mood but also hinders engagement with local services, though we are

working to support his engagement as advocates with experience working within the borough.

Emotionally, the client has expressed gratitude for the empathetic support provided - and said that despite experiencing depression and low thoughts, that support from [Stay Safe East] “has given me hope.”

### **3. Hate crime and cuckooing**

Our hate crime service has two strands: an established local service in East London with a part-time advocate and a second part-time advocate funded by MOPAC via CATCH. These provisions supported **42 disabled victims in 2022-23**

The team supports victims of hate crime, which includes anti-social behaviour and cuckooing. Hate crime experienced by our clients relates to disability, but also other aspects of client's identity, particularly ethnicity and/or sexuality.

#### ***Case study:***

S is a 64-year-old disabled man with multiple long-term health conditions, mobility impairment, and mental health. S sought support from our service after enduring hate crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) from his neighbours, leading to severe isolation and other adverse impacts on his health.

S had been living with the distressing effects of hate crime and ASB perpetrated by his neighbours for many years. The hostile environment included banging on his walls, blocking access to his property, and even physical attacks. The relentless stress and isolation exacerbated his existing health conditions, highlighting the urgent need for intervention.

#### **Intervention and Support:**

Over the course of our work with S, we collaborated with him to advocate for his access needs, liaised with health services, and assisted in his application for the Seaside and Countryside scheme. Simultaneously, we also engaged with his housing association, to whom we had been reporting the hate crime and ASB, to ensure recognition of his priority needs on their own housing register. Our client S had endured over a decade of waiting to move away from the abusive

neighbours. Over the many months that we worked with him, we built up his case with housing to push for a move to a safe and accessible property. For the duration of the case, we regularly checked-in with S and offered emotional support, discussed his needs and wishes and suggested and agreed holistic solutions to support his wellbeing.

**Outcome:**

Throughout 2022 S's needs were finally given adequate recognition by the Housing authorities, and in November, he was approved for a move to another borough where he is safe. This significant achievement allowed S to move away from the hate crime and ASB to which he was subjected for many years. He was able to now focus on his health and wellbeing.

We referred S internally, to our Benefits & Entitlement team, who supported him as he transitioned to his new property. He was assured that he could contact us if any future issue arose.

#### **4. Independent Victims Advocate/General crime**

Our organization takes great pride in having the sole recognized specialist in the UK who serves as a Disability Independent Victims' Advocate (IVA). Her duties involve providing crucial support for disabled individuals who have been victimized through a broad spectrum of crime, including common assault, institutional abuse, financial abuse, theft, sustained and repeated harassment, and any other types of mixed crime (except those covered by our VAWG service).

Our Disability IVA adopts a holistic approach to supporting clients, covering a wide aspect of an individuals' live. This supporting individuals to report crimes and incidents to the police, local authority Housing and Anti-Social Behaviour teams. Preparing clients for their cases going to court, ensuring that the victim's case is fully prepared for court. This includes coordinating pre-trial court visits. Crucial to the court process is supporting and advocating for clients when at court, liaising with court officials on the client's behalf as required according to their wishes. During this year our advocate supported two clients in court.

This is the fourth year of this vital service, our specialist IVA continues to work to address the unique needs of disabled victims and ensuring they receive the

comprehensive support and advocacy essential for their well-being and in pursuit of justice.

Beyond her distinctive role as a Disability Independent Victims' Advocate, our IVA also manages a team of Hate Crime and Benefits & Entitlement advocates. As a manager she supervises supports and guides her team, supporting them with the particularly challenging areas of their cases, those which present additional complexities, including issues related to past abuse, housing difficulties, school bullying against disabled young people, including those who are neurodiverse and those with sensory, physical and learning disabilities who are targeted and/or face various challenges.

The IVA supported **31 clients** in 2022-23.

**Case study:**

**Stay Safe East LVWS IVA Victim Case Study – 4<sup>th</sup> (final) Quarter - January to March 2023**

Theme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Ensure the service is equally accessible to all demographic groups in London</li> <li>✓ High quality of service delivered to victims and witnesses / Victims better able to cope &amp; recover</li> <li>✓ Reduced repeat victimisation / effective risk management</li> <li>✓ Improved support for priority target groups</li> <li>✓ Ensure the service is equally accessible to all demographic groups in London</li> <li>✓ High quality of service delivered to victims and witnesses / Victims better able to cope &amp; recover</li> <li>✓ Improved support for priority target groups (LGBT+, Disability, BAME, 65+, etc...)</li> <li>✓ More victims and witnesses receiving VCoP &amp; WC entitlements</li> </ul>
	July 22
Victim details	<p>Gender: Female          Age range: 55-64, Black British          Disability: Physical Disabilities</p>

Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Client needs support to navigate through the justice system to achieve justice in relation to the reported crimes perpetrated against her.</li> <li>• Client also required guidance and/or advice about keeping safe</li> <li>• Client requires help with benefits, correspondence and paperwork</li> <li>• Client requires support to access Criminal Injuries Compensation</li> <li>• Client requires ongoing emotional support</li> </ul>
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Situation:

Crime Type: Assault by Beating/Use of threatening words/Behaviour causing alarm & distress

Victim was referred to Stay Safe East’s IVA by Victim Support, as the victim is disabled with physical and neurological disabilities as well as mental health issues. Victim reported a ferocious attack by delivery driver who tried to force his way into her home, charging at the door repeatedly as she attempted to close it, causing her injuries. Victim used emergency personal alarm to summon the police.

When the police arrived however, the alleged perpetrator met them outside first and began making allegations against her. Victim reported that she then experienced hostility from the police; her being questioned by them as to what she had done. Police closed the case with No Further Action, however upon a complaint being lodged, the case was reopened.

The original officers were taken off the case and it was reallocated to another officer.

At the time of writing the suspect was charged with the above listed charges and the case was scheduled to be heard in London Magistrates Court in April 2023.

A separate investigation of the police was also being undertaken.

Disability IVA supported the client throughout both elements of the case

Services provided:

A range of support to this client, including:

- Established the issues surrounding the reported crime incl. Crime number
- Obtained copies of information to support disabled victim's case
- Liaised with police and other personnel regarding the alleged assault by the delivery driver.
- Supported client by recording/typing Victim Personal Statement
- Submitted application for Criminal Injuries Compensation
- Supported client by liaising with relevant parties for pre-trial visit & special measures for court
- Attending to support client on day of court
- Referred client to SSE's internal Benefits team for help with benefits and entitlements
- Research other possible routes support for victim, including therapy services
- Work to secure a satisfactory outcome for the victim

**Outcome:**

The situation is ongoing with the victim's case. We continue to advocate for and support the victim.

**Any learning:**

Disappointment at the MET officers' initial handling of this disabled victim's case. Hopeful about the outcome for the victim due to the wrap-around support we are able to offer

**Quotes:**

"Thank you so much for all your help and taking time out of your weekend to do this for me. May God bless you always Amen"

"Thank you so much for your email and unending support. I honestly do not take this for granted. I just wanted to confirm that I received it, and also say from the bottom of my heart, I am truly grateful. God bless you always."

## 5. Benefits and Entitlements Advocates

Our two part-time Benefits Advocate played a crucial role in supporting 37 clients of Stay Safe East throughout the year 22/23. Raising a total £157,277.16 for clients across all strands of benefits and entitlements

The support they provided covered a wide range of services, including:

- **Emergency Food Provision:** Facilitating access to emergency food resources such as food banks and NHS responders.
- **Benefits Check for New Clients:** Conducting benefit checks for new clients to identify any overlooked benefits they may be entitled to.
- **Assistance in Gathering Medical Evidence:** Aiding clients in collecting medical evidence, fit notes, and other documentation necessary for benefits claims.
- **Personal Independence Payment (PIP) Support:** Offering guidance and assistance with PIP applications, mandatory reconsiderations, SSCS1s, and Tribunal Appeals, as well as providing advice on existing Disability Living Allowance claims.
- **Universal Credit Claims:** Assisting clients in filing claims for Universal Credit.
- **Limited Capability for Work Forms:** Providing help to complete and substantiate Limited Capability for Work forms, particularly the disability element, and offering support during assessments.
- **Correction of Benefit Errors:** Ensuring that errors in Employment Support Allowance, Universal Credit, and other benefits were rectified by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).
- **Pension Credit Assistance:** Assisting clients in sorting out Pension Credit payments.
- **Special Guardianship Allowance Application:** Supporting clients in the application process for Special Guardianship Allowance (SGO).
- **Child Benefit and Tax Credits Support:** Assisting with child benefit claims and reviews, as well as managing complaints to HMRC regarding child tax credits.
- **Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction:** Providing support with housing benefit claims and applications for council tax reduction.
- **Negotiation on Utility Bill Arrears:** Negotiating on behalf of clients to address arrears in utility bills.
- **Applications for Special Entitlements:** Facilitating applications for special entitlements such as Blue Badges, Motability, Freedom Pass, Taxicard, and other relevant benefits.

- Grant Applications: Assisting clients in applying to grant-giving trusts for financial support related to furniture, white goods, clothing, and other essential needs.
- Debt Advice and Management Referrals: Referring clients to qualified free debt advice services and providing assistance with basic budgeting.

The Benefits Advocate's comprehensive support underscores the importance of these roles and the immeasurable benefits it brings to disabled families enhancing the well-being and financial stability of Stay Safe East clients across various aspects of their lives.

## Stay Safe East Policy and Change Work

Stay Safe East's policy work is about speaking out about the violence against disabled people, and particularly disabled women. The responses we write to dry policy documents, the meetings we attend, the letters we write or co-sign are about our passion to ensure that disabled survivors get the support, safety and justice they need and deserve – and most of all that the abuse is prevented. We are grateful to the **Three Guineas Trust** for funding our policy posts and their continued support which has helped us give survivors a national voice. Our thanks also to **Stay Safe East's Chair** for her excellent help with key responses to government legislation.

### 1. Violence against women and girls

There are no accurate records of the number of disabled women murdered, or who they were, but we do know that disabled women are almost three times more likely to experience domestic abuse than non-disabled women, and twice as likely to be the victim of rape or sexual assault, and that disabled men are much more likely than non-disabled men to be victims of domestic abuse. For example, data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales shows that people who classify themselves as long-term/short-term sick or ill (a category that many of our clients would fall into in terms of economic status) were 2.5 x more likely than employed people to have experienced domestic abuse in the year up to March 2023<sup>1</sup>

This year Stay Safe East has continued to raise awareness of the experiences of disabled survivors of domestic abuse at the highest level. Stay Safe East is a participant in a number of advisory groups:

- **the Home Office group on Ask Ani**, a scheme to enable victims to report domestic abuse at chemists and other businesses.
- The **London Mayor's Office on Policing (MOPAC) VAWG Expert Reference Group** and
- The **Ministry of Justice Expert Advisory Group on safe accommodation**
- The **Department for Communities, Housing and Local Government national Domestic Abuse Expert Reference Steering Group**

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<sup>1</sup> [Domestic abuse victim characteristics, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk)

- We support the **Domestic Abuse Commissioner (DAC)** with advice on disability related matters; attending the monthly DAC office call

We also took part in projects focusing on understanding and improving the response to sexual violence.

## **2. Safe Care at Home Review**

After the majority vote in the House of Lords in favour of one of our amendments, Minister Victoria Atkins committed the government to a review of abuse of disabled people by non-family ‘carers’. Work on the Safe Care at Home Review began in Autumn 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-care-at-home-review-terms-of-reference>

We helped shape the Terms of Reference and encouraged the civil servants working on the review to engage with user-led Deaf and Disabled People’s Organisations (DDPOs). The review process lasted until June 2023, when the review report was published.

[SafeCareAtHomeReport V2- 12 06 23 .pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

## **3. Hate crime policy and partnerships**

Stay Safe East is a founding member of the London Disabled People’s Organisations Hate Crime Partnership led by Inclusion London, and one of three Deaf and Disabled People’s Organisations who are part of the CATCH hate crime partnership, delivery support to victims of hate crime across London. As the only specialist organisation working solely with disabled victims of abuse, we bring evidence and unique expertise to both partnerships.

## **4. Training and events**

Whilst for capacity reasons it was not possible to meet all requests for training this year, we have offered training to other VAWG specialist organisations, such as Ashiana and to other organisations, like the College of Sexual and Relationship Therapists. The training covered:

- Meeting the needs of disabled survivors
- Identifying and responding to disability related risks
- Supporting disabled survivors through the criminal justice system
- Assisting clients to access social care

## **5. Research into the needs of Deaf and disabled survivors of rape and sexual violence**

In January 2022, the Ministry of Justice awarded a contract to a partnership led by the University of Leeds with Stay Safe East, SignHealth and Liverpool Hope University to carry out qualitative research into the needs of Deaf and disabled survivors of rape and sexual violence. This ground-breaking project arose from the End-to End Rape Review looking at the poor experiences of survivors and the falling conviction rates of abusers.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/end-to-end-rape-review-report-on-findings-and-actions> .

The review identified the lack of evidence on the experiences of Deaf and disabled survivors. will help shape support services for survivors in England and Wales. The evidence from the research will inform the recommissioning by the Ministry of Justice of support services to survivors of rape and sexual violence. We hope it will also help bring about changes in the way that support organisations and the criminal justice system respond to Deaf and disabled survivors.

This project continued throughout 2022-23, with a focus on gathering the experiences of Deaf and disabled survivors. Key findings are available on <https://survivors-project.leeds.ac.uk/>

Stay Safe East is extremely proud to be involved in this pioneering piece of research which is based on the principle of Co-production between Deaf and disabled people and academic researchers. We will be using this model for future research projects.

Charity registration number: 1153615

Stay Safe East  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
For the year ended  
31 March 2023

## Stay Safe East

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## Stay Safe East

### Reference and administrative details

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The trustees present their report (contained in a separate document) and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Status Stay Safe East is a registered charitable organisation (CIO).

Governing Document The charity was established under the Charities Act 2011.

Charity Registration Number 1153615

Principle office 90 Crownfield Road  
London  
E15 2BG

The Trustees Savitri Hensman  
Paul Dowling  
Kirsten Hearn  
Bennett Obong  
S, service user representative  
S, service user representative

*With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the names of the two service user representatives are withheld to protect their safety.*

Independent examiner Carbon Accountancy Limited  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East  
For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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I report on the financial statements of the company for the period ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 8 to 13. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (section 132 of the Charities Act 2011).

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 114(2) of the Charity Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the institute of Chartered Accountants Ireland.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under charities act and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Stay Safe East

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2023

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#### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements,
- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011:  
and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of regulations 2008 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

.....

John Leyden FCA  
Carbon Accountancy Limited  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

23 January 2024

Stay Safe East

Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	Total funds £	2022 Total Funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
<u>Grants and donations</u>					
Grants		171,077	281,891	452,968	375,949
Other donations		1,150	-	1,150	1,020
	<b>4</b>	<u>172,227</u>	<u>281,891</u>	<u>454,118</u>	<u>376,969</u>
<u>Charitable activities</u>					
Contracts		258,744	-	258,744	149,965
Other charitable activities		20,258	-	20,258	1,995
	<b>5</b>	<u>279,002</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>279,002</u>	<u>151,960</u>
Other income	<b>6</b>	<u>16,202</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,202</u>	<u>14,694</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<u>467,431</u>	<u>281,891</u>	<u>749,322</u>	<u>543,623</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	<b>7</b>	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	<b>8,9</b>	352,703	201,863	554,566	504,309
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>352,703</u>	<u>201,863</u>	<u>554,566</u>	<u>504,309</u>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<u>114,728</u>	<u>80,027</u>	<u>194,756</u>	<u>39,314</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		148,989	80,021	229,010	189,696
Transfers in year		-	-	-	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>263,717</u>	<u>160,048</u>	<u>423,766</u>	<u>229,010</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

**The notes on pages 7 to 22 form part of these financial statements**

## Stay Safe East

### Statement of Financial Position For the year ended 31 March 2023

		2023	2022
	Note	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	16	-	1,436
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	17	271,383	146,433
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>213,987</u>	<u>174,418</u>
		<u>485,370</u>	<u>320,851</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	18	<u>(61,604)</u>	<u>(93,277)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>423,766</u>	<u>227,574</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>423,766</u>	<u>229,010</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>423,766</u>	<u>229,010</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		160,048	80,021
Unrestricted funds		<u>263,718</u>	<u>148,989</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	21	<u>423,766</u>	<u>229,010</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 23 January 2024, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Savitri Hensman  
Trustee

**The notes on pages 7 to 22 form part of these financial statements.**

## Stay Safe East

### Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended 31 March 2023

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	194,756	39,314
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,436	1,436
Accrued expenses	(747)	7,627
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	(124,950)	59
Trade and other creditors	(30,925)	28,107
Net cash from operating activities	<u>39,569</u>	<u>76,543</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of tangible assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	39,569	76,543
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<u>174,418</u>	<u>97,875</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<u>213,987</u>	<u>174,418</u>

**Stay Safe East**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The address of the principal office is 90 Crownfield Road, London E15 2BG.

**2. Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from January 2019.

**3. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared using the historic cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparation of financial statements.

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are no judgements nor any key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of material misstatement to the carry amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the trustees' discretion to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

#### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

#### **Tangible assets**

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The costs of minor additions or those costing below £1,000 are not capitalised.

#### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 25% straight line basis

#### **Impairment of fixed assets**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

#### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

#### Defined contribution pension plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 4. Grants and Donations – 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	-	-
Trust for London	-	36,750	36,750
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	85,139	85,139
Three Guineas Trust	171,077	-	171,077
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	-	-
London Community Response Fund	-	-	-
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	24,983	24,983
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	135,019	135,019
Comic Relief	-	-	-
	<hr/> 171,077	<hr/> 281,891	<hr/> 452,968
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	<hr/> 1,150	<hr/> -	<hr/> 1,150

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 4. Grants and Donations - 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	45,124	45,124
Trust for London	-	27,154	27,154
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	75,000	75,000
Three Guineas Trust	133,823	-	133,823
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	2,804	2,804
London Community Response Fund	-	10,571	10,571
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	49,965	49,965
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	7,848	7,848
Comic Relief	-	23,660	23,660
	<hr/> 133,823	<hr/> 242,126	<hr/> 375,949
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	<hr/> 1,020	<hr/> -	<hr/> 1,020

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
<u>Contracts</u>				
Inclusion London	-	-	19,295	19,295
Victim Support (LVWS)	88,320	88,320	88,320	88,320
Pan London Safeguarding Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	119,174	119,174	-	-
Ascent Plus	22,500	22,500	22,350	22,350
	28,750	28,750	20,000	20,000
	<u>258,744</u>	<u>258,744</u>	<u>149,965</u>	<u>149,965</u>
<u>Other charitable activities</u>				
Training and consultancy	20,208	20,208	1,920	1,920
Advocacy	-	-	-	-
Other income	50	50	75	75
	<u>20,258</u>	<u>20,258</u>	<u>1,995</u>	<u>1,995</u>

#### 6. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Access to work claim	9,102	9,102	14,194	14,194
Grants for beneficiaries	7,100	7,100	500	500
	<u>16,202</u>	<u>16,202</u>	<u>14,694</u>	<u>14,694</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 7. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-

#### 8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Promote the human rights of disabled people	313,015	182,558	495,574
Support costs (including governance costs)	39,687	19,305	58,992
	<u>352,703</u>	<u>201,863</u>	<u>554,566</u>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Promote the human rights of disabled people	262,202	192,200	454,402
Support costs (including governance costs)	31,392	18,515	49,907
	<u>293,594</u>	<u>210,715</u>	<u>504,309</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support Costs £	<b>Total 2023 £</b>	Total 2022 £
Promote the human rights of disabled people	495,574	54,942	550,516	500,709
Governance costs	-	4,050	4,050	3,600
	<u>495,574</u>	<u>58,992</u>	<u>554,566</u>	<u>504,309</u>

#### 10. Analysis of support costs

	<b>Promote the Human Rights of disabled people</b> £	<b>Total 2023 £</b>	Total 2022 £
Rent	8,670	8,670	8,669
Telephone	7,915	7,915	9,804
Postage, printing & stationery	2,746	2,746	1,765
Payroll admin fee	1,756	1,756	2,399
Bookkeeping	4,084	4,084	3,661
Insurance	3,445	3,445	3,052
Recruitment	7,743	7,743	2,093
Equipment	4,220	4,220	5,085
I.T costs	10,927	10,927	7,544
Depreciation	1,436	1,436	1,436
Miscellaneous	2,000	2,000	799
	<u>54,942</u>	<u>54,942</u>	<u>46,307</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### For the year ended 31 March 2023

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#### 11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>1,436</u>	<u>1,436</u>

#### 12. Independent examination fees

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>3,600</u>	<u>3,600</u>

#### 13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	330,306	357,063
Social security costs	24,139	24,902
Employer contributions to pension plans	<u>6,498</u>	<u>7,037</u>
	<u>360,943</u>	<u>389,002</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 14 (2022: 16).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

- No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees; or
- None of the trustees has been paid remuneration or received other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity.
- No trustee expenses have been incurred.

#### 15. Transfers between funds

Transfers from unrestricted funds to restricted funds are to make good funding shortfalls and eliminate negative fund balances.

#### 16. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures, fittings and equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2022	5,744
Additions	-
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>5,744</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2022	4,308
Charge for the year	1,436
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>5,744</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>1,436</u>

#### 17. Debtors

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	156,743	88,884
Prepayments and accrued income	109,232	52,141
Other debtors	5,408	5,408
	<u>271,383</u>	<u>146,433</u>

**18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
Trade creditors	23,528	22,073
Accruals and deferred income	19,474	53,726
Social security and other taxes	16,154	14,836
Other creditors	<u>2,448</u>	<u>2,642</u>
	<u>61,604</u>	<u>93,277</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income there is an amount of £15,827 for rent charges which have not been invoiced (2022: £15,827).

Included in other creditors there is £1,439 (2022: £1,423) of unpaid pension contributions.

**19. Deferred income**

Included in accruals and deferred income in note 18 is the following deferred income:

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
MOPAC (LCF)	-	4,616
MOPAC IDVA Fund	<u>-</u>	<u>28,889</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>33,505</u>

**20. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits**

**Defined contribution pension plans**

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £6,498 (2022: £7,037)

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

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#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	<u>148,989</u>	<u>467,431</u>	<u>(352,702)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>263,718</u>

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
General funds	<u>91,955</u>	<u>301,497</u>	<u>(293,594)</u>	<u>49,131</u>	<u>148,989</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	12,877	53,101	(23,140)	-	42,838
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	36,647	85,139	(50,469)	-	71,317
Trust for London	1,774	36,750	(38,939)	-	(415)
MOJ Covid	2,809	-	-	-	2,809
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	624	-	-	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	6,172	24,983	(43,084)	-	(11,929)
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	81,918	(46,232)	-	35,686
Comic Relief	8,780	-	-	-	8,780
	<u>80,021</u>	<u>281,891</u>	<u>(201,863)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>160,048</u>

Trust for London Fund and MOPAC VAWG Fund showed overspends in the current year. Further funding for these overspends was received after the end of the year for each fund.

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	9,537	45,124	(41,784)	-	12,877
CATCH HC	13,566	-	-	(13,566)	-
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	61,376	75,000	(64,164)	(35,565)	36,647
Trust for London	1,305	27,154	(26,685)	-	1,774
MOJ Covid	5	2,804	-	-	2,809
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	1,614	10,571	(11,561)	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	49,965	(43,793)	-	6,172
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	7,848	(7,848)	-	-
Comic Relief	-	23,660	(14,880)	-	8,780
	<u>97,741</u>	<u>242,126</u>	<u>(210,715)</u>	<u>(49,131)</u>	<u>80,021</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### For the year ended 31 March 2023

In the prior year, the CATCH HC fund has been reclassified from restricted reserves to unrestricted reserves.

In the previous year, at 31 March 2022 an amount of £35,565 in the Home Office fund was transferred from restricted to unrestricted reserves.

#### 22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	325,322	160,048	485,370
Creditors less than one year	<u>(61,604)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(61,604)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>263,718</u>	<u>160,048</u>	<u>423,766</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,436	-	1,436
Current assets	207,325	113,526	320,851
Creditors less than one year	<u>(59,772)</u>	<u>(33,505)</u>	<u>(93,277)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>148,989</u>	<u>80,021</u>	<u>229,010</u>

#### 23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2022	Cash flows	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>174,418</u>	<u>39,569</u>	<u>213,987</u>

#### 24. Related parties

There have not been any related party transactions during this or the previous year.

## **Stay Safe East**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)***

**For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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#### **25. Contingent liabilities**

After the year end, two claims have been made against Stay Safe East which the Board believes are not likely to succeed, and which they intend to defend fully. The Board has sought legal counsel and representation. At the present time, the potential legal costs of defending the claims are unknown.

Charity registration number: 1153615

Stay Safe East  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
For the year ended  
31 March 2023

## Stay Safe East

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## Stay Safe East

### Reference and administrative details

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The trustees present their report (contained in a separate document) and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Status Stay Safe East is a registered charitable organisation (CIO).

Governing Document The charity was established under the Charities Act 2011.

Charity Registration Number 1153615

Principle office 90 Crownfield Road  
London  
E15 2BG

The Trustees Savitri Hensman  
Paul Dowling  
Kirsten Hearn  
Bennett Obong  
S, service user representative  
S, service user representative

*With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the names of the two service user representatives are withheld to protect their safety.*

Independent examiner Carbon Accountancy Limited  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East  
For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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I report on the financial statements of the company for the period ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 8 to 13. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (section 132 of the Charities Act 2011).

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 114(2) of the Charity Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the institute of Chartered Accountants Ireland.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under charities act and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Stay Safe East

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2023

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#### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements,
- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011:  
and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of regulations 2008 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

.....

John Leyden FCA  
Carbon Accountancy Limited  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

23 January 2024

Stay Safe East

Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	Total funds £	2022 Total Funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
<u>Grants and donations</u>					
Grants		171,077	281,891	452,968	375,949
Other donations		1,150	-	1,150	1,020
	<b>4</b>	<u>172,227</u>	<u>281,891</u>	<u>454,118</u>	<u>376,969</u>
<u>Charitable activities</u>					
Contracts		258,744	-	258,744	149,965
Other charitable activities		20,258	-	20,258	1,995
	<b>5</b>	<u>279,002</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>279,002</u>	<u>151,960</u>
Other income	<b>6</b>	<u>16,202</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,202</u>	<u>14,694</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<u>467,431</u>	<u>281,891</u>	<u>749,322</u>	<u>543,623</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	<b>7</b>	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	<b>8,9</b>	352,703	201,863	554,566	504,309
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>352,703</u>	<u>201,863</u>	<u>554,566</u>	<u>504,309</u>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<u>114,728</u>	<u>80,027</u>	<u>194,756</u>	<u>39,314</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		148,989	80,021	229,010	189,696
Transfers in year		-	-	-	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>263,717</u>	<u>160,048</u>	<u>423,766</u>	<u>229,010</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

**The notes on pages 7 to 22 form part of these financial statements**

## Stay Safe East

### Statement of Financial Position For the year ended 31 March 2023

		2023	2022
	Note	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	16	-	1,436
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	17	271,383	146,433
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>213,987</u>	<u>174,418</u>
		<u>485,370</u>	<u>320,851</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	18	<u>(61,604)</u>	<u>(93,277)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>423,766</u>	<u>227,574</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>423,766</u>	<u>229,010</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>423,766</u>	<u>229,010</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		160,048	80,021
Unrestricted funds		<u>263,718</u>	<u>148,989</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	21	<u>423,766</u>	<u>229,010</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 23 January 2024, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Savitri Hensman  
Trustee

**The notes on pages 7 to 22 form part of these financial statements.**

## Stay Safe East

### Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended 31 March 2023

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	194,756	39,314
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,436	1,436
Accrued expenses	(747)	7,627
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	(124,950)	59
Trade and other creditors	(30,925)	28,107
Net cash from operating activities	<u>39,569</u>	<u>76,543</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of tangible assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	39,569	76,543
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<u>174,418</u>	<u>97,875</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<u>213,987</u>	<u>174,418</u>

**Stay Safe East**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The address of the principal office is 90 Crownfield Road, London E15 2BG.

**2. Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from January 2019.

**3. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared using the historic cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparation of financial statements.

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are no judgements nor any key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of material misstatement to the carry amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements.

### **3. Accounting policies *(continued)***

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the trustees' discretion to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

#### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

#### **Tangible assets**

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The costs of minor additions or those costing below £1,000 are not capitalised.

#### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 25% straight line basis

#### **Impairment of fixed assets**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

#### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

#### Defined contribution pension plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 4. Grants and Donations – 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	-	-
Trust for London	-	36,750	36,750
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	85,139	85,139
Three Guineas Trust	171,077	-	171,077
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	-	-
London Community Response Fund	-	-	-
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	24,983	24,983
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	135,019	135,019
Comic Relief	-	-	-
	<hr/> 171,077	<hr/> 281,891	<hr/> 452,968
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	<hr/> 1,150	<hr/> -	<hr/> 1,150

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 4. Grants and Donations - 2022

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	45,124	45,124
Trust for London	-	27,154	27,154
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	75,000	75,000
Three Guineas Trust	133,823	-	133,823
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	2,804	2,804
London Community Response Fund	-	10,571	10,571
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	49,965	49,965
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	7,848	7,848
Comic Relief	-	23,660	23,660
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	133,823	242,126	375,949
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,020	-	1,020

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
<u>Contracts</u>				
Inclusion London	-	-	19,295	19,295
Victim Support (LVWS)	88,320	88,320	88,320	88,320
Pan London Safeguarding Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	119,174	119,174	-	-
Ascent Plus	22,500	22,500	22,350	22,350
	28,750	28,750	20,000	20,000
	<u>258,744</u>	<u>258,744</u>	<u>149,965</u>	<u>149,965</u>
 <u>Other charitable activities</u>				
Training and consultancy	20,208	20,208	1,920	1,920
Advocacy	-	-	-	-
Other income	50	50	75	75
	<u>20,258</u>	<u>20,258</u>	<u>1,995</u>	<u>1,995</u>

#### 6. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Access to work claim	9,102	9,102	14,194	14,194
Grants for beneficiaries	7,100	7,100	500	500
	<u>16,202</u>	<u>16,202</u>	<u>14,694</u>	<u>14,694</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 7. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-

#### 8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	313,015	182,558	495,574
Support costs (including governance costs)	39,687	19,305	58,992
	<u>352,703</u>	<u>201,863</u>	<u>554,566</u>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	262,202	192,200	454,402
Support costs (including governance costs)	31,392	18,515	49,907
	<u>293,594</u>	<u>210,715</u>	<u>504,309</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support Costs £	<b>Total 2023 £</b>	Total 2022 £
Promote the human rights of disabled people	495,574	54,942	550,516	500,709
Governance costs	-	4,050	4,050	3,600
	<u>495,574</u>	<u>58,992</u>	<u>554,566</u>	<u>504,309</u>

#### 10. Analysis of support costs

	<b>Promote the Human Rights of disabled people</b> £	<b>Total 2023 £</b>	Total 2022 £
Rent	8,670	8,670	8,669
Telephone	7,915	7,915	9,804
Postage, printing & stationery	2,746	2,746	1,765
Payroll admin fee	1,756	1,756	2,399
Bookkeeping	4,084	4,084	3,661
Insurance	3,445	3,445	3,052
Recruitment	7,743	7,743	2,093
Equipment	4,220	4,220	5,085
I.T costs	10,927	10,927	7,544
Depreciation	1,436	1,436	1,436
Miscellaneous	2,000	2,000	799
	<u>54,942</u>	<u>54,942</u>	<u>46,307</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### For the year ended 31 March 2023

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#### 11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>1,436</u>	<u>1,436</u>

#### 12. Independent examination fees

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>3,600</u>	<u>3,600</u>

#### 13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	330,306	357,063
Social security costs	24,139	24,902
Employer contributions to pension plans	<u>6,498</u>	<u>7,037</u>
	<u>360,943</u>	<u>389,002</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 14 (2022: 16).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

- No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees; or
- None of the trustees has been paid remuneration or received other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity.
- No trustee expenses have been incurred.

#### 15. Transfers between funds

Transfers from unrestricted funds to restricted funds are to make good funding shortfalls and eliminate negative fund balances.

#### 16. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures, fittings and equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2022	5,744
Additions	-
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>5,744</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2022	4,308
Charge for the year	1,436
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>5,744</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>1,436</u>

#### 17. Debtors

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	156,743	88,884
Prepayments and accrued income	109,232	52,141
Other debtors	5,408	5,408
	<u>271,383</u>	<u>146,433</u>

---

**18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
Trade creditors	23,528	22,073
Accruals and deferred income	19,474	53,726
Social security and other taxes	16,154	14,836
Other creditors	<u>2,448</u>	<u>2,642</u>
	<u>61,604</u>	<u>93,277</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income there is an amount of £15,827 for rent charges which have not been invoiced (2022: £15,827).

Included in other creditors there is £1,439 (2022: £1,423) of unpaid pension contributions.

**19. Deferred income**

Included in accruals and deferred income in note 18 is the following deferred income:

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
MOPAC (LCF)	-	4,616
MOPAC IDVA Fund	<u>-</u>	<u>28,889</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>33,505</u>

**20. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits**

**Defined contribution pension plans**

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £6,498 (2022: £7,037)

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

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#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	<u>148,989</u>	<u>467,431</u>	<u>(352,702)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>263,718</u>

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
General funds	<u>91,955</u>	<u>301,497</u>	<u>(293,594)</u>	<u>49,131</u>	<u>148,989</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	12,877	53,101	(23,140)	-	42,838
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	36,647	85,139	(50,469)	-	71,317
Trust for London	1,774	36,750	(38,939)	-	(415)
MOJ Covid	2,809	-	-	-	2,809
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	624	-	-	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	6,172	24,983	(43,084)	-	(11,929)
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	81,918	(46,232)	-	35,686
Comic Relief	8,780	-	-	-	8,780
	<u>80,021</u>	<u>281,891</u>	<u>(201,863)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>160,048</u>

Trust for London Fund and MOPAC VAWG Fund showed overspends in the current year. Further funding for these overspends was received after the end of the year for each fund.

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	9,537	45,124	(41,784)	-	12,877
CATCH HC	13,566	-	-	(13,566)	-
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	61,376	75,000	(64,164)	(35,565)	36,647
Trust for London	1,305	27,154	(26,685)	-	1,774
MOJ Covid	5	2,804	-	-	2,809
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	1,614	10,571	(11,561)	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	49,965	(43,793)	-	6,172
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	7,848	(7,848)	-	-
Comic Relief	-	23,660	(14,880)	-	8,780
	<u>97,741</u>	<u>242,126</u>	<u>(210,715)</u>	<u>(49,131)</u>	<u>80,021</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### For the year ended 31 March 2023

In the prior year, the CATCH HC fund has been reclassified from restricted reserves to unrestricted reserves.

In the previous year, at 31 March 2022 an amount of £35,565 in the Home Office fund was transferred from restricted to unrestricted reserves.

#### 22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Current assets	325,322	160,048	485,370
Creditors less than one year	<u>(61,604)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(61,604)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>263,718</u>	<u>160,048</u>	<u>423,766</u>

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,436	-	1,436
Current assets	207,325	113,526	320,851
Creditors less than one year	<u>(59,772)</u>	<u>(33,505)</u>	<u>(93,277)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>148,989</u>	<u>80,021</u>	<u>229,010</u>

#### 23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	<b>At 1 April 2022</b>	<b>Cash flows</b>	<b>At 31 March 2023</b>
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>174,418</u>	<u>39,569</u>	<u>213,987</u>

#### 24. Related parties

There have not been any related party transactions during this or the previous year.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

For the year ended 31 March 2023

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#### **25. Contingent liabilities**

After the year end, two claims have been made against Stay Safe East which the Board believes are not likely to succeed, and which they intend to defend fully. The Board has sought legal counsel and representation. At the present time, the potential legal costs of defending the claims are unknown.

**STAY SAFE EAST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1153615

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# Accounts

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**Stay Safe East**  
Trustees' Annual Report

2021-2022



Charity Number 1153615

## Stay Safe East

### Trustee's Annual Report 2021-2022

<b>Charity name:</b>	Stay Safe East
<b>Registration Number:</b>	<p><b>1153615</b></p> <p>Stay Safe East is registered as a <b>Charitable Incorporated Organisation</b> with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.</p>
<b>Principal office:</b>	<p>90 Crownfield Road, London</p> <p>E15 2BG</p>
<b>Trustees:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Savitri Hensman (Chair)</li> <li>○ Paul Dowling (Treasurer)</li> <li>○ Bennett Obong</li> <li>○ Kirsten Hearn</li> <li>○ S, service user representative</li> <li>○ S, service user representative</li> </ul> <p><i>* With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the names of the two service user representatives are withheld to protect their safety.</i></p>
<b>Staff and volunteers:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chief Executives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ruth Bashall (<i>to 14.3.21</i>)</li> <li>○ Ioana Hanis (<i>from 15.06.21</i>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Co-Chief Executives:</b> Ioana Hanis and Ruth Bashall (<i>from 15.3.21 to 15.6.21</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Administrator</b> (part-time): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Charlotte Payne</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Policy Officers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Miranda Weston</li> <li>○ Ashley Stephen</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Independent Victim's Advocate/ Hate Crime Team Manager</b> (full-time)</li> <li>● <b>Hate Crime Advocates</b> (2 part-time)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Domestic Abuse Casework Manager/ Independent Disability and Domestic Violence Advocate (full-time)</b></li> <li>• <b>Domestic Violence Advocates (IDDVAS) (5 part-time, one full time)</b></li> <li>• <b>Benefits and Entitlements Advocate</b></li> <li>• <b>General Advocate</b></li> <li>• <b>Volunteer</b></li> </ul> <p><i>*Due to the nature of our work and to ensure their safety, names of advocacy staff and volunteers are not listed in this report.</i></p>
<b>Bank:</b>	<b>The Cooperative Bank,</b> PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT
<b>Bookkeeping and payroll:</b>	Jane Roche
<b>Independent Examiner:</b>	<b>Carbon Accountancy,</b> 80-83 Long Lane, London EC1A 9ET



**Thank you to our Funders and Commissioners!**

- **Three Guineas Trust**
- **The Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)**
- **The Home Office**
- **Trust for London**
- **Victim Support for London Victim and Witness Service**
- **Inclusion London**
- **Ministry of Justice**
- **Ascent Partnership**

**Thank you to our supporters and partners and in particular:**

- **Members of the Disability and Domestic Abuse Advisory Group**
- **Susie Balderston** for consultation and policy input
- **All individuals and organisations who made donations** to Stay Safe East or **provided other kinds of assistance.**

**This report is dedicated to Dianne Andrews  
friend and supporter of Stay Safe East**

19.12.1965 to 3.7.2022



Dianne was for many years a leading officer in the Waltham Forest Council Community Safety Team, working on hate crime, Domestic Abuse and Violence against Women and Girls.

Dianne supported Stay Safe East from the beginning, when we were a project of Disability Action Waltham Forest. She was one of the first members of our Project Steering Group and helped us design the project. In the early years, she helped us with producing our leaflets, helped us to be heard by Waltham Forest Council and to promote our role as experts on abuse against disabled people. She supported us when we became an independent organisation. Dianne also helped set up Waltham Forest MARAC and supported our CEO and our domestic abuse advocates to get their access needs met by the group and for the experiences of disabled survivors to be heard and understood. She was also a pivotal part of Waltham Forest LGBT Pride and of “We are Waltham Forest” where our communities came together to oppose the racist English Defence League.

The staff and Board members of Stay Safe East will miss Dianne, her smile and passion, and her unerring commitment to justice, equality and basket ball. One of our staff summed up Dianne “She – literally- gave us a place at the table”.

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**Please note: for reasons of accessibility, the Independent Examiner's Unaudited Financial Statement is contained in a separate document.**

**The Trustees' Annual Report for 2021-2022 was approved on January ..2023 and signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:**

**Savitri Hensman**

*S. Hensman*

**Chair:**

## Chair's Report

*"In many ways, 2021-22 has been a successful year, thanks to our staff and volunteers, funders, donors and partners. We were able to expand our operations to help meet the pressing needs of Deaf and disabled people facing domestic violence, hate crime, other types of crime and human rights abuses, as well as raising awareness and contributing to discussions on relevant public policy and law, with a matching increase in resources. Stay Safe East achieved a successful handover of responsibility from Ruth Bashall to Ioana Hanis, who took over as sole Chief Executive from 15 June 2021. I am profoundly grateful to them both, deeply appreciative of Ioana's skills and commitment and very glad that Ruth remains as our Policy and Projects Advisor. We have continued to develop our internal structure, policies and staff support and guidance to address the demands of offering vital services in a complex and rapidly changing environment.*

*However there is no room for complacency. Our clients – mainly from communities affected by poverty, racism or other forms of discrimination – have often faced intensified difficulties, amidst an ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, economic hardship and a hostile environment of various kinds. Public services with a role in ensuring safety, dignity and wellbeing have frequently been struggling to cope, making it harder to access appropriate support in a timely manner. And, while recognition by the authorities and many in the general public of the seriousness of the situation facing disabled victims and survivors and the importance of justice and respect has grown, there are still sometimes prejudiced and dismissive attitudes, as well as systems which – in terms of physical features, procedures or both – are profoundly inaccessible.*

*This has been costly for our organisation and often profoundly stressful for staff (almost all of whom are disabled, as are our Board members), whose often passionate dedication to client support and human rights makes it all the harder when faced with multiple obstacles to making sure that even basic needs are met for those experiencing and at risk of violence, crime and abuse. Staff sometimes have to deal with service users' anger and distress as well as public service professionals' frustration at not being able to provide the level of service they would wish. We have extensive support systems in place and managers with extensive experience who have provided leadership and care. I would like to thank those who have worked for Stay Safe East through a year when the external environment has often felt bleak, adding to the demands, and to our funders and partner organisations as well as supportive individuals.*

*Yet the strength and resilience of so many of our clients, and satisfaction (sometimes joy) each time we make a difference to people's lives, also deserves to be mentioned. That is part of what keeps us going, as we look to the future and continuing to provide unique services and insights drawn from extensive knowledge and lived experience, in challenging circumstances and amidst constant change."*

**Savitri Hensman**

**Chair, Stay Safe East**

## CEO's Report

*"The year of 2021 marked a pivotal change in the legislation supporting victims of domestic abuse with the Domestic Abuse Act coming into force in April. It was also the year that marked a new chapter in my career, as I took over the role of CEO for Stay Safe East.*

*I started working for SSE in March 2021 and for the first three months I worked as Co-Chief Executive with our former CEO Ruth Bashall. I became the sole CEO from June 2021. We are extremely grateful to Three Guineas Trust for funding the overlap of the two CEOs and the new Policy and Projects Advisor post (currently occupied by Ruth), which has enabled us to develop new services and a wider consultancy role through 2021 and onwards.*

*In terms of Stay Safe East staff structure, we identified an urgent need to recruit an Operations and Finance Manager, as at the time I started, Stay Safe East only had two service managers which was insufficient for the needs of the organisation. We sought new grants opportunities, which allowed us to recruit more advocates, too. This was particularly important, as during the pandemic the demand on our services has increased considerably. We managed to recruit a new Finance and HR and Operations Manager and our team of advocates expanded.*

*The year of 2021 was the year we decided to invest in increasing our accessibility and improving our image on social media. With the help of Ministry of Justice, we were able to re-design Stay Safe East website and make it fully accessible. We included new features, such as Read Out Loud (helpful for visually impaired or blind survivors). Also, we introduced BSL videos containing useful information about the services and support we provide and how to access it. The overall design of our web site was changed in order to be more user friendly, containing easy to read information, more photos etc.*

*The website design project was developed and implemented throughout the year and brought clients/survivors of abuse and staff members together, to work as a team. It reinforced the idea that we are all a team working towards a common goal. As an organisation we are particularly proud of this project, as we decided to apply for funding and carry out this project during a time of changes and multiple challenges caused by the pandemic. As we are one of the few By and For Deaf and Disabled People Organisations in the UK, we considered it was particularly important that our web site is fully accessible.*

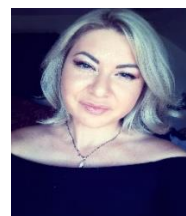
*The impact of the pandemic on victims and survivors of domestic abuse was 2021 has highlighted existing inequalities, but it has also created new ones. For example, even though police responses to disabled survivors were poor*

*before the pandemic, 2021 exposed an unwillingness to investigate cases of harassment or hate crime, especially where the victim are disabled women. Victims felt that were blamed or dismissed and their voices were not heard. The reality showed us that disabled women (and particularly black and minoritised disabled women) don't trust the criminal justice system. During this time, due to the lockdown, the majority of the Court cases (for example in the Family Courts) were conducted remotely. The accessibility needs of the survivors of domestic abuse were often not met.*

*Remote access to health care, especially to GPs, meant domestic abuse was less likely to be noticed and reported. For disabled women who may not know about domestic abuse services, GPs are the one place they feel safe to disclose their situation. The mainstream services were overwhelmed due to increase in self-referrals and referrals from third parties, as well as due to the lack of specialised support for disabled survivors. This resulted in a huge increase in demand for our services, to the point where we had to set up a waiting list for the first time since Stay Safe East was established.*

*Disabled victims reported an increased sense of isolation and helplessness during the lockdown – our clients often indicated an increased feeling of anxiety and vulnerability. The demand for our counselling support has increased significantly. A similar feeling of increased anxiety and vulnerability was reported by SSE staff and, similarly, there was an increased demand for staff accessing counselling and reflective practice support. It must be mentioned here that as an organisation we were faced with increased staff sickness.*

*During this year, staff continued to work from home – as a protecting measure to address risks to their health. However, this has further increased their sense of isolation. In order to combat that, we increased the amount of money staff could access in order to purchase private counselling sessions – to one thousand pound/year (or more if needed). SSE also offered regular staff meetings on Zoom, in order to reduce the feeling of isolation. Clients and staff all tried to navigate these special circumstances as best as we could.”*



*Joana Harris*

Stay Safe East CEO

## Stay Safe East

### Report of activities 2021-2022

#### 1. Introduction

The Trustees present their report of activities for the year ended March 31<sup>st</sup> 2022.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the Notes to the accounts and comply with Stay Safe East's governing document, applicable law and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" preparing accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Stay Safe East is a registered charity (as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation) established in 2013. It remains the only user-led 'by and for' organisation in the UK providing long-term advocacy and support to disabled victims/survivors of multiple forms of abuse: domestic and sexual abuse and other forms of Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG), hate crime, harassment, cuckooing, abuse by care workers or personal assistants (which we consider to be domestic abuse), and abuse in residential and other institutions.

Stay Safe East seeks to use the expertise and evidence from our casework to inform our policy work at London-wide and national level. We aim to help remove the barriers to justice and equal responses to disabled survivors and to ensure that the voices of disabled survivors are heard by policy makers and other providers. We also provide casework advice, training, consultancy and capacity building services to statutory and voluntary organisations in the field.

#### 2. Governing document and Objects of the Charity

Stay Safe East is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission in September 2013 and is governed by its charity governing document. Stay Safe East is a disabled people's organisation run by and for the benefit of disabled people.

##### **Stay Safe East's Objects are:**

- (1) To relieve the distress and suffering caused to Deaf and disabled people by hate crime, harassment, domestic or sexual violence or other forms of abuse;
- (2) To promote the human rights of deaf and disabled people in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

- (3) Such purposes as are exclusively charitable in accordance with the law of England and Wales as the Trustees may from time to time decide.

### **3. Stay Safe East's objectives during its ninth year:**

- To continue to provide accessible and holistic support and advocacy to disabled survivors of domestic and sexual abuse, hate crime, harassment and other forms of abuse, and to support our staff and volunteers to deliver a quality and safe service to clients. This was revised to include supporting our clients through the Covid 19 pandemic;
- To develop our casework with disabled survivors across London through the London Victims and Witness Service, the Ascent Partnership and the CATCH partnership and other partnerships;
- To share our expertise with Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations (DDPOs) and organisations working on Violence against Women and Girls through casework advice, capacity building, training and briefings;
- To further develop Stay Safe East's role as an expert organisation speaking out on behalf of disabled survivors of gender-based violence, hate crime and other abuse;
- To work to improve operational responses to disabled victims/survivors by the Metropolitan Police, Crown Prosecution Service, local authorities and other agencies;
- To work to ensure that London and national policy and strategies on hate crime, violence against women and girls and victims' rights include appropriate measures to meet the needs of disabled survivors;
- To strengthen the financial and organisational resilience of Stay Safe East, its management structure and processes in order to help it grow sustainably.

### **4. Trustees**

The Trustees are elected by the Charity's members at the annual general meeting for a period of up to three years. Trustees are offered an induction, including presentations by staff, background material and information on the Charity's principal activities. Trustees are all unpaid volunteers and may claim reasonable out of pocket expenses. The Trustees who served during the year are listed on the first page. There were six Trustees during the year. Two clients who are members of the Board have chosen to remain anonymous to protect their safety. There were no new Trustees appointed during the year. All Trustees

contribute to major decisions which impact on the organisation, bring new ideas and experiences and help shape the priorities of the Charity.

## **5. Organisational Structure and Staffing**

The Stay Safe East Board is responsible for overseeing the work of the organisation and setting strategic direction. The Board has six members, including two user representatives. The Board appoints the Chair of Stay Safe East, who supports the Chief Executive (CEO). As Stay Safe East has grown, we have changed the way we appoint staff – Board members are now usually only involved in the selection process for senior posts.

The Chair has delegated powers to take necessary decisions between scheduled Board meetings and is responsible for appraising the performance of the CEO on behalf of the Board.

Board meetings were held 4 times in the year; all meetings were held remotely on Zoom. Other decisions were made by the Board by e-mail, or in some instances on Chair's Action. The CEO gives the Board an account of the progress of the Charity's work, reports on financial matters, brings issues requiring particular attention and gets agreement for forward work.

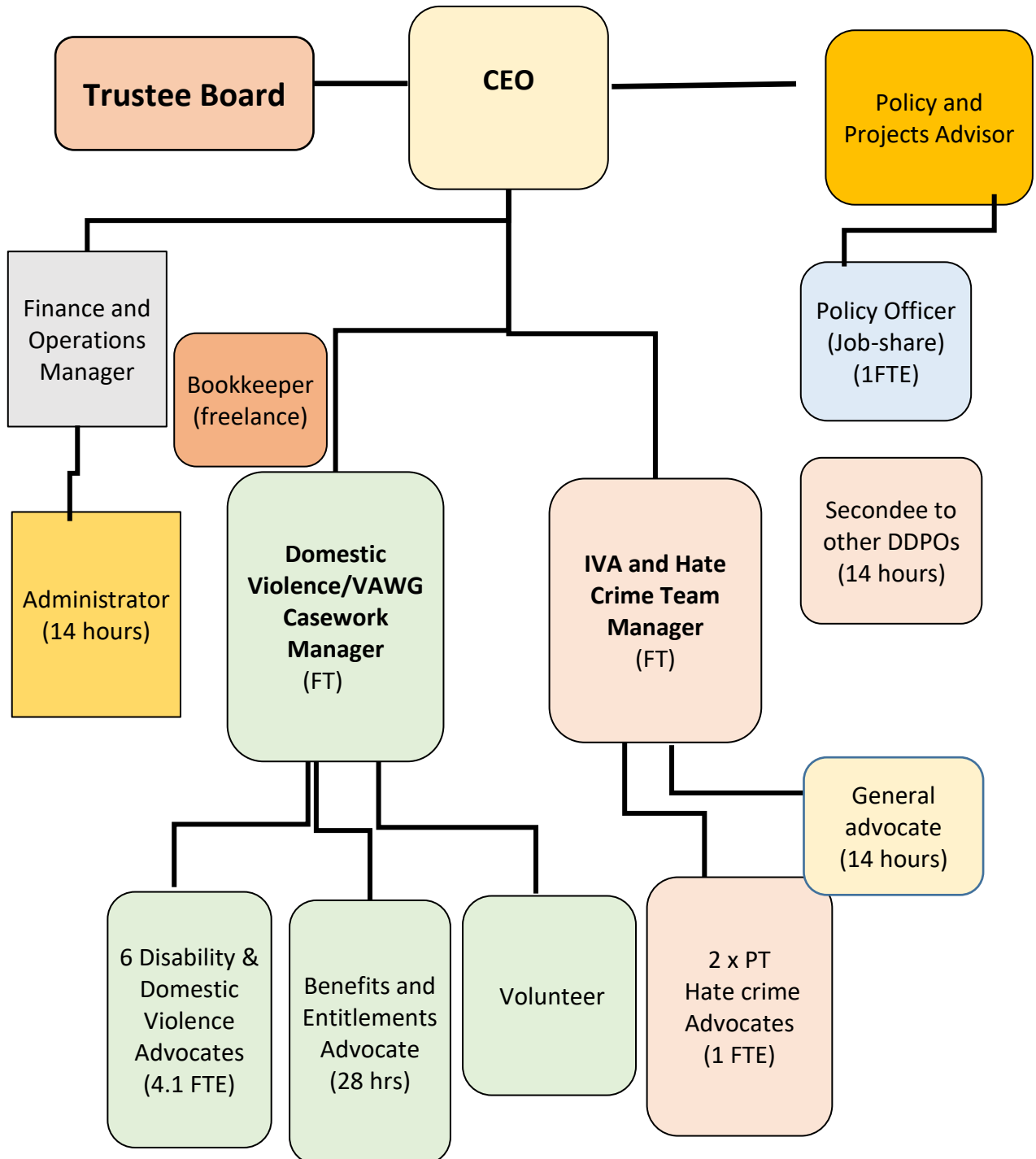
During the year, the day-to-day financial administration was managed by a bookkeeper who worked with the CEO and interim financial manager to prepare management information for the Board and also did the monthly payroll. Ruth Bashall acted as interim financial manager and prepared reports to funders alongside with the CEO and newly recruited financial manager, who was learning from Ruth during her induction/handover.

**Two new staff joined us:** we successfully filled the vacancy for the Finance and HR and Operations Manager; we recruited an additional full time Independent Disability and Domestic Violence Advocate (IDDVA). We were able to keep all members of staff on in the following year.

Our previous Chief Executive Ruth Bashall had been leading the organisation since 2011 and wanted to step back in order to focus on policy work and developing new projects. We were lucky to be able to appoint Ioana Hanis to the post in March 2021. Ioana brought a wealth of experience as an Operations Manager on Violence against Women and Girls with Victim Support London and has also worked with domestic abuse and trafficking survivors across England. As a disabled woman she has the lived experience that is essential to leading an organisation run by and for disabled survivors.

# Stay Safe East Organisational Structure

2021-2022



## 6. Financial report

In spite of the Challenges of the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, Stay Safe East ended the year in a sound financial position. The Trustees regularly consider the finances of the Charity and receive reports from the Treasurer and CEO to ensure that it is a going concern. They are satisfied that this is the case at the date of this report. Budgets and cash flow projections are drawn up to ensure proper governance.

**\*Unaudited Financial Statements are available on [www.staysafe-east.org.uk](http://www.staysafe-east.org.uk) and on the Charity Commission website.**

### Stay Safe East: Summary of financial activities 2021-22

<b>Income during the year:</b>	<b>£ 543,623</b>
<b>Expenditure during the year:</b>	<b>£ 504,309</b>
Surplus of income over expenditure:	£ 39,314
Reserves brought forward	£ 189,696
<b>Total funds of the charity</b>	<b>£ 229,010</b>
<i>of which -</i>	
Restricted funds:	£ 80,021
Unrestricted funds:	£ 148,989

The Board has been steadily increasing our reserves. The unrestricted reserves represent three months running costs/winding down costs, as recommended by CIPFA and the Charity Commission.

Our income came from a mix of grants, contracts for casework and capacity building, and donations. Due to the pandemic, there was only a small amount of independent income from training during the year.

**The Board would like to thank our funders for their support, and for the flexibility they showed during a very difficult year:**

- Three Guineas Trust
- Trust for London
- Mayor's Office on Policing and Crime (MOPAC)
- London Community Response Fund
- Home Office
- Ministry of Justice

Income also came from contracts, the first three of which originate with MOPAC:

- London Victim and Witness Service via Victim Support
- CATCH Hate Crime Partnership
- Ascent Partnership
- Hate Crime Advocacy Capacity Building (via Inclusion London)

This was the second year of our grant for core costs from Three Guineas Trust, which funded most of the CEO's salary, (and the overlap between the outgoing and the incoming CEO), a Policy Officer post and Finance and Operations Manager post plus core administrative costs. This core funding provides us with security and the funds to create a management structure which is fit for purpose as the charity grows. This will help ensure the long-term sustainability of the Charity.

## Stay Safe East casework report

### Supporting victims/survivors of abuse and other crimes

#### 1. The numbers

In 2021-22, Stay Safe East supported **199 clients**, the **highest number of clients** supported compared to previous years.

Year	All clients	Domestic/ sexual violence	Hate crime and CATCH	General crime
2017-18	98	70	16	12
2018-19	102	59	29	14
2019-20	154	93	43	18
2020-21	194	118	56	20
<b>2021-22</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>22</b>

*\*22 clients also accessed supported from the Benefits Advocate. Some clients also had support from the General Advocate and the volunteer. They are included in the above.*

Sex	Domestic abuse/ sexual violence	Hate crime		General crime/IVA	Totals	
		CATCH	East London HC		No.	%
Female	71	25	15	17	<b>128</b>	<b>72%</b>
Male	7	7	17	4	<b>35</b>	<b>20%</b>
Other	3	7	3	1	<b>14</b>	<b>8%</b>

Sexuality	Domestic and sexual violence	Hate crime		General crime	Totals	
		CATCH	East London HC		No	%
Heterosexual	69	18	18	21	<b>126</b>	<b>71%</b>
Lesbian	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>	<b>1%</b>
Gay men	0	0	3	0	<b>3</b>	<b>2%</b>
Bisexual	3	2	1	1	<b>7</b>	<b>4%</b>
Not disclosed	8	19	13	0	<b>40</b>	<b>22%</b>

<b>Age</b>	Majority of clients were between the age of <b>26-60</b> . Our youngest client is 19. Our oldest client is 86.
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Ethnicity	DV/SV	Hate crime		General crime/IVA	Total %
		CATCH	East London HC		
Asian British	2	0	2	4	5%
Asian Indian	2	0	0	1	2%
Asian Pakistani	8	0	0	1	5%
Asian Bangladeshi	2	0	0	0	1%
Asian Sri Lankan	0	0	0	0	0%
East Asian	0	0	0	0	0%
Asian other	3	1	0	2	3%
Black British	12	1	1	2	9%
Black African	2	1	3	0	3%
Black Caribbean	1	0	0	0	1%
Black other	0	0	0	0	0%
Mixed heritage	2	0	1	0	2%
White British	39	10	14	11	41%
White European	0	0	0	0	0%
White Other	1	2	1	1	3%
European other	1	1	0	0	1%
Mixed Other	1	0	0	0	1%
Arab Middle Eastern	0	0	0	0	0%
Other	0	1	3	0	2%
Not disclosed	5	22	10	0	21%

Impairment * <i>clients may have more than 1 impairment</i>	DV/SV	Hate Crime		General crime	%
		CATCH	East London HC		
Physical impairment	42	9	3	14	38%
Deaf BSL user	0	0	0	0	0%
Hearing Impairment	1	0	0	0	1%
Visual impairment	1	2	0	0	2%
Learning disability	20	2	2	5	16%
Long-term mental health	25	7	8	10	28%

Long term condition	2	4	1	2	<b>5%</b>
Neurological impairment	2	0	0	0	<b>1%</b>
Neuro-diverse	6	5	1	0	<b>7%</b>
Terminal condition	0	0	0	0	<b>0%</b>
Not disclosed	0	22	20	0	<b>24%</b>

## 2. Domestic abuse/ Violence Against Disabled Women

The team supports survivors of domestic abuse which takes place in a context of widespread Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG). Our clients have rarely experienced only one form of abuse, and may be survivors of institutional abuse, sexual violence or rape, trafficking or other forms of abuse. Like all 'by and for' VAWG specialist services, we do not limit our work to supporting clients around domestic abuse but deal with the survivor's whole experience and let her set the priorities.

Our domestic abuse workers are Independent Disability and Domestic Violence Advocates (IDDVAs) who are disabled women, as such as they work within an intersectional social model of disability approach and act as positive role models for clients through being disabled women in a position of responsibility.

Since March 12th 2020, Stay Safe East staff including our VAWG team have been working from home. This proved to be a major change for staff to adapt to. Continuing support to the VAWG team staff through this time was done by more frequent supervision, a supportive WhatsApp group to discuss cases and having virtual team meetings, including weekly team meetings for the domestic abuse team. Staff were receiving monthly coaching support and counselling sessions. Staff also had the opportunity to attend bi-weekly team and full service meetings.

During **2021-2022**, the domestic abuse team worked with **81 clients** of whom:

- **35** were new referrals
- **46** were existing clients
- **No client declined our service** when we made initial contact with them
- **71** were women

Sexuality	Number of clients	Percentage
Heterosexual	69	<b>84%</b>
Gay men	0	<b>0%</b>
Lesbian	1	<b>1%</b>
Bisexual	2	<b>4%</b>
Not disclosed	9	<b>11%</b>

<b>Impairment (many clients have more than one impairment)</b>	<b>Number of clients</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Physical impairment	42	<b>51%</b>
Deaf BSL user	0	<b>0%</b>
Hearing Impairment	1	<b>1%</b>
Visual impairment	1	<b>1%</b>
Learning disability	20	<b>24%</b>
Long-term mental health	25	<b>30%</b>
Other long term health condition	2	<b>2%</b>
Neurological impairment	2	<b>2%</b>
Neuro-diverse	6	<b>7%</b>
Terminal condition	0	<b>0%</b>

***\*Most Deaf BSL users prefer to access SignHealth, the specialist service for Deaf survivors of domestic abuse.***

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>DV/SV</b>
<b>Asian British</b>	2
<b>Asian Indian</b>	2
<b>Asian Pakistani</b>	8
<b>Asian Bangladeshi</b>	2
<b>Asian Sri Lankan</b>	0
<b>East Asian</b>	0
<b>Asian other</b>	3
<b>Black British</b>	12
<b>Black African</b>	2
<b>Black Caribbean</b>	1
<b>Black other</b>	0
<b>Mixed heritage</b>	2
<b>White British</b>	39
<b>White European</b>	0
<b>White Other</b>	1
<b>European other</b>	1
<b>Mixed Other</b>	1
<b>Arab Middle Eastern</b>	0
<b>Other</b>	0
<b>Not disclosed</b>	5

***\*As our presence across London increases, we will aim to reach disabled migrant women, and survivors from communities who are not yet aware of us.***

Perpetrators	Number	Percentage
Male partner or husband or ex-partner	61	72%
Wife of male victim	0	0%
Adult child	5	6%
Female partner of female victim	1	1%
Teenage child	1	1%
Grandson	1	1%
Sibling	2	2%
Son in Law	1	1%
Step-father	1	1%
Paid carers or PAs	2	1%
Co-resident or close friend	0	0%
Other	6	6%

### **The support we provide to clients**

The support given by the domestic abuse team support to clients includes:

- Giving the client time to tell their story, sometimes for the first time – or often for the time to someone who believes them;
- Safety planning and disability risk assessment;
- Supporting clients to obtain non-molestation orders and occupation orders to remove the abuser from their home;
- supporting clients to report to the police (including attending Achieving Best Evidence interviews with the client);
- Making options accessible and working with the survivor to help her decide what actions she wants to take options for disabled victims of domestic abuse;
- Support to access safe and suitable accommodation for their individual access needs; help with tenancy management;
- Support to apply for care packages and OT assessments;
- Support for the client if the case is referred to adult safeguarding;
- Support to women on child protection plans and going through care proceedings who are facing their children being removed from their care and helping them to negotiate the Family Courts - however during lockdown this has involved remote hearings by phone which has meant increased discrimination and injustice for disabled mothers.

- Support around child protection, safeguarding and care proceedings;
- Supporting clients around mental health issues such as helping them speak to mental health professionals and helping them get their repeat prescription. Support to challenge discriminatory approaches, for example refusal of services to women diagnosed with “Borderline Personality Disorder”;
- Support to attend care proceedings cases and post hearing meetings to explain what was said during the hearings and what this meant for clients, and assist them to respond to legal documents;
- Contacting other agencies such as solicitors or MPs when agencies do not take client’s cases seriously;
- Support to client who was hospitalised with Covid to be discharged safely from the hospital.

All clients were provided with emotional support. We work at clients’ pace and work with them in a way that takes into consideration their access needs.

In 2021-22, the domestic abuse team supported **29 mothers, one grandmother and one father of children under 18**. Between them they had 58 children.

- **14 mothers (48% of just under half) and one father** did not live with their children; of the 31 children of these parents, at least ten have no contact with their parent except letter box contact. The one father and all of these mothers either have learning disabilities or long-term mental health issues.
- 4 mothers had contact with their children because they were living with a family member under a Special Guardianship Order.
- **5 mothers’ children were on a Child in Need or Child Protection plan** during the year. Two CIN plans were closed during the year.
- **6 mothers were in court because of care proceedings** by the local authority
- **Of these, 2 disabled mothers had a child adopted during the year**, three saw their children placed in foster care and one kept her children with her.

Supporting disabled mothers through the child protection process and the courts is a particularly difficult task for our advocates. Our clients understand the injustice of what has happened to them and their children. We continue to support the mothers after care proceedings end, as they are traumatised by the loss of their children. In most if not all cases, the best interests of the child could have been served by staying with the mother.

In the ten years that we have been doing this work it has become more likely that the courts will remove the children of disabled mothers and particularly women with learning disabilities. We have raised our concerns with the Head of the Family Court Division but have yet to see any real change. We hope that the recognition in the Domestic Abuse Act of children as victims of domestic abuse in their own right may have shifted the debate towards the right of these children to a safe family life with their own mother, whether or not she needs some support to parent them.

Many of the clients referred to the VAWG service have had found their mental health has deteriorated throughout the pandemic. With support of their IDDVA, clients have been able to take their first steps towards second tier mental health services, however this has then been met with long waiting lists for support leaving clients struggling to manage day to day.

### **Case study 1:**

*Client A waited 6 months for a learning disability diagnosis. She then had to wait another two months for a care needs assessment. During this process her IDDVA suspected that she lacked capacity around keeping herself safe. A although referral was sent to raise concerns, she waited a long time for a capacity assessment despite experiencing abuse and exploitation from three different men. The IDDVA has raised safeguarding alerts and referred the case to MARAC for professional oversight. Eventually our IDDVA had to raise a complaint due to the inaction of adult social care. Without her IDDVA being there to provide long term support, A would not have been able to access the support from statutory services she desperately needed.*

### **Case study 2:**

#### **Situation:**

*Client B was living with the perpetrator and her son. Client made the decision to leave the household and approached the local authority for emergency accommodation. The client was placed in temporary accommodation with significant disrepair. This affected her health to the point that she had to attend A&E for her breathing.*

#### **Services provided:**

*Stay Safe East spent over a week trying to request for better quality of accommodation. The IDDVA repeatedly challenged the housing department, contacted the MP, referred the client to Shelter and contacted multiple solicitors to request a judicial review as the council said they had inspected the property and there was no disrepair. Through persistence, the local*

*authority eventually offered a new temporary accommodation that met the client's disability and health needs.*

**Outcome:**

*The client was provided with accessible temporary accommodation that did not negatively affect her health.*

**Any learning:**

*Through being able to work intensively and holistically, Stay Safe East was able to put in the hours of work ensure that the local authority met their duties. Stay Safe East believes this demonstrates the value of services that can work intensively with victims.*

### 3. Hate crime and cuckooing

Our hate crime service has two strands:

A) An established local service in **East London** with a part-time advocate who supported **35 disabled victims**, of whom:

- **31** victims of disablist, homophobic or racist hate crime;
- **2** victims of cuckooing;
- **2** victims of ASB/harassment.

One of the major challenges we have faced between 2021-2022 whilst trying to support our clients victims of Hate Crime, has been problems liaising with the police and other key services during lockdown - with so many people working from home and also not having access to work numbers or office extensions that we could call, it was very time consuming trying to get action taken to keep someone safe when there were concerns. A lot of the time, police investigations were held up by the fact that officers who were collecting evidence were not reachable due to working shift hours. This was particularly frustrating for clients, because they lacked the sense of security that things are moving along and they were being taken seriously.

#### **Case study:**

*Our client was out shopping, when a person pushed him and spat on him. He felt this happened because he was disabled - they seemed to have contempt for him. When he got home, he reported it to the police. He mentioned that the perpetrator may have worked there.*

*The investigating officer informed him they were doing shift work at the moment, so there would be a delay, but they would call him back with an update. A month later, the officer contacted and closed his case. She said there was nothing more*

*she could do - CCTV was not available, and without a name they had not been able to find the perpetrator.*

*Our client was not satisfied with this explanation, since he reported immediately, but the CCTV was allowed to expire. He was frustrated that they had not made an attempt to find out who the person was.*

*A police complaint was filed on his behalf: the allocated HC advocate asked what happened when the police officer spoke to the shop owner and what caused the delay in getting the CCTV. It took several months to agree on the “heads of complaint”, which were the same as our client’s two original points, but worded differently (according to phrases used in police complaints). This was a time-consuming process: it took weeks after confirming one to receive new suggested adjustments.*

*A year later, we received the outcome: the complaint had been recorded but did not meet standards for a formal investigation. Our client was told he has the right to appeal this decision, but he did not want to take it any further. Client said that although the whole process had been stressful and frustrating he was very thankful for all the support received from his allocated HC advocate, and that without the support received from Stay Safe East he would not have been able to get through the process. Client was offered ongoing support to address his other needs, including emotional support via counselling.*

## **B) CATCH:**

This is a London wide service as part of the London wide CATCH partnership which has been operating since early 2019. This year, the part-time CATCH advocate supported **39 disabled victims of hate crime** across 13 London boroughs. Stay Safe East works with two other disabled people’s organisations (DDPO’s) to cover the growing numbers of CATCH referrals.

<b>Hate crime type</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Race</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Transphobia</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Anti-Muslim</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Antisemitism</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>Disability</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>13%</b>

Casework activity	Percentage
Emotional support	67%
Information/advice	67%
Advocacy	53%
Support around criminal justice	27%

### Case study:

*“Client C was the victim of two disability hate crimes by other students at her university hall of residence, where she also worked. Targeted posters were stuck on the walls mimicking a notice from the Metropolitan Police mocking her disability and her blue badge car was defaced. The police originally dropped the case but it was re-opened after a complaint, and it was investigated more thoroughly. However, the Metropolitan Police only gave one perpetrator out of three a caution and declined to take the case further or refer it to the CPS because they felt it would not be prosecuted due to the perpetrators being university aged. An officer then admitted to my client that he could have done more and that he didn’t question the perpetrators enough in the interview. Client C was deeply impacted by these hate crimes and being told this by an officer caused even more hurt, depression, and anxiety. M. withdrew from her friends and family, was scared to leave her room, and started struggling with her university course.*

*Stay Safe East CATCH advocate offered significant emotional support to C. with regular calls and discussions, as well as offering referrals for mental health support. Our CATCH advocate supported her to get further support from her university, including an extension for her final year exams due to mitigating circumstances. This allowed her to recover enough to get a first in her degree. The advocate liaised with the police and supported C. in contacting her MP. A complaint was made to the police due to the failures in her case. Through the support received, client C has felt more empowered and voiced her gratitude multiple times.*

Client C shared:

*“I hope you know how special you are. You have honestly saved my life. I wish every victim of crime had the chance to speak with you even just one time because I know what a big difference even talking to you once would make. Your work and the work that Stay Safe East does is so important and I am so grateful to you for everything you have done for me.”*

## Who we worked with

Sex	CATCH	East London HC
Female	25	15
Male	7	17
Other	7	3

Sexuality	CATCH	East London HC
Heterosexual	18	18
Lesbian	0	0
Gay men	0	3
Bisexual	2	1
Prefer not to say	19	13

Ethnicity	Hate crime	
	CATCH	East London HC
Asian British	0	2
Asian Indian	0	0
Asian Pakistani	0	0
Asian Bangladeshi	0	0
Asian Sri Lankan	0	0
East Asian	0	0
Asian other	1	0
Black British	1	1
Black African	1	3
Black Caribbean	0	0
Black other	0	0
Mixed heritage	0	1
White British	10	14
White European	0	0
White Other	2	1
European other	1	0
Mixed Other	0	0
Arab Middle Eastern	0	0
Other	1	3
Not disclosed	22	10

Impairment (many clients have more than one impairment)	CATCH	East London HC
Physical impairment	9	3

<b>Deaf BSL user</b>	0	0
<b>Hearing Impairment</b>	0	0
<b>Visual impairment</b>	2	0
<b>Learning disability</b>	2	2
<b>Long-term mental health</b>	7	8
<b>Long term condition</b>	4	1
<b>Neurological impairment</b>	0	0
<b>Neuro-diverse</b>	5	1
<b>Terminal condition</b>	0	0
<b>Not disclosed</b>	22	20

#### 4. Independent Victims Advocate/General crime

Our Independent Victim's Advocate (IVA) is the only specialist IVA we are aware of. She is also the Manager of the Hate Crime Advocates. Her role is to support disabled victims of a wide range of crimes that are neither domestic/sexual abuse or hate crime: financial abuse, institutional abuse, assault, harassment etc. The IVA also takes on a small number of complex hate crime cases where there are other issues relating to past abuse, housing issues, school bullying etc. This is the third year of the service.

The IVA supported **22 clients** across **12 London boroughs** in 2021-22, of whom:

- **14 were new referrals;**
- **16** were rated **high to medium risk;**
- **17** of the IVA's clients **are women**, reflecting a greater incident of disabled women being targeted for abuse and other crimes.
- **Ages of clients** ranged from 19 to 70.

<b>Sex</b>	<b>General crime/IVA</b>
Female	17
Male	4
Other	1

<b>Sexuality</b>	<b>General crime/IVA</b>
Heterosexual	21
Bisexual	1
Gay man	0
Lesbian	0

Ethnicity	Number	%
Asian – British	4	17%
Asian - Indian	1	5%
Asian - Pakistani	1	5%
Asian - Other	2	9%
Black – British	2	9%
Black African	0	0%
Black Caribbean	0	0%
Black other	0	0%
White – British	11	50%
White – European	0	0
White – Other	1	5%
Mixed heritage	0	0

Primary impairment	Number	%
Deaf	0	0%
Physical impairment	14	34%
Visual impairment	0	0%
Hearing impairment	0	0%
Learning disability	5	13%
Mental health	10	24%
Long term condition	2	5%
Neuro-diversity	0	0%
Neurological Impairment	0	0%
Long-term Mental health	10	24%

### Case study:

#### Crime type: Ongoing threats and harassment, historic Abuse

*Client D self-referred to us having previously used another service at Stay Safe East. D's case is an example of the need for services such as Stay Safe East's.*

*D has a learning difficulty and mental health issues arising from the trauma she experienced as a child and a young person brought up in the care system as a result of abuse and neglect by her parents. At the time referred for support from the IVA, she was being targeted by individuals for criminal activity, pressuring her to partake in drug & alcohol abuse, with threats of violence to*

*gain access to her home, seeking to cuckoo her property and threatening to 'get her' if she reported them to the police. Because of her refusal to let them into her property, they have repeatedly caused damage; kicking the front door, damaging the addendum wall, locks, door and letterbox leaving a gaping hole wherein they could see into the property and climbing over the wall at the back to gain access.*

*The perpetrators' incessant noise and anti-social behaviour has put the victim's tenancy in jeopardy, with neighbours associating the continuous noise disturbance to her address and reporting this to the council, who in turn began the process that could lead to her eventual eviction.*

**Services provided:**

The allocated IVA provided a range of support to this client, including:

- Advocating on her behalf with the council in relation to repair issues
- Advocating to stop the beginning of the process of eviction
- Providing advocacy and support on matters of safety planning, thereby avoiding harassment and intimidation, as well as links to antisocial behaviour
- Applying for charity funding on victim's behalf in order to obtain necessary household items
- Liaising with housing in order to try to obtain a rehousing

**Outcome:**

Victim was kept safe; had a measure of wellbeing due to Stay Safe East's involvement.

**Learning:**

The learning is that sadly, the police and local authorities often fail victims learning difficulties, not appearing to listen and understand when they try to raise issues surrounding their safety and wellbeing.

**Client stated:**

*"I'm very grateful for what you do for me, I know that I sometimes get stressed and impatient and take it out on you but I really appreciate everything and I'm thankful that you still help me because if it was anyone else they wouldn't do it so I just want to say thank you."*

**5. General advocacy and client safety checks**

We used some funds from reserves and were able to continue to employ a part-time general advocate to support the casework advocates and our volunteer.

### **Her role was three-fold:**

- A) General advocacy and tasks such as emergency food packages or shopping, obtaining a direct payment for client's care package, completing forms, arranging appointments, chasing actions on behalf of the advocates
- B) Regular weekly emotional support and safety calls to clients at high risk of suicide or in poor health. Our volunteer continued with calls to clients at lower risk who are isolated or need emotional support, including some long-term clients to whom we provided the only social contact during the pandemic. The advocate and the volunteer provided information about Covid safety, dispelling myths and helping clients stick to lockdown rules and put them in touch with volunteers. The lack of home visits by mental health professionals for clients in mental distress meant we had to make frequent calls to clients and in effect became their main source of support.
- C) Processing referrals and enquiries.

We are indebted to our long-term volunteer who continued to contact clients right through the pandemic. She is known and trusted by clients. Her commitment is appreciated by staff and the Board.

### **6. Benefits and Entitlements Advocate**

The Benefits Advocate supported **22 Stay Safe East clients** during the year with the following:

- Emergency food provision (food banks, NHS responders)
- New clients received a benefits check to assess if they were missing out on any benefit
- Assisting clients to gather medical evidence, fit notes and other evidence for benefits claims
- Personal Independence Payment (PIP) applications, Mandatory reconsiderations, SSCS1s, and Tribunal Appeals, advice on existing Disability Living Allowance claims
- Attendance allowance claim and help to sort out Pension Credit payments
- Claims for Universal credit
- Help to complete and evidence Limited Capability for Work forms (disability element) and support at assessments
- Ensuring that errors in Employment Support Allowance, Universal Credit and other benefits were corrected by the DWP

- Support to claim additional nursery hours for the client's child
- Health support and advocacy
- Application for Special Guardianship (SGO) allowance
- Child benefit claims/reviews, child tax credits claims/complaints to HMRC
- Support in benefit fraud investigation
- Housing benefit claims/support, Council tax reduction claims
- Housing repairs issues
- Negotiating over water bills arrears
- Applying to grant giving trusts for grants for furniture, white goods, clothing and other essentials
- Support to move house
- Challenging financial assessments for community care charges
- Referrals for qualified free debt advice and management; help with basic budgeting
- Applying for Blue Badges, Motability, Freedom Pass, Taxicard and other entitlements
- Small grants for essential equipment, white goods, clothes, furniture etc.

Like all our advocates, the Benefits Advocate provided emotional support to her clients.

### **Feedback from clients:**

The Benefits Advocate had ongoing feedback conversations with clients, as well as asking some clients the following three questions:

- 1) Do you feel you understand more about this problem now?
- 2) As a result of using this service, do you feel you have more control over your situation?
- 3) As a result of using this service, do you feel more confident to stand up for your rights?

Our clients have all expressed that they feel more confident to stand up for their rights in terms of welfare benefits, with support. Many say that it feels too overwhelming to address things by themselves due to lack of trust in DWP and long hold times on the telephone etc. The majority have expressed that they feel they understand more about the problem and feel they have more control over their financial situations, however many remain anxious over benefit renewals etc.

## Stay Safe East Policy and Change Work

Stay Safe East's policy work is about speaking out about the violence against disabled people, and particularly disabled women. The responses we write to dry policy documents, the meetings we attend, the letters we write or co-sign are about our passion to ensure that disabled survivors get the support, safety and justice they need and deserve – and most of all that the abuse is prevented. We are grateful to the **Three Guineas Trust** for funding our policy posts and their continued support which has helped us give survivors a national voice. Our thanks also to **Stay Safe East's Chair** for her excellent help with key responses to government legislation.

### 1. Violence against women and girls

It is impossible to discuss our work on violence against women and girls (VAWG) without referring to two high profile cases of women murdered in London:

- ✚ **Sabina Nessa** who was murdered in South East London in September 2021
- ✚ **Sarah Everard**, whose murderer, a serving Metropolitan Police officer was convicted of her murder in June 2021.

They were two of the many women killed in the UK by partners, family members and strangers <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/explainers-56365412>. There are no accurate records of the number of disabled women murdered, or who they were, but we do know that disabled women are almost three times more likely to experience domestic abuse than non-disabled women, and twice as likely to be the victim of rape or sexual assault, and that disabled men are much more likely than non-disabled men to be victims of domestic abuse.

We also know that disabled people continue to be abused in institutional settings such as Whorlton Hall in County Durham. This case was an exception in being uncovered by the media and the abusers were charged in October 2021 <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/oct/01/nine-charged-with-abuse-of-vulnerable-patients-in-county-durham>. However most abuse against disabled people goes unnoticed, unreported and continues due to significant failures by the adult safeguarding system and by the criminal justice system.

Though we were not able to get our amendments included in the Domestic Abuse (DA) Act which became law in April 2021, our interventions have put the issues of violence against disabled women and abuse of disabled people generally onto the national policy agenda. In 2021-22, the Stay Safe East Policy

Team focused on the implementation of the Act. We provided detailed comments on the DA Act guidance for statutory services, some of which were taken on board, for example in the inclusion of example in the guidance of disability specific forms of coercive behaviour. We have welcomed some of the provisions of the Act, for example the much broader definition of coercive behaviour, the recognition of children as victims in their own right and enabling survivors to transfer a secure tenancy to new social housing accommodation. Nevertheless we share the concerns of many ‘*by and for*’ organisations that the overall Violence against Women and Girls strategy, published in late March 2021 fails to address structural inequalities faced by minoritized survivors, including disabled survivors.

## 2. Safe Care at Home Review

After the majority vote in the House of Lords in favour of one of our amendments, Minister Victoria Atkins committed the government to a review of abuse of disabled people by non-family ‘carers’. Work on the Safe Care at Home Review began in Autumn 2021<sup>1</sup>.

Stay Safe East helped shape the Terms of Reference and encouraged the civil servants working on the review to engage with user-led Deaf and Disabled People’s Organisations (DDPOs). At time of writing, the review is not yet completed. We hope that the review will start to address the silence about the abuse of disabled people by ‘carers’ who they may be close to but are not considered to be domestic abuse perpetrators, and enable victims to access the support they need and deserve.

## 3. Policy responses

The Policy Team and the CEO also worked on a range of responses to new draft legislation and to government policy initiatives. For full details, please go to our website: <https://www.staysafe-east.org.uk//policy/stay-safe-east-policy-responses-and-statements>

- **The call for evidence on the Women’s Health Strategy** where we called for the definition of culturally competent care to be broadened to include disability. We argued for a social model of disability and trauma informed approach to women’s health and recommended access to health advocates, accessible screening facilities, information and communication support, and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-care-at-home-review-terms-of-reference>

education on safe relationships that includes the different lived experiences and bodies of disabled women.

- **Reforming the Mental Health Act** – we argued for a human rights based approach to mental health.
- **Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill** which Stay Safe East opposed, along with many other rights based organisations because of the increased powers it gave to the police to quell legitimate protest, the Bill's failure to address the barriers for disabled victims of crime within the Criminal Justice System, and the risk of further encroachment on the human rights of people with mental health or learning disabilities.
- **New Plan for Immigration and the Nationality and Borders Bill** which we also opposed, in view of the draconian restrictions it imposed on people seeking asylum, which would have a disproportionate impact on disabled people fleeing persecution and war. The Bill became law in April 2022. We have also supported our sister organisations in the Step Up Migrant Women coalition <https://stepupmigrantwomen.org/> in their call for a firewall between the immigration authorities and the police, so that migrant women can report domestic and sexual violence without fear of deportation. So far this call has gone unheeded.
- **Health and Care Bill** – our briefing raised concerns about the Bill allowing for disabled people to be discharged from hospital without assessment, leaving them at risk of neglect or abuse.
- **Ofsted review of sexual harassment in schools** – in our correspondence with the civil servants coordinating the review, it became apparent that Deaf and disabled children and young people had been excluded from the review due to the short timetable and lack of accessible methods of consultation.
- **Online Safety Bill** -we have worked with disabled people's and women's organisations to ensure that online hate and abuse against disabled people is included in the Bill.
- Finally, Stay Safe East contributed our recommendations on the right of disabled people to live free from abuse and exploitation to **the UK Shadow Report on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People**, coordinated by Inclusion London.

#### 4. Hate crime policy and partnerships

In December the long-awaited Law Commission report on the review of Hate Crime Laws<sup>2</sup>. The Commission recommended parity between strands, which

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/project/hate-crime/>

would mean much stronger laws for disabled victims of hate crime, but did not recommend the inclusion of disability targeted crime in the definition of hate crime. To date, the government has not made any announcements on introducing legislation to implement the recommendations.

Stay Safe East contributed to the Inclusion London Poor Policing Response report on how the police respond to disabled victims of hate crime. A joint seminar for key Metropolitan Police staff is planned by Stay Safe East and Inclusion London for autumn 2022.

Stay Safe East is a founding member of the London Disabled People's Organisations Hate Crime Partnership, and one of three Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations who are part of the CATCH hate crime partnership, delivery support to victims of hate crime across London. As the only specialist organisation working solely with disabled victims of abuse, we bring evidence and unique expertise to both partnerships.

## 5. Partnerships with the VAWG sector

Stay Safe East has been an active participant in **Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) networks** in 2021-22. Through fortnightly online VAWG sector meetings, we have been able to influence (and sometimes challenge) our sister organisations about their inclusion of disabled survivors. The network has supported our voice to be heard and included the concerns of disabled survivors in its many interactions with ministers, including letters and meetings with the Home Secretary and the Minister for Safeguarding which we attended. We are especially grateful to **End Violence Against Women (EVAW)** for their steadfast support in challenging exclusion of Deaf and disabled survivors. Along with the Domestic Abuse Commissioner and the Victims' Commissioner, VAWG organisations have argued for ring-fenced funding for '*by and for*' services, including those for Deaf and disabled survivors.

## 6. Advisory work and public speaking

Stay Safe East is a participant in a number of advisory groups:

- **The Home Office group on Ask Ani**, a scheme to enable victims to report domestic abuse at chemists and other businesses;
- Our participation in the **London Mayor's Office on Policing (MOPAC) VAWG Expert Reference Group** and
- the **Ministry of Justice Expert Advisory Group on safe accommodation** has enabled Stay Safe East to influence the

implementation of for example a safe accommodation strategy arising out of the new requirements of Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act;

- We have also been asked for advice by the **Domestic Abuse and the Victims' Commissioners** on disability related matters, including the Victims Bills, strategies for funding for the sector and the design of the mapping of domestic abuse organisations;
- We attended a roundtable organised by the **Head of the Family Court Division on domestic abuse and the Family Courts** – we shared the experiences of disabled mothers whose children are taken away by the courts after domestic abuse.

Stay Safe East has a key role in educating and informing policy makers and disabled survivors about the specific issues faced by disabled survivors. We gave evidence disability, domestic abuse and mental health to the **All Party Parliamentary Group on Domestic Abuse and Mental Health**. We spoke at the **Women's Aid 'Deserve to be Heard'** event on domestic abuse and mental health which focused on the voice of disabled survivors and a staff event for the Lloyds Banking Group on **'Taking Domestic Abuse Out of the Shadows'**. We were also invited to speak about hate crime against disabled people by the **National Forum on Human Rights in Lithuania**, where hate crimes against disabled people are not recognised.

## **7. Challenging poor practice in engagement and consultation**

Following the repeated failure of the Home Office to make its processes accessible when engaging with the VAWG sector, Stay Safe East and our sister organisation SignHealth sought advice from the Centre for Women's Justice, who sent a detailed legal letter to the Home Office outlining the discriminatory impact of the many failures to make reasonable adjustments. This resulted in some initial action from the Home Office, with some improvement in timely production of accessible versions of consultations and on running accessible events, but the same structural problems remain, with disabled people having to do most of the work to ensure we can participate in Home Office (and Ministry of Justice) consultations. We will continue to dialogue with civil servants over this matter but believe it is part of a greater problem across government departments, with very little expertise on inclusive practice.

## **8. Violence against Disabled Women and Girls Advisory Group**

This unique group acts as an advisor to Stay Safe East in our policy work. It enables reflexion, networking and exchange of information between

organisations run by and for Deaf or disabled survivors and other VAWG national organisations or service providers. The group met six times during the year and has advised on our policy responses, heard presentations from speakers, including the Chief Social Worker for England, and discussed issues such as the experiences of disabled mothers in the family courts or the restraining of disabled children in special schools. From being initially a group about domestic abuse only, the group decided to rename itself “Violence against Deaf and Disabled Women and Girls Advisory Group”, whilst also including abuse against disabled men and non-binary people.

## 9. Training and events

During the year, we delivered four training sessions to our partners in the Ascent partnership (supporting disabled women survivors) on key issues for disabled survivors:

- meeting the needs of disabled survivors
- identifying and responding to disability related risks
- supporting disabled survivors through the criminal justice system
- assisting clients to access social care

***“The training was very in-depth, well explained, and informative... It was very useful to hear from someone with lived experience of adult social care assessments who can provide lots of practical support and insight into experience too.”***

We continued to provide training to Victim Support’s Independent Domestic Abuse Advisors and Victims Advocates across England. Our previous face-to-face programme is now an online blended learning programme involving self-directed learning and face to face sessions with the trainer, along with video clips and an animation on the social model of disability. This approach receives ongoing positive evaluations from participants. Our aim ultimately is to offer a mix of online webinars and training modules that would enable professionals working with disabled people to understand the nature of abuse against disabled people and how to address the barriers.

## Stay Safe East Projects

During the year, Stay Safe East was commissioned to work on three major projects and a small engagement exercise. Our professional and lived experience expertise are recognised by the commissioning organisations. These projects also bring in unrestricted income to Stay Safe East.

### **1. Capacity building disabled people's organisations on hate crime**

As a partner in the London Deaf and Disabled People's (DDPO) Hate Crime Partnership, between 2018 and March 2021, Stay Safe East had already supported 6 disabled people's organisations across London. In 2021-22, our trainer worked with DDPOs:

- Camden Disability Action, a small borough-based generic DDPO
- BME Volunteers, a relatively newly established Community Interest Company providing Pre-Therapy Service, Support and Advocacy for families and people living with visible or invisible disability and discrimination, mainly in South-East London.

The trainer was able to adapt his methods and materials to the challenges of working with organisations remotely during the pandemic. Our approach has evolved with each secondment, as each organisation has different needs and sometimes different client groups, and learning needs and time available vary depend on whether the DDPO employs advocates or information workers, or whether the work is done by volunteers. The aim of the secondments is to:

- develop the ability of each organisation, its staff, volunteers and where relevant Board members to understand and address hate crime against disabled people;
- develop their skills and knowledge of how to support disabled victims of hate crime across all communities and types of hate crime, but with a specific focus on disability hate crime;
- provide the organisation with tools and resources to do the work (checklists, a risk assessment, policies, case studies, presentations and guidance);

The project runs until mid 2023, by which time we will have supported ten very different disabled people's organisations across London. All are now equipped with the knowledge to support victims, but the challenge remains that the number of DDPOs employing a Hate Crime Advocate has declined since the project began and funding is scarce- in 2019, there were 9 hate crimes advocates

in London DDPOs; at March 2022, 4 DDPOs employed hate crime advocates. The three DDPOs who are part of the Pan-London CATCH partnership have 1.5 advocacy posts to cater for 1.2 Million disabled people in London, who experience high rates of hate crime. Inclusion London, the lead organisation for the partnership argued the case for investment in hate crime advocacy for disabled people <https://www.inclusionlondon.org.uk/news/disabled-victims-need-independent-hate-crime-advocates/> . We will continue to work with other DDPOs to ensure that disabled people get the support they need at a local level.

## **2. Mapping of specialist services for Deaf and disabled survivors of domestic abuse**

In late 2021, Stay Safe East was commissioned by the office of the Domestic Abuse Commissioner (DAC) to map the specialist services for deaf and disabled survivors and England and Wales. The research is part of a wider piece of work by the DAC to map services supporting victims/survivors of domestic abuse. We started work in January 2022, and will be seeking to identify the following:

- Services run by and for Deaf or disabled survivors including peer support groups;
- Services run for Deaf or disabled survivors but not governed or managed by them, including services with a specialist worker within a mainstream service;
- Examples of good practice in providing services to Deaf or disabled survivors;

By March 2021, we had contacted organisations and designed a questionnaire. The mapping will be looking at the nature of the support provided, how disabled survivors are involved in setting the direction of the organisation and whether Deaf or disabled staff are employed, and the challenges faced by organisations supporting Deaf or disabled survivors. The mapping will help to build a better picture of the range of provision that currently exists for Deaf and disabled survivors of domestic abuse, and to identify the gaps. The report will be published in 2022-23.

## **3. Research into the needs of Deaf and disabled survivors of rape and sexual violence**

In January 2022, the Ministry of Justice awarded a contract to a partnership led by the University of Leeds with Stay Safe East, SignHealth and Liverpool Hope University to carry out qualitative research into the needs of Deaf and disabled survivors of rape and sexual violence. This ground-breaking project arose from

the End-to End Rape Review<sup>3</sup> looking at the poor experiences of survivors and the falling conviction rates of abusers.

The review identified the lack of evidence on the experiences of Deaf and disabled survivors. will help shape support services for survivors in England and Wales. The evidence from the research will inform the recommissioning by the Ministry of Justice of support services to survivors of rape and sexual violence. We hope it will also help bring about changes in the way that support organisations and the criminal justice system respond to Deaf and disabled survivors.

By March, the team had already set the parameters of the research, designed the interview questions, launched the website for the research, and trained the staff who would conduct interviews (including four Stay Safe East staff).

Stay Safe East is extremely proud to be involved in this pioneering piece of research which is based on the principle of Co-production between Deaf and disabled people and academic researchers. We will be using this model for future research projects.

#### **4. Consultation with disabled survivors on Victim's Bill**

In late 2021, Stay Safe East was commissioned by the Ministry of Justice to consult with disabled survivors on what they wanted from the forthcoming Victim's Bill. We organised a focus group and individual interviews, ensured that all access needs were met and were flexible about how people participated. Participants spoke about being let down by the criminal justice system and support agencies, and the Victim's Code principles not being implemented:

*"The agencies that are supposed to act on those principles have failed. The principles are overlooked consistently. I don't think my voice was ever heard. I had so much to say but was ignored, which could have influenced the outcome of my case."*

Almost all of the participants had made at least one complaint about a service they received from criminal justice agencies. Several had made multiple complaints about their treatment but the outcomes has not changed as a result. They wanted Victim's Code to be much stronger and enforced by agencies, and wanted it to address their diverse needs.

The interviewees felt that the advocacy and support from a 'by and for' organisation which understood their lived experience and could support them

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/end-to-end-rape-review-report-on-findings-and-actions>

on their journey to safety and recovery, and wanted to see more funding for all 'by and for' services, whether disabled led or run by and for Black and minoritized or other survivors.

*"I wasn't really expecting anything [from advocacy] to be honest. I just thought it would be like a quick call, be like 'you all right?' 'yeah.' I expected it to be just like that. But it's a lot more engaging and I actually feel like my advocate at Stay Safe East cares about me, which is nice because I find it very difficult to feel care from somebody. I feel a lot of genuine care from my advocate, they are actually trying to help me. It's something I really struggle with because of like the abuse in my life. I was given the opportunity to talk to someone that wasn't going to judge me and would see that I just need a bit of empathy."*



Charity registration number: 1153615

Stay Safe East  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
31 March 2022

## Stay Safe East

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## Stay Safe East

### Contact Information

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The trustees present their report (contained in a separate document) and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022

#### Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Stay Safe East
Charity Registration Number	1153615
Principle office	90 Crownfield Road London E15 2BG
The Trustees	Savitri Hensman Paul Dowling Kirsten Hearn Bennett Obong S, service user representative S, service user representative

*With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the names of the two service user representatives are withheld to protect their safety.*

Independent examiner	Carbon Accountancy Limited 80-83 Long Lane London EC1A 9ET
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## Stay Safe East

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2022

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Stay Safe East ("the charity") for the year ended 31 March 2022.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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

Since the charity'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 the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do 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.

 *John Leyden*  
Countersigned on 26/01/23 @ 21:13

John Leyden FCA  
Carbon Accountancy Limited  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

26 January 2023

Stay Safe East

**Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 March 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted Funds £	Total funds £	2021 Total Funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
<u>Grants and donations</u>					
Grants		133,823	242,126	375,949	338,417
Other donations		1,020	-	1,020	550
	<b>4</b>	<u>134,843</u>	<u>242,126</u>	<u>376,969</u>	<u>338,967</u>
<u>Charitable activities</u>					
Contracts		149,965	-	149,965	126,316
Other charitable activities		1,995	-	1,995	8,000
	<b>5</b>	<u>151,960</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>151,960</u>	<u>134,316</u>
Other income	<b>6</b>	<u>14,694</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,694</u>	<u>4,954</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<u>301,497</u>	<u>242,126</u>	<u>543,623</u>	<u>478,237</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	<b>7</b>	-	-	-	216
Expenditure on charitable activities	<b>8,9</b>	293,594	210,715	504,309	413,707
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>293,594</u>	<u>210,715</u>	<u>504,309</u>	<u>413,923</u>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<u>7,903</u>	<u>31,411</u>	<u>39,314</u>	<u>64,314</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		91,955	97,741	189,696	125,382
Transfers in year		49,131	(49,131)	-	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>148,989</u>	<u>80,021</u>	<u>229,010</u>	<u>189,696</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

**The notes on pages 6 to 21 form part of these financial statements**

Stay Safe East


**Statement of Financial Position  
For the year ended 31 March 2022**

		<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>Note</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	<b>16</b>	1,436	2,872
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	<b>17</b>	146,433	146,492
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>174,418</u>	<u>97,875</u>
		<u>320,851</u>	<u>244,367</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>18</b>	<u>(93,277)</u>	<u>(57,543)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>227,574</u>	<u>186,824</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>229,010</u>	<u>189,696</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>229,010</u>	<u>189,696</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		80,021	97,741
Unrestricted funds		<u>148,989</u>	<u>91,955</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	<b>21</b>	<u>229,010</u>	<u>189,696</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 25 January 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

 *S Hensman*  
Signed on 26/01/23 @ 20:49

Savitri Hensman  
Trustee

 *Paul Dowling*  
Signed on 26/01/23 @ 21:04

Paul Dowling  
Trustee

**The notes on pages 6 to 21 form part of these financial statements.**

**Stay Safe East**

**Statement of Cash Flows**

**For the year ended 31 March 2022**

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	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	39,314	64,314
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,436	1,436
Accrued expenses	7,627	14,067
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	59	(8,748)
Trade and other creditors	28,107	16,007
Net cash from operating activities	<u>76,543</u>	<u>87,076</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of tangible assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	76,543	87,076
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<u>97,875</u>	<u>10,799</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<u>174,418</u>	<u>97,875</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 March 2022**

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**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The address of the principal office is 90 Crownfield Road, London E15 2BG.

**2. Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from January 2019.

**3. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared using the historic cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

The trustees have considered the impact of COVID-19 on the charities activities and have concluded there is no long-term impact on the Organisation. As a result, it is considered that the going concern status remains intact.

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are no judgements nor any key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of material misstatement to the carry amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the trustees' discretion to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

#### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

#### **Tangible assets**

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The costs of minor additions or those costing below £1,000 are not capitalised.

#### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 25% straight line basis

#### **Impairment of fixed assets**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

#### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

#### Defined contribution pension plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 4. Grants and Donations – 2022

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	45,124	45,124
Trust for London	-	27,154	27,154
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	75,000	75,000
Three Guineas Trust	133,823	-	133,823
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	2,804	2,804
London Community Response Fund	-	10,571	10,571
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	49,965	49,965
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	7,848	7,848
Comic Relief	-	23,660	23,660
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	133,823	242,126	375,949
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	1,020	-	1,020
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 4. Grants and Donations – 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	8,450	23,081	31,531
MOPAC (London Community Foundation)	-	7,500	7,500
Trust for London	-	35,796	35,796
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	22,204	22,204
Home Office	-	75,000	75,000
Three Guineas Trust	102,775	-	102,775
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	33,992	33,992
London Community Response Fund	-	29,619	29,619
	<u>111,225</u>	<u>227,192</u>	<u>338,417</u>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	<u>550</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>550</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
<u>Contracts</u>				
Inclusion London	19,295	19,295	18,002	18,002
Victim Support (LVWS)	88,320	88,320	88,314	88,314
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	22,350	22,350	-	-
Ascent Plus	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
	<u>149,965</u>	<u>149,965</u>	<u>126,316</u>	<u>126,316</u>
<u>Other charitable activities</u>				
Training and consultancy	1,920	1,920	8,000	8,000
Advocacy	-	-	-	-
Other income	75	75	-	-
	<u>1,995</u>	<u>1,995</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>8,000</u>

#### 6. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Access to work claim	14,194	14,194	2,974	2,974
Grants for beneficiaries	500	500	1,980	1,980
	<u>14,694</u>	<u>14,694</u>	<u>4,954</u>	<u>4,954</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*  
For the year ended 31 March 2022

**7. Costs of raising donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	158	58	216

**8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	262,202	192,200	454,402
Support costs (including governance costs)	31,392	18,515	49,907
	293,594	210,715	504,309
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	179,084	181,000	360,084
Support costs (including governance costs)	27,396	26,227	53,623
	206,480	207,227	413,707

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support Costs £	<b>Total 2022 £</b>	Total 2021 £
Promote the human rights of disabled people	454,402	46,307	500,709	411,030
Governance costs	-	3,600	3,600	2,677
	<u>454,402</u>	<u>49,907</u>	<u>504,309</u>	<u>413,707</u>

#### 10. Analysis of support costs

	<b>Promote the Human Rights of disabled people</b> £	<b>Total 2022 £</b>	Total 2021 £
Rent	8,669	8,669	15,500
Telephone	9,804	9,804	11,104
Postage, printing & stationery	1,765	1,765	1,108
Payroll admin fee	2,399	2,399	1,952
Bookkeeping	3,661	3,661	3,583
Insurance	3,052	3,052	2,705
Recruitment	2,093	2,093	2,910
Equipment	5,085	5,085	5,940
I.T costs	7,544	7,544	4,058
Depreciation	1,436	1,436	1,436
Miscellaneous	799	799	650
	<u>46,307</u>	<u>46,307</u>	<u>50,946</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

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#### 11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>£</b>	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>1,436</u>	<u>1,436</u>

#### 12. Independent examination fees

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>£</b>	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>3,600</u>	<u>2,677</u>

#### 13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	357,063	279,679
Social security costs	24,902	18,335
Employer contributions to pension plans	<u>7,037</u>	<u>5,125</u>
	<u>389,002</u>	<u>303,139</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 16 (2021: 14).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2021: Nil).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

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#### 14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

- No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees; or
- None of the trustees has been paid remuneration or received other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity.
- No trustee expenses have been incurred.

#### 15. Transfers between funds

Transfers from unrestricted funds to restricted funds are to make good funding shortfalls and eliminate negative fund balances.

#### 16. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures, fittings and equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2021	5,744
Additions	-
<b>At 31 March 2022</b>	<u>5,744</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2021	2,872
Charge for the year	1,436
<b>At 31 March 2022</b>	<u>4,308</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2022</b>	<u>1,436</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,872</u>

#### 17. Debtors

	<b>2022 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>
Trade debtors	88,884	143,570
Prepayments and accrued income	52,141	2,922
Other debtors	5,408	-
	<u>146,433</u>	<u>146,492</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*  
**For the year ended 31 March 2022**

**18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>£</b>	£
Trade creditors	22,073	6,372
Accruals and deferred income	53,726	43,688
Social security and other taxes	14,836	5,381
Other creditors	<u>2,642</u>	<u>2,102</u>
	<u>93,277</u>	<u>57,543</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income there is an amount of £15,827 for rent charges which have not been invoiced (2021: £13,660).

Included in other creditors there is £1,423 (2021: £1,252) of unpaid pension contributions.

**19. Deferred income**

Included in accruals and deferred income in note 18 is the following deferred income:

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>£</b>	£
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	2,805
Trust for London	-	3,654
London Community Response Fund	-	10,571
MOPAC (LCF)	4,616	-
MOPAC IDVA Fund	<u>28,889</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>33,505</u>	<u>17,030</u>

**20. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits**

**Defined contribution pension plans**

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £7,037 (2021: £5,125)

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

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#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
General funds	<u>91,955</u>	<u>301,497</u>	<u>(293,594)</u>	<u>49,131</u>	<u>148,989</u>

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2021 £
General funds	<u>47,548</u>	<u>251,045</u>	<u>(206,638)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>91,955</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	9,537	45,124	(41,784)	-	12,877
CATCH HC	13,566	-	-	(13,566)	-
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	61,376	75,000	(64,164)	(35,565)	36,647
Trust for London	1,305	27,154	(26,685)	-	1,774
MOJ Covid	5	2,804	-	-	2,809
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	1,614	10,571	(11,561)	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	49,965	(43,793)	-	6,172
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	7,848	(7,848)	-	-
Comic Relief	-	23,660	(14,880)	-	8,780
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	97,741	242,126	(210,715)	(49,131)	80,021
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2021 £
City Bridge Trust	135	23,081	(22,162)	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	10,196	7,500	(8,159)	-	9,537
CATCH HC	10,791	22,204	(19,429)	-	13,566
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	46,147	75,000	(59,771)	-	61,376
Trust for London	1,281	35,796	(35,772)	-	1,305
MOJ Covid	-	33,992	(33,987)	-	5
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	-	29,619	(28,005)	-	1,614
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	77,834	227,192	(207,285)	-	97,741
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The CATCH HC fund has been reclassified from restricted reserves to unrestricted reserves.

At 31 March 2022 an amount of £35,565 in the Home Office fund has been transferred from restricted to unrestricted reserves.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,436	-	1,436
Current assets	207,325	113,526	320,851
Creditors less than one year	<u>(59,772)</u>	<u>(33,505)</u>	<u>(93,277)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>148,989</u>	<u>80,021</u>	<u>229,010</u>

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,872	-	2,872
Current assets	129,596	114,771	244,367
Creditors less than one year	<u>(40,513)</u>	<u>(17,030)</u>	<u>(57,543)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>91,955</u>	<u>97,741</u>	<u>189,696</u>

#### 23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	<b>At 1 April 2021</b>	<b>Cash flows</b>	<b>At 31 March 2022</b>
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>97,875</u>	<u>76,543</u>	<u>174,418</u>

#### 24. Related parties

There have not been any related party transactions during this or the previous year.

**25. Going Concern (COVID-19)**

The trustees have been carrying out a continuous assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on operations of the charity, and considered the impact, risks and threats posed.

The trustees are satisfied that to date, the threat to operations has been minimal, and whilst working arrangements have had to be adapted, this has not significantly reduced the effectiveness of the organisation.

The trustees continue to monitor events in the country as a whole, and have a protocol in place, to provide a quick response to any changes in the operating environment, but currently do not anticipate any circumstances that significantly curtail the ability of the charity to function.

The trustees have also considered the non-COVID-19 related circumstances of the charity, and are satisfied, that the going concern basis, is appropriate for these financial statements.

Charity registration number: 1153615

Stay Safe East  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
31 March 2022

## Stay Safe East

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Independent examiner's report to the trustees	2
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Statement of financial position	4
Statement of cash flows	5
Notes to the financial statements	6

## Stay Safe East

### Contact Information

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The trustees present their report (contained in a separate document) and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022

#### Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Stay Safe East
Charity Registration Number	1153615
Principle office	90 Crownfield Road London E15 2BG
The Trustees	Savitri Hensman Paul Dowling Kirsten Hearn Bennett Obong S, service user representative S, service user representative

*With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the names of the two service user representatives are withheld to protect their safety.*

Independent examiner	Carbon Accountancy Limited 80-83 Long Lane London EC1A 9ET
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## Stay Safe East

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2022

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Stay Safe East ("the charity") for the year ended 31 March 2022.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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

Since the charity'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 the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do 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.

 *John Leyden*  
Countersigned on 26/01/23 @ 21:13

John Leyden FCA  
Carbon Accountancy Limited  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

26 January 2023

Stay Safe East

**Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 March 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted Funds £	Total funds £	2021 Total Funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
<u>Grants and donations</u>					
Grants		133,823	242,126	375,949	338,417
Other donations		1,020	-	1,020	550
	<b>4</b>	<u>134,843</u>	<u>242,126</u>	<u>376,969</u>	<u>338,967</u>
<u>Charitable activities</u>					
Contracts		149,965	-	149,965	126,316
Other charitable activities		1,995	-	1,995	8,000
	<b>5</b>	<u>151,960</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>151,960</u>	<u>134,316</u>
Other income	<b>6</b>	<u>14,694</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,694</u>	<u>4,954</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<u>301,497</u>	<u>242,126</u>	<u>543,623</u>	<u>478,237</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	<b>7</b>	-	-	-	216
Expenditure on charitable activities	<b>8,9</b>	293,594	210,715	504,309	413,707
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>293,594</u>	<u>210,715</u>	<u>504,309</u>	<u>413,923</u>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<u>7,903</u>	<u>31,411</u>	<u>39,314</u>	<u>64,314</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		91,955	97,741	189,696	125,382
Transfers in year		49,131	(49,131)	-	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>148,989</u>	<u>80,021</u>	<u>229,010</u>	<u>189,696</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

**The notes on pages 6 to 21 form part of these financial statements**

Stay Safe East


**Statement of Financial Position  
For the year ended 31 March 2022**

		<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>Note</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	<b>16</b>	1,436	2,872
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	<b>17</b>	146,433	146,492
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>174,418</u>	<u>97,875</u>
		<u>320,851</u>	<u>244,367</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>18</b>	<u>(93,277)</u>	<u>(57,543)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>227,574</u>	<u>186,824</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>229,010</u>	<u>189,696</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>229,010</u>	<u>189,696</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		80,021	97,741
Unrestricted funds		<u>148,989</u>	<u>91,955</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	<b>21</b>	<u>229,010</u>	<u>189,696</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 25 January 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

 *S Hensman*  
Signed on 26/01/23 @ 20:49

Savitri Hensman  
Trustee

 *Paul Dowling*  
Signed on 26/01/23 @ 21:04

Paul Dowling  
Trustee

**The notes on pages 6 to 21 form part of these financial statements.**

**Stay Safe East**

**Statement of Cash Flows**

**For the year ended 31 March 2022**

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	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	39,314	64,314
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,436	1,436
Accrued expenses	7,627	14,067
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	59	(8,748)
Trade and other creditors	28,107	16,007
Net cash from operating activities	<u>76,543</u>	<u>87,076</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of tangible assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	76,543	87,076
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<u>97,875</u>	<u>10,799</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<u>174,418</u>	<u>97,875</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 March 2022**

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**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The address of the principal office is 90 Crownfield Road, London E15 2BG.

**2. Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from January 2019.

**3. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared using the historic cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

The trustees have considered the impact of COVID-19 on the charities activities and have concluded there is no long-term impact on the Organisation. As a result, it is considered that the going concern status remains intact.

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are no judgements nor any key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of material misstatement to the carry amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the trustees' discretion to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

#### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

#### **Tangible assets**

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The costs of minor additions or those costing below £1,000 are not capitalised.

#### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 25% straight line basis

#### **Impairment of fixed assets**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

#### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

#### Defined contribution pension plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 4. Grants and Donations – 2022

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation) (LCF)	-	45,124	45,124
Trust for London	-	27,154	27,154
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	75,000	75,000
Three Guineas Trust	133,823	-	133,823
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	2,804	2,804
London Community Response Fund	-	10,571	10,571
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	49,965	49,965
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	7,848	7,848
Comic Relief	-	23,660	23,660
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	133,823	242,126	375,949
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	1,020	-	1,020
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 4. Grants and Donations – 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	8,450	23,081	31,531
MOPAC (London Community Foundation)	-	7,500	7,500
Trust for London	-	35,796	35,796
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	22,204	22,204
Home Office	-	75,000	75,000
Three Guineas Trust	102,775	-	102,775
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	33,992	33,992
London Community Response Fund	-	29,619	29,619
	<u>111,225</u>	<u>227,192</u>	<u>338,417</u>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	<u>550</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>550</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
<u>Contracts</u>				
Inclusion London	19,295	19,295	18,002	18,002
Victim Support (LVWS)	88,320	88,320	88,314	88,314
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	22,350	22,350	-	-
Ascent Plus	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
	<u>149,965</u>	<u>149,965</u>	<u>126,316</u>	<u>126,316</u>
<u>Other charitable activities</u>				
Training and consultancy	1,920	1,920	8,000	8,000
Advocacy	-	-	-	-
Other income	75	75	-	-
	<u>1,995</u>	<u>1,995</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>8,000</u>

#### 6. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Access to work claim	14,194	14,194	2,974	2,974
Grants for beneficiaries	500	500	1,980	1,980
	<u>14,694</u>	<u>14,694</u>	<u>4,954</u>	<u>4,954</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*  
For the year ended 31 March 2022

**7. Costs of raising donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	-	-	-
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	158	58	216

**8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	262,202	192,200	454,402
Support costs (including governance costs)	31,392	18,515	49,907
	293,594	210,715	504,309
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	179,084	181,000	360,084
Support costs (including governance costs)	27,396	26,227	53,623
	206,480	207,227	413,707

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support Costs £	<b>Total 2022 £</b>	Total 2021 £
Promote the human rights of disabled people	454,402	46,307	500,709	411,030
Governance costs	-	3,600	3,600	2,677
	<u>454,402</u>	<u>49,907</u>	<u>504,309</u>	<u>413,707</u>

#### 10. Analysis of support costs

	<b>Promote the Human Rights of disabled people</b> £	<b>Total 2022 £</b>	Total 2021 £
Rent	8,669	8,669	15,500
Telephone	9,804	9,804	11,104
Postage, printing & stationery	1,765	1,765	1,108
Payroll admin fee	2,399	2,399	1,952
Bookkeeping	3,661	3,661	3,583
Insurance	3,052	3,052	2,705
Recruitment	2,093	2,093	2,910
Equipment	5,085	5,085	5,940
I.T costs	7,544	7,544	4,058
Depreciation	1,436	1,436	1,436
Miscellaneous	799	799	650
	<u>46,307</u>	<u>46,307</u>	<u>50,946</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

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#### 11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>£</b>	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>1,436</u>	<u>1,436</u>

#### 12. Independent examination fees

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>£</b>	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>3,600</u>	<u>2,677</u>

#### 13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	357,063	279,679
Social security costs	24,902	18,335
Employer contributions to pension plans	<u>7,037</u>	<u>5,125</u>
	<u>389,002</u>	<u>303,139</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 16 (2021: 14).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2021: Nil).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

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#### 14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

- No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees; or
- None of the trustees has been paid remuneration or received other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity.
- No trustee expenses have been incurred.

#### 15. Transfers between funds

Transfers from unrestricted funds to restricted funds are to make good funding shortfalls and eliminate negative fund balances.

#### 16. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures, fittings and equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2021	5,744
Additions	-
<b>At 31 March 2022</b>	<u>5,744</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2021	2,872
Charge for the year	1,436
<b>At 31 March 2022</b>	<u>4,308</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2022</b>	<u>1,436</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,872</u>

#### 17. Debtors

	<b>2022 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>
Trade debtors	88,884	143,570
Prepayments and accrued income	52,141	2,922
Other debtors	5,408	-
	<u>146,433</u>	<u>146,492</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*  
For the year ended 31 March 2022

**18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>£</b>	£
Trade creditors	22,073	6,372
Accruals and deferred income	53,726	43,688
Social security and other taxes	14,836	5,381
Other creditors	<u>2,642</u>	<u>2,102</u>
	<u>93,277</u>	<u>57,543</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income there is an amount of £15,827 for rent charges which have not been invoiced (2021: £13,660).

Included in other creditors there is £1,423 (2021: £1,252) of unpaid pension contributions.

**19. Deferred income**

Included in accruals and deferred income in note 18 is the following deferred income:

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>£</b>	£
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	2,805
Trust for London	-	3,654
London Community Response Fund	-	10,571
MOPAC (LCF)	4,616	-
MOPAC IDVA Fund	<u>28,889</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>33,505</u>	<u>17,030</u>

**20. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits**

**Defined contribution pension plans**

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £7,037 (2021: £5,125)

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

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#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
General funds	<u>91,955</u>	<u>301,497</u>	<u>(293,594)</u>	<u>49,131</u>	<u>148,989</u>

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2021 £
General funds	<u>47,548</u>	<u>251,045</u>	<u>(206,638)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>91,955</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
City Bridge Trust	1,054	-	-	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	9,537	45,124	(41,784)	-	12,877
CATCH HC	13,566	-	-	(13,566)	-
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	61,376	75,000	(64,164)	(35,565)	36,647
Trust for London	1,305	27,154	(26,685)	-	1,774
MOJ Covid	5	2,804	-	-	2,809
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	1,614	10,571	(11,561)	-	624
MOPAC VAWG Fund	-	49,965	(43,793)	-	6,172
MOJ IDVA Fund	-	7,848	(7,848)	-	-
Comic Relief	-	23,660	(14,880)	-	8,780
	97,741	242,126	(210,715)	(49,131)	80,021

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2021 £
City Bridge Trust	135	23,081	(22,162)	-	1,054
MOPAC (LCF)	10,196	7,500	(8,159)	-	9,537
CATCH HC	10,791	22,204	(19,429)	-	13,566
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	-	9,284
Home Office	46,147	75,000	(59,771)	-	61,376
Trust for London	1,281	35,796	(35,772)	-	1,305
MOJ Covid	-	33,992	(33,987)	-	5
Extraordinary Fund					
London Community Response Fund	-	29,619	(28,005)	-	1,614
	77,834	227,192	(207,285)	-	97,741

The CATCH HC fund has been reclassified from restricted reserves to unrestricted reserves.

At 31 March 2022 an amount of £35,565 in the Home Office fund has been transferred from restricted to unrestricted reserves.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,436	-	1,436
Current assets	207,325	113,526	320,851
Creditors less than one year	<u>(59,772)</u>	<u>(33,505)</u>	<u>(93,277)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>148,989</u>	<u>80,021</u>	<u>229,010</u>

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,872	-	2,872
Current assets	129,596	114,771	244,367
Creditors less than one year	<u>(40,513)</u>	<u>(17,030)</u>	<u>(57,543)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>91,955</u>	<u>97,741</u>	<u>189,696</u>

#### 23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	<b>At 1 April 2021</b>	<b>Cash flows</b>	<b>At 31 March 2022</b>
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>97,875</u>	<u>76,543</u>	<u>174,418</u>

#### 24. Related parties

There have not been any related party transactions during this or the previous year.

**25. Going Concern (COVID-19)**

The trustees have been carrying out a continuous assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on operations of the charity, and considered the impact, risks and threats posed.

The trustees are satisfied that to date, the threat to operations has been minimal, and whilst working arrangements have had to be adapted, this has not significantly reduced the effectiveness of the organisation.

The trustees continue to monitor events in the country as a whole, and have a protocol in place, to provide a quick response to any changes in the operating environment, but currently do not anticipate any circumstances that significantly curtail the ability of the charity to function.

The trustees have also considered the non-COVID-19 related circumstances of the charity, and are satisfied, that the going concern basis, is appropriate for these financial statements.

**STAY SAFE EAST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1153615

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# Accounts

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# **Stay Safe East**

**Trustees' Annual Report**

**2020-2021**



**Charity Number 1153615**

## Stay Safe East

### Trustee's Annual Report 2020-2021

**Charity name:** Stay Safe East

**Registration Number** 1153615

Stay Safe East is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

**Principal office** 90 Crownfield Road, London E15 2BG

**Trustees** Savitri Hensman (Chair)  
Paul Dowling (Treasurer)  
Bennett Obong  
Kirsten Hearn  
S, service user representative  
S, service user representative

*With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the names of the two service user representatives are withheld to protect their safety.*

#### **Staff and volunteers**

Chief Executive: Ruth Bashall (to 14.3.21)  
Co-Chief Executives: Ioana Hanis and Ruth Bashall  
(from 15.3.21 to 15.6.21)  
Administrator (part-time)  
Policy Officers: Miranda Weston (from July 2019) and Ashley  
Stephen  
Independent Victim's Advocate/Hate Crime Team Manager (full-  
time)  
Hate Crime Advocates (2 part-time)  
Domestic Abuse Casework Manager/ Independent Disability and  
Domestic Violence Advocate (full-time)  
Domestic Violence Advocates (IDDVAS) (4 part-time, one 28 hours  
from July 2020)  
Benefits and Entitlements Advocate (from June 2020)  
General Advocate  
Volunteer

*Due to the nature of our work and to ensure their safety, names of advocacy staff and volunteers are not listed in this report.*

**Bank**            The Cooperative Bank, PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

**Bookkeeping and payroll:** Jane Roche

**Independent Examiner**

Carbon Accountancy, 80-83 Long Lane, London EC1A 9ET

**Thank you to our Funders and Commissioners**

Three Guineas Trust

The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)

City Bridge Trust

The Home Office

Trust for London

Victim Support for London Victim and Witness Service

Inclusion London

London Community Response Fund

Ministry of Justice Covid Recovery Fund

Ascent Partnership



**Thank you to our supporters and partners and in particular:**

Members of the Disability and Domestic Abuse Advisory Group

Tracey Gilbert-Falconer for help with fundraising bids

Susie Balderston for consultation and policy input

All individuals and organisations who made donations to Stay Safe East or provided other kinds of assistance.

This report is dedicated to N, K and P, clients of Stay Safe East and Waltham Forest residents, who were taken from us and from their loved ones too early. N and K died from Covid 19 and as a direct result of the discrimination against disabled people during the Covid pandemic.

They will not be forgotten.

Stay Safe East will continue to fight for the right to safety, life and dignity of all disabled survivors.

# Stay Safe East Annual Report

April 2020 to March 2021

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**Please note: for reasons of accessibility, the Independent Examiner's Unaudited Financial Statement is contained in a separate document.**

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**The Trustees' Annual Report for 2019-2020 was approved on January 25<sup>th</sup> 2022 and signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:**

  
**Savitri Hensman**

**Chair**

## Chair's Report

Much has been said and written about the struggles which so many people faced when the COVID-19 pandemic caused such damage in the UK, along with other parts of the world. Official statisticians and committees, journalists and researchers have drawn attention to various stark facts. Disabled people, Black and minority ethnic communities and people facing economic disadvantage were even more likely than their neighbours to get seriously ill or die – and much of this was avoidable. Domestic abuse victims (mainly women) found it particularly hard to escape from dangerous environments and minorities at risk of hostility or violence were sometimes cut off from much-needed support. Professionals faced tough challenges in supporting people while minimising the risk of catching and passing on the coronavirus.

All of these were central to our work as an organisation, adding to the challenges already faced in supporting Deaf and disabled people – mainly from communities affected by poverty, racism or other forms of discrimination – facing domestic violence, hate crime and other forms of abuse, along with promoting human rights. We had to switch rapidly to different ways of working, while taking account of the sometimes sharply increased difficulties many clients faced in accessing basic necessities and affordable means of communication.

What is more, our staff, Board members and other volunteers were generally from sections of the population most severely affected and/or at enhanced risk: the danger, hardship and loss were not an unfortunate experience confined to others. Our work included frequent risk assessments and discussions about how to respond creatively to the challenges of undertaking vital tasks. The need for policy work and collective as well as individual advocacy, deeply informed by frontline work with clients, was perhaps more evident than ever before.

It is a testimony to the dedication and professionalism of staff and volunteers, as well as the support of our funders, partners and donors, that we nevertheless managed to increase the number of people supported during the year, with increased income too. On behalf of the Board I would like to thank everyone who made this possible – and again note the inspiration we received from clients dealing with often heart-breaking circumstances. I also recognise the toll on all involved.

Strengthening our leadership and management structures consolidated our ability to manage a staff team which continued to grow, working in circumstances which would have been hard to imagine just a year earlier, and helped to provide a foundation for longer-term sustainability. This included continuing to support and build the skills and confidence of managers, re-examine how best to coordinate the different aspects of our work in light of greater numbers and demands and recruitment of a new Chief Executive so as to enable a smooth handover. Ruth Bashall played a key role in founding Stay Safe East and leading it for many years but wished to free up her time and energy to focus more on policy, training, consultancy and development support around the issues central to our work. I am deeply grateful for all she has done and continues to do for the organisation and delighted that Ioana Hanis, with all the skills, experience and commitment she brings, was appointed.

By the end of 2020-21, the future held much uncertainty for Deaf and disabled people (largely from communities facing disadvantage and discrimination) affected by harassment, violence and other human rights abuses. Yet the importance of what Stay Safe East uniquely offers was even more evident.

**Savitri Hensman**

**Chair, Stay Safe East**

## Stay Safe East: Report of activities 2020-21

### 1. Introduction

The Trustees present their report of activities for the year ended March 31<sup>st</sup> 2021.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the Notes to the accounts and comply with Stay Safe East's governing document, applicable law and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" preparing accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Stay Safe East is a registered charity (as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation) established in 2013. It remains the only user-led 'by and for' organisation in the UK providing long-term advocacy and support to disabled victims/survivors of multiple forms of abuse: domestic and sexual abuse and other forms of Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG), hate crime, harassment, cuckooing, abuse by care workers or personal assistants (which we consider to be domestic abuse), and abuse in residential and other institutions.

Stay Safe East seeks to use the expertise and evidence from our casework to inform our policy work at London-wide and national level. We aim to help remove the barriers to justice and equal responses to disabled survivors and to ensure that the voices of disabled survivors are heard by policy makers and other providers. We also provide casework advice, training, consultancy and capacity building services to statutory and voluntary organisations in the field.

### 2. Governing document and Objects of the Charity

Stay Safe East is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission in September 2013 and is governed by its charity governing document. Stay Safe East is a disabled people's organisation run by and for the benefit of disabled people.

Stay Safe East's Objects are:

- (1) To relieve the distress and suffering caused to Deaf and disabled people by hate crime, harassment, domestic or sexual violence or other forms of abuse
- (2) To promote the human rights of deaf and disabled people in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

- (3) Such purposes as are exclusively charitable in accordance with the law of England and Wales as the Trustees may from time to time decide

### **3. Stay Safe East's objectives during its eighth year**

- To continue to provide accessible and holistic support and advocacy to disabled survivors of domestic and sexual abuse, hate crime, harassment and other forms of abuse, and to support our staff and volunteers to deliver a quality and safe service to clients. This was revised to include supporting our clients through the Covid 19 pandemic.
- To develop our casework with disabled survivors across London through the London Victims and Witness Service, the Ascent Partnership and the CATCH partnership and other partnerships
- To share our expertise with Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations (DDPOs) and organisations working on Violence against Women and Girls through casework advice, capacity building, training and briefings
- To further develop Stay Safe East's role as an expert organisation speaking out on behalf of disabled survivors of gender-based violence, hate crime and other abuse
- To work to improve operational responses to disabled victims/survivors by the Metropolitan Police, Crown Prosecution Service, local authorities and other agencies
- To work to ensure that London and national policy and strategies on hate crime, violence against women and girls and victims' rights include appropriate measures to meet the needs of disabled survivors
- To strengthen the financial and organisational resilience of Stay Safe East, its management structure and processes in order to help it grow sustainably.

### **4. Overview of the year**

Firstly, the Board would like to thank all our staff and our volunteer for their extraordinary forbearance during that time and their unstinting support for disabled survivors through this difficult time.

2020-21 was a year of extraordinary change for Stay Safe East. Like all organisations, we had to learn new ways of working when the Covid 19 pandemic started but our holistic way of working and our capacity to respond to disability related needs gave us a strong basis for adapting. Our priority was to maintain a quality of service for our clients and keep them safe whilst working remotely.

The Covid 19 pandemic presented specific challenges for us as an organisation working with disabled survivors of abuse, and one which only employs disabled people, many of whom were at high risk from the virus. We are proud that we were able to keep our services going throughout the year.

Looking after our staff and volunteer so they could support our clients was the priority from the outset. Our flexible approach to employing disabled staff proved invaluable. Stay Safe East went into lockdown in mid-March 2020. Our advocates valiantly continued to go about their daily work supporting clients and trying to ensure their safety. Our administrator with the support of the managers and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) did an amazing job of coordinating the transfer of our operations to remote working. This meant not only purchasing new equipment, moving items to people's homes and sorting out our quite basic IT system, but ensuring that people had the right disability equipment and workspaces that met their access needs- several staff had not desk at home, and some had children who were out of school or nursery during lockdown, or partners working from home, so we had to ensure that they had a confidential space.

The year took its toll on people's mental health – lockdown, the loss of face-to-face contact with colleagues and clients, supporting traumatised clients from home, staff shielding or self-isolating to keep safe from the virus, losing loved ones to the virus, and the extreme difficulties of achieving positive outcomes for our clients during the pandemic were some of the factors, in a context where the overarching narrative was that the lives of disabled people and BAME communities didn't matter. We responded by increasing staff support: all staff were able to access frequent reflective practice and counselling, more frequent supervision and staff meetings and more opportunities for informal contact.

In summer 2020, we could have chosen to do a partial return to the office but after two comprehensive risk assessments and setting up a Covid-safe office, we had to cancel the return as the Board and CEO did not consider it wise to put staff or clients at risk. Staff worked from home for the rest of the year, but arranged meetings with clients at high risk or who could not communicate by phone either in the office or at a safe location. Staff who were at lower risk from the virus also did some doorstep visits.

In 2020-21, Stay Safe East supported 200 clients across 27 London boroughs. This is an increase on previous years, partly enabled by the employment of more staff but mainly due to the hard work of our teams. Further details can be found in the casework section of this report.

A cornerstone of Stay Safe East's service is meeting our clients face-to-face either at home or in the community. This element of the service had to be put on hold due to the pandemic, and has had a profound impact on our service. Many of our clients have struggled even more than usual with their mental health. Domestic abuse clients still living with the perpetrator, and those being harassed by a neighbour were at highest risk. Some clients were too frightened to go out at all, others took risks. We saw several suicide attempts. Unfortunately, some clients also vented their anger at their advocate because they were so frustrated by the lack of action when statutory services were not responding or taking action to keep them safe. Unusually, we received three complaints. Even after the first lockdown ended in summer 2020, we took the decision not to visit clients at home, except in exceptional circumstances because of the enduring high risk from Covid 19.

The Covid pandemic occurred at a time when disabled people were already feeling under considerable threat from austerity and from a political discourse which represented us as a burden on public services. The responsibility for protecting themselves from the virus and its consequences was put onto the shoulders of disabled people and their families and as a result onto organisations such as Stay Safe East. From the start of the pandemic, the labelling of disabled and older people as "vulnerable" or having "underlying health conditions" was often interpreted in ways that led to a narrative that high level of deaths of disabled people were somehow inevitable. Some disabled people, and specifically people with learning disabilities and older people were subject to 'Do Not Attempt Resuscitation' (DNAR) notices without their consent or that of people close to them. There was also controversy over discriminatory guidance for the NHS from the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence on access to critical care which was subsequently rescinded<sup>1</sup>. At the same time, older disabled people infected with Covid were being discharged directly to care homes, spreading the virus to existing residents and staff. Access to testing and protective equipment was woefully inadequate, affecting some of our clients and staff. The disproportionate rates of hospitalisation and deaths of disabled, people on low incomes and Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) people across the UK showed the impact of inequalities in health, income and poor housing which made it impossible for many people to social distance. The deaths of two of our clients, both users of social care, directly as a result of the lack of PPE and poor practice by care

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/adult-social-care/391-adult-care-news/43274-nice-amends-covid-19-critical-care-guideline-after-judicial-review-threat>

agencies demonstrated the true human cost of these inequalities. We had to support our clients, who felt that their lives were being given little value, and who were often confused by government messages, whilst staff, volunteers and Board members as disabled people were dealing with the same impact and the deaths of people close to us. We constantly had to revise our risk assessments and take additional protection measures.

As the first lockdown eased, the message was that this was a price that society had to pay for “getting things back to normal” and that it was up to those who were ‘vulnerable’ to protect themselves. We then saw a second lockdown in winter 2020 which was more difficult to manage for our clients.

The context had a considerable impact on disabled survivors of abuse, and on our whole team. Our clients have had to shield or live extraordinarily limited lives whilst trying to recover from abuse, often stuck at home with the perpetrator, or alone or with their children. Stay Safe East has played a key role in sustaining our clients through lockdown and through the whole year and beyond. We have rung those most at risk every week, sometimes more often, provided tablets or top-ups for mobile phones so clients could use WhatsApp or zoom, or simply attend a court hearing on the phone. We have sorted out shopping and other support, obtained small grants for household equipment, but most of all we have been there for all of our clients through one of the most difficult periods of all our lives.

2020-21 also brought some positive changes. Thanks to Covid emergency funding, we were able to expand the accessible counselling service to our clients. Remote counselling by phone or video has made accessing counselling much easier. Similarly, some clients have access to court via video link from the safety of their own home, but we are concerned at possible miscarriages of justice particularly in cases involving disabled mothers facing care proceedings, who were at higher risk of the children being removed. Some of these proceedings were carried out by telephone, with the client struggling to understand. Had she been in court, she would have had her advocate sitting with her, but it was very difficult for her advocate to support her by phone link. After the initial lockdown, we organised for clients to safely attend the office and meet their advocate there to attend court remotely.

In spite (or maybe because) of the specific working conditions created by the pandemic, we were able to expand our national policy role as experts on violence against disabled women and girls, alongside our role as the only specialist on hate crime, harassment and other forms of abuse against disabled. We broadened our networks, and were able to advise government departments and the Domestic Abuse Commissioner.

We campaigned for the rights of disabled survivors to be included in the Domestic Abuse Bill, and worked on a number of other policy issues which are explained further in this report.

## **5. Trustees**

The Trustees are elected by the Charity's members at the annual general meeting for a period of up to three years. Trustees are offered an induction, including presentations by staff, background material and information on the Charity's principal activities. Trustees are all unpaid volunteers and may claim reasonable out of pocket expenses. The Trustees who served during the year are listed on the first page. There were six Trustees during the year. Two clients who are members of the Board have chosen to remain anonymous to protect their safety. There were no new Trustees appointed during the year, in part due to the pandemic. All Trustees contribute to major decisions which impact on the organisation, bring new ideas and experiences and help shape the priorities of the Charity.

## **6. Organisational Structure and Staffing**

The Stay Safe East Board is responsible for overseeing the work of the organisation and setting strategic direction. The Board has six members, including two user representatives. The Board appoints the Chair of Stay Safe East, who supports the Chief Executive (CEO). As Stay Safe East has grown, we have changed the way we appoint staff – Board members are now usually only involved in the selection process for senior posts.

The Chair has delegated powers to take necessary decisions between scheduled Board meetings and is responsible for appraising the performance of the CEO on behalf of the Board.

Board meetings were held 4 times in the year; all meetings were held remotely on Zoom. Other decisions were made by the Board by e-mail, or in some instances on Chair's Action. The CEO gives the Board an account of the progress of the Charity's work, reports on financial matters, brings issues requiring particular attention and gets agreement for forward work.

During the year, the day-to-day financial administration was managed by a bookkeeper who worked with the CEO to prepare management information for the Board and also did the monthly payroll. The CEO prepared reports to funders. The decision was made to start recruitment for a Finance and Operations Manager in 2021-22.

Four new staff joined us: we successfully filled the vacancy for the Benefits Advocate; we recruited an additional Independent Disability and Domestic

Violence Advocate (IDDVA) and a part-time Hate Crime Advocate to cover for a colleague on long-term Covid leave. We were able to keep those new members of staff on in the following year.

Our current Chief Executive Ruth Bashall had been leading the organisation since 2011 and wanted to step back in order to focus on policy work and developing new projects.

In January we began the recruitment process for a new Chief Executive – the post was targeted at disabled applicants as is our practice. We were lucky to be able to appoint Ioana Hanis to the post. Ioana brings a wealth of experience as a service manager with Victim Support London and has also worked with domestic abuse and trafficking survivors across England. As a disabled woman she has the lived experience that is essential to leading an organisation run by and for disabled survivors.

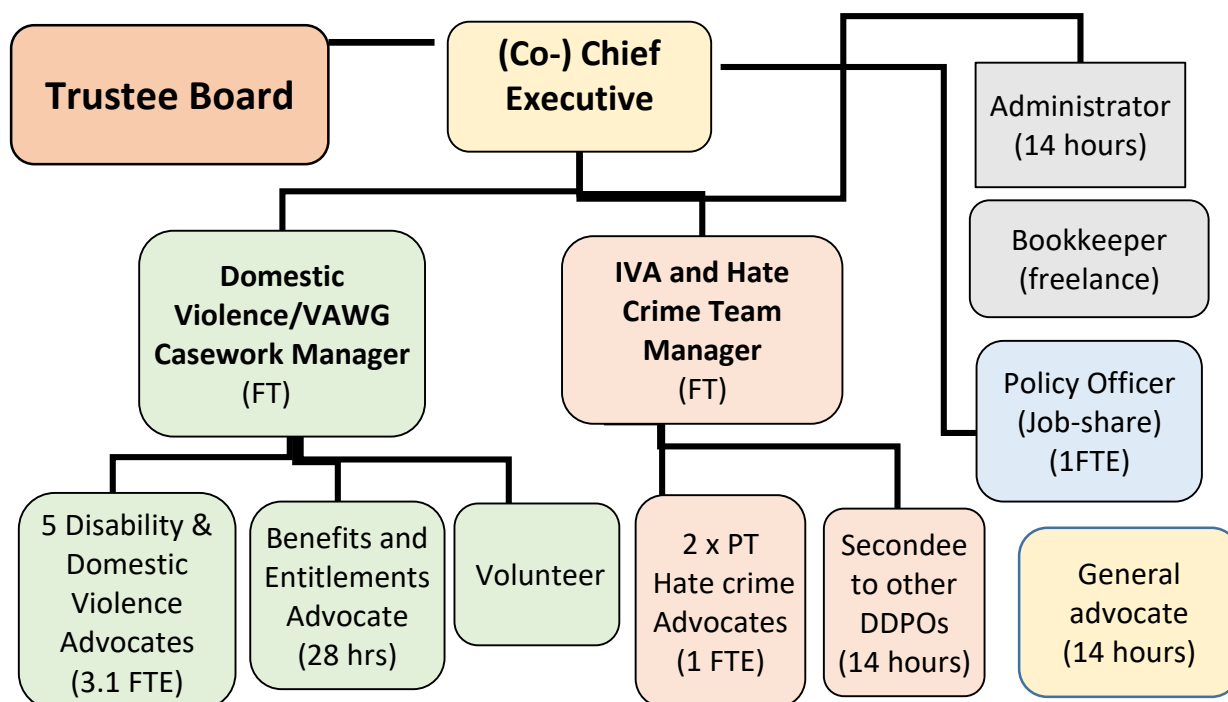
Ioana started at Stay Safe East in mid-March 2021 and for the first three months and into the following year worked as Co-Chief Executive with our former CEO. Ioana became the sole CEO from June 2021.

Ruth will remain as Policy and Projects Adviser to the organisation and will continue to support our new Chief Executive.

The Board opted for this arrangement because the change-over of CEO can be critical for small organisations which have been led by the same person for a number of years, and continuity and a smooth transition are essential. The process of handing over knowledge and expertise in such a unique organisation is a gradual one but Ioana brings her own expertise and leadership skills to take our growing organisation forward into the next 10 years of its life.

We are extremely grateful to Three Guineas Trust for funding the overlap of the two CEOs and the new Policy and Projects Advisor post, which will enable us to develop new services and a wider consultancy role.

## Stay Safe East Organisational Structure at end of 2020-2021



## 7. Financial report

In spite of the Challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, Stay Safe East ended the year in a sound financial position. The Trustees regularly consider the finances of the Charity and receive reports from the Treasurer and CEO to ensure that it is a going concern. They are satisfied that this is the case at the date of this report. Budgets and cash flow projections are drawn up to ensure proper governance. Our income increased during the year paving the way for further changes in 2021-22.

### Stay Safe East: Summary of financial activities 2020-21

<b>Income during the year:</b>	<b>£ 478,237</b>	
<b>Expenditure during the year:</b>	<b>£ 413,923</b>	
Surplus of income over expenditure:	£ 64,314	
Reserves brought forward	£ 125,382	
<b>Total funds of the charity</b>	<b>£ 189,696</b>	of which -
Restricted funds:	£ 97,741	
Unrestricted funds:	£ 91,955	
This compares with an income for 2019-20 of <b>£315,292</b> .		

Unaudited Financial Statements are available on [www.staysafe-east.org.uk](http://www.staysafe-east.org.uk) and on the Charity Commission website.

The Board has been steadily increasing our reserves. The unrestricted reserves represent three months running costs/winding down costs, as recommended by CIPFA and the Charity Commission. The restricted reserves include money for 3 projects or parts of projects which we were not able to carry out whilst working remotely. Due to remote working, we underspent on client costs and some other items. Some of the income from Covid emergency funds have been deferred to 2021-22 with the agreement of funders.

Our income came from a mix of grants, contracts for casework and capacity building, and donations. Due to the pandemic, there was no independent income from training during the year.

The Board would like to thank our funders for their support, and for the flexibility they showed during a very difficult year:

- Three Guineas Trust
- Trust for London
- City Bridge Trust
- Mayor's Office on Policing and Crime (MOPAC)
- London Community Response Fund
- Home Office
- Ministry of Justice Covid Recovery Fund

Income also came from contracts, the first three of which originate with MOPAC:

- London Victim and Witness Service via Victim Support
- CATCH Hate Crime Partnership
- Ascent Partnership
- Hate Crime Advocacy Capacity Building (via Inclusion London)

During the year, two of our grants came to an end. The MOPAC grant for hate crime work ended in June 2020, but we were able to fund our experienced hate crime advocate from reserves until we received a grant from the London Community Response Fund in October. The City Bridge grant ended in November, but Three Guineas Trust kindly stepped in for four months to fund our Domestic Violence Services Manager post until the end of March 2021. We were able to obtain funding for both of these posts in 2021-22.

This was the first year of our grant for core costs from Three Guineas Trust, which funded most of the CEO's salary, (and the overlap between the outgoing and the incoming CEO), a Policy Officer post and core administrative costs. This core funding provides us with security and the funds to create a management structure which is fit for purpose as the charity grows. This will help ensure the long-term sustainability of the Charity.

## 8. Major Risks

The Charity has a formal structured approach to the assessment and management of major risks which it may face. The Trustees continue to identify the types of risks the Charity faces and to identify means of mitigating the risks:

- The pandemic was a challenge to Stay Safe East which works specifically with disabled people, and has a team of disabled staff and volunteers. We were working with people at high risk, so we had to ensure that any contact was safe. However, we successfully maintained our services with the exception of our Women's Group, and supported staff through a very difficult period of their working lives. All staff were able to work from home, risk assessments were conducted in relation to confidentiality, health and safety and the welfare of staff, and measures put in place to mitigate the impact of remote working and lack of face-to-face contact with clients and with colleagues. Face to face contact with clients was restricted to those at immediate high risk and followed Covid distancing and health and safety guidelines.
- There was a substantial risk that key members of staff or of the Board would fall prey to Covid and either die or be left with long-term serious health issues. We put in place mitigating measures such as ensuring that we had sufficient bank signatories and worked to build the skills and confidence of managers so they could step in for one another if required.
- The risk of overloading staff with complex cases is part and parcel of our work and has continued to be addressed by assessing referrals and holding a waiting list when needed, and providing more intensive support to staff whilst working remotely. We adapted our working practices to meet these new challenges.
- An extensive system of weekly safety calls to clients allowed us to check on their safety, and whether they had food, heating, money, or were isolated or suicidal, or had accurate information about Covid 19 and how to keep safe.
- The potential risk to our premises has been reduced, as we were offered a three-year fixed charge licence by the London Borough of Waltham Forest who own the building.

- The risks from the change of leadership to our unique organisation were mitigated by a three-month period from March 2021 when the outgoing and new CEOs worked together as Co-CEOs, with the support of the Chair. The outgoing CEO will remain working for the organisation and will provide support and mentoring to our New CEO. It was agreed that we will be recruiting a Finance and Operations Manager in 2021 so that the organisational responsibilities are shared.

## Casework report

### Supporting victims/survivors of abuse and other crimes

#### 1. The numbers

In 2020-21, Stay Safe East supported 198 clients. This is the largest number of clients supported since we became an independent organisation in 2013. The number of clients has doubled in the two years since 2018-19.

Year	All clients	Domestic/ sexual violence	Hate crime	General crime
2017-18	98	70	16	12
2018-19	102	59	29	14
2019-20	154	93	43	18
<i>Of whom 97 were new referrals</i>				
<b>2020-21</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>20</b>
<i>Of whom 119 were new referrals</i>				

36 clients also accessed supported from the Benefits Advocate. Some clients also had support from the general advocate and the volunteer. They are included in the above.

Sex	Domestic abuse/ sexual violence	Hate crime		General crime/IVA	Totals	
		CATCH	WF/N'ham		No.	%
Female	105	16	18	18	157	81%
Male	12	7	15	2	36	18.5%
Other	1	-	-		1	0.5%

Sexuality	Domestic / sexual violence	Hate crime		General crime	Totals	
		CATCH	WF/N'ham		No	%
Heterosex'l	118	13	21	16	168	86%
Lesbian	3	-	0	1	4	2%
Gay man	1	-	3	0	4	2%
Bisexual	1	1	1	1	4	2%
Not disclosed	1	9	8	2	20	10%

<b>Age</b>	Our youngest client was 14, the oldest was 82
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Ethnicity	DV/SV	Hate crime		General crime/IVA	Total %
		CATCH	WF & Newham		
Asian British	6	2	1	2	5.5%
Asian Indian	5	0	0	0	2.5%
Asian Pakistani	12	0	1	0	6.5%
Asian Bangladeshi	1	0	0	0	0.5%
Asian Sri Lankan	2	0	0	0	1%
East Asian	2	0	0	0	1%
Asian other	1	1	0	0	1%
Black British	17	2	0	1	10.5%
Black African	2	0	3	1	3%
Black Caribbean	2	1	1	0	2%
Black other	0	0	1	4	2.5%
Mixed heritage	3	2			2.5%
White British	53	7	11	9	41%
White European	4	2	1	0	3.5%
White Other	1	2	1	1	2.5%
European other	3	0	0	0	1.5%
Mixed Other	3	2	0	2	3.5%
Arab Middle Eastern	1	0	0	0	0.5%
Other	0	0	2	0	1%
Not disclosed	0	1	11	0	6%

Impairment ( <i>clients may have more than 1 impairment</i> )	DV/SV	Hate Crime		General crime	%
		CATCH	WF/N		
Physical impairment	69	9	15	9	63%
Deaf BSL user	1	1	1	0	1.5%
Hearing Impairment	4	0	3	3	3%
Visual impairment	4	0			2%
Learning disability	21	0	6	1	14.5%
Long-term mental health	45	3	13	6	34.5%
Long term condition	16	5	5	0	13.5%
Neurological impairment	14	1	0	1	4%
Neuro-diverse	5	3	3	0	6%
Terminal condition	1	0	0	0	0.5%



them on to us. Few of our domestic abuse clients trusted the police enough to approach them but we did obtain referrals for hate crime victims from the police through CATCH. By the autumn, numbers had risen and we exceeded the number of referrals for the previous year.

Our referrals came from:

- Self-referrals were 27% of our referrals; disabled people find out about Stay Safe East online (our details were added to the Home Office Covid domestic abuse pages), through existing clients, community organisations, disabled people's organisations or in two cases through attending events our CEO spoke at.
- Police – our main source of Police referrals is CATCH to whom the police Hate Crime Liaison Officers regularly refer victims; crime victims; it is very unusual for the police to directly refer domestic or sexual abuse victims direct to us.
- Victim Support as part of the London Victim and Witness Service
- Solace as part of the Ascent Partnership
- Waltham Forest ASBRAC multi agency forum (hate crime and cuckooing) and MASH (safeguarding hub)
- MARAC multi agency domestic abuse forums in London boroughs
- Children's Services where a disabled mother's children are subject to child protection or care proceedings
- Mental Health services
- A range of voluntary sector agencies including Deaf and Disabled people's organisations, GALOP for both hate crime and domestic abuse, Race Equality Councils and Violence against Women Organisations.

## **2. Domestic abuse/ Violence against disabled women**

The team supports survivors of domestic abuse which takes place in a context of widespread Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG). Our clients have rarely experienced only one form of abuse, and may be survivors of institutional abuse, sexual violence or rape, trafficking or other forms of abuse. Like all 'by and for' VAWG specialist services, we do not limit our work to supporting clients around domestic abuse but deal with the survivor's whole experience and let her set the priorities.

Our domestic abuse workers are Independent Disability and Domestic Violence Advocates (IDDVAs) who are disabled women, as such as they work within an intersectional social model of disability approach and act as positive role models for clients through being disabled women in a position of responsibility.

During the year, the domestic abuse team worked with **118 clients** of whom 66 were new referrals and 58 were existing clients. An additional 8 people declined our service when we made initial contact with them. Of the 118 clients, 105 were women.

Sex	Number	Percentage	Gender identity
Female	105	88%	1 client identified as a transgender woman
Male	12	10.5%	
Other	1	1.5%	

Sexuality	Number	Percentage
Heterosexual	111	94.5%
Gay man	1	1%
Lesbian	3	2.5%
Bisexual	2	1%
Not disclosed	1	1%

Impairment ( <i>many clients have more than one impairment</i> )	Number of clients	Percentage
Physical impairment	69	55%
Deaf BSL user	1	1%
Hearing Impairment	4	3.5%
Visual impairment	4	3.5%
Learning disability	21	18%
Long-term mental health	45	36%
Other long term health condition	16	13%
Neurological impairment	14	12%
Neuro-diverse	5	4%
Terminal condition	1	1%

Most Deaf BSL users prefer to access SignHealth, the specialist service for Deaf survivors of domestic abuse. Women with long-term conditions may not be identified as disabled by professionals, and women who are neuro-diverse may not may not themselves identify as disabled. We will be addressing the gap in reaching blind or neuro-diverse survivors in future years.

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>DV/SV</b>
Asian British	6
Asian Indian	5
Asian Pakistani	12
Asian Bangladeshi	1
Asian Sri Lankan	2
East Asian	2
Asian other	1
Black British	17
Black African	2
Black Caribbean	2
Black other	0
Mixed heritage	3
White British	53
White European	4
White Other	1
European other	3
Mixed Other	3
Arab Middle Eastern	1

As our presence across London increases, we will aim to reach disabled migrant women, and survivors from communities who are not yet aware of us.

### **Perpetrators**

The majority of our clients were women abused by a male partner or husband, or by their ex-partner. 15% were abused by a family member or members – this is slightly less than in previous years, when our work was focused mainly on Waltham Forest and Newham and we were able to identify disabled women referred to the MARACs, including those abused by family member. Disabled women abused by family members may be more likely to be referred to Adult Safeguarding, not a domestic abuse agency.

<b>Perpetrators</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male partner or husband or ex-partner	87	68.5%

Wife of male victim <i>(2 of the 3 perpetrators had dementia)</i>	3	2.5%
Family members: of whom	23	15.5%
<i>Mother of young women</i>	6	
<i>Mother of young man</i>	1	
<i>Adult son</i>	7	
<i>Father/step-father</i>	1	
<i>Other family members</i>	8	
Paid carers or PAs	3	1.5%
Co-resident or close friend	2	1.5%

### **The support we provide to clients**

The support given by the domestic abuse team support to clients includes:

- Giving the client time to tell their story, sometimes for the first time – or often for the time to someone who believes them
- Safety planning and disability risk assessment
- Supporting clients to obtain non-molestation orders and occupation orders to remove the abuser from their home
- supporting clients to report to the police (including attending Achieving Best Evidence interviews with the client)
- Making options accessible and working with the survivor to help her decide what actions she wants to take options for disabled victims of domestic abuse.

*You've been very helpful and supportive since you started working with my daughter. You always listen to her and have her best interests. You have built a good positive relationship with her, always making sure her voice is heard. My daughter struggles to retain information but you take your time to explain everything to her and make sure that she has understood what is being said and will always recap and remind her what has been explained. We appreciate you.*

*Mother of client with learning disabilities*

- Support to access safe and suitable accommodation for their individual access needs; help with tenancy management
- Support to apply for care packages and OT assessments
- Support for the client if the case is referred to adult safeguarding

- Support to women on child protection plans and going through care proceedings who are facing their children being removed from their care and helping them to negotiate the Family Courts - however during lockdown this has involved remote hearings by phone which has meant increased discrimination and injustice for disabled mothers.
- Support around child protection, safeguarding and care proceedings
- Supporting clients around mental health issues such as helping them speak to mental health professionals and helping them get their repeat prescription. Support to challenge discriminatory approaches, for example refusal of services to women diagnosed with “Borderline Personality Disorder”
- Support to attend care proceedings cases and post hearing meetings to explain what was said during the hearings and what this meant for clients, and assist them to respond to legal documents.
- Contacting other agencies such as solicitors or MPs when agencies do not take client’s cases seriously.
- Support to client who was hospitalised with Covid to be discharged safely from the hospital

All clients were provided with emotional support. We work at clients’ pace and work with them in a way that takes into consideration their access needs.

*Stay Safe East got me re-housed. Without them I would be street homeless. You have stood by me and helped me through some of my worst times.*  
*Young female client*

Keeping contact with clients who still live with the perpetrator requires the advocates to be both careful and inventive. We did manage to arrange appointments in a safe place with some clients, being careful not to disclose our role as IDDVAs, but because of safety risks had to delay some contact until lockdown was over.

Stay Safe East has always prided itself on being safe place for LGBT survivors. Thanks in part to a close partnership with GALOP, we have also seen a small but significant rise in the number of LGBT clients referred to our service. GALOP referred on clients who had already had support at crisis point but needed longer term support around their impairment issues, housing and emotional support. Other clients self-referred, or found they could be open about their sexuality in a safe environment.

A client was being stalked by her female former partner. The client is physically disabled and has long term health issues which means she is in and out of hospital. She was at high risk from Covid 19. The ex-partner turned up regularly at her address and used emotional manipulation to persuade the client to let her in. The abuser took the client's disability aids away from her and demanded money. The client was too frightened and controlled to refuse her ex-partner entry or call the police. Stay Safe East worked with the client to increase her confidence and help her understand coercive control. She wanted to move away from the abuser but finding accessible accommodation is proving a substantial barrier – the local housing department initially looked at an innovative approach using a partial closure order on the property, which would protect the victim without having to involve her, but the legal process was delayed by the backlog in the courts. The client is struggling to decide what to do, and is still at risk; she trusts her advocate who will continue to support her until she is safe and has moved.

Long-term support continues to be critical for clients in controlling relationship who need time and confidence to believe that things can change and they don't have to depend on the abuser.

We are receiving more referrals for clients who have suffered long term trauma and have substance misuse issues, and who struggle to maintain a tenancy or manage their lives. We work in partnership with other agencies, and offer long-term support to those which other agencies label as having 'complex needs' – and may turn away because of that label. Stay Safe East very rarely turns down a referral. Whilst we cannot heal a lifetime's trauma, we can be there for clients and be as flexible as we can in meeting their needs, whilst setting boundaries.

Stay Safe East supported a client who was evicted from her homeless hostel after her partner died and she was sexually assaulted by another resident. The hostel evicted her and disbelieved that she was a victim of sexual assault. Stay Safe East supported her to challenge the decision by housing to treat her as 'intentionally homeless' after she lost her temper and threw an object at a staff member at the hostel. We asked Housing to consider the mitigating circumstances in her case. Stay Safe East managed the situation of this client through close partnership working with her drug and alcohol worker whom she trusted. The client was provided with emergency vouchers for basic necessities as the hostel has refused to return her belongings to her so the client had not had basic changes of clothes.

Our IDDVA continued to advocate for this client and challenge the violations of her human rights and dignity. The IDDVA discussed the client's housing options with her and looked into supported living for her as she has in the past struggled to manage a tenancy. The client was eventually moved to supported housing outside London but she again struggled to maintain a tenancy. She stopped contacting us after losing her phone, but she has support where she is now living.

### **Disabled mothers**

From the outset, Stay Safe East has worked with disabled mothers who have experience domestic abuse and are at risk of or engaged by the local authority in care proceedings. Unfortunately, women are still referred to use too late, when proceedings have started, we support them through the process, we are with them at the many meetings they are required to attend, explain what is expected of them and discuss what 'good enough parenting' is. many of the women have suffered multiple abuse, have been controlled throughout their lives, and have never encountered good parenting. most had no choice at having children, the abuser has used multiple pregnancies as a means of control. Children's Social Services show a strong bias towards disabled mothers, and over the year we have seen children placed with an abusive father rather than with a non-abusive mother who may have learning disabilities or mental health issues and need some support to parent. That support is rarely offered to her, but it may be offered to the father. some others choose to stay with the perpetrator, in order to keep their children. the abuse becomes hidden and about control.

*The staff go the extra 100% for me. I would recommend your charity to anyone who is a victim of domestic violence. Female client*

In 2020-21, the domestic abuse team's clients included 40 mothers of children under 18. Of these mothers, 18 clients did not live with their children. 4 had no contact with their children. 4 were on child protection, 14 were in care proceedings during the year. 7 disabled mothers and 1 father had their children removed during the year.

Client A is the mother of three children under 10; she was in an abusive relationship. Her children were subject to care proceedings because Children's Services alleged she failed to protect her children from the abuser because she left and then returned to him with the children and this has impacted on them emotionally.

Children's services also stated that she could not parent effectively because of her mental health issues, which are a direct result of trauma from abuse. She was on a waiting list for therapy but could not complete it within the care proceedings timescale. The mother asked for a Family Support Worker but was then placed in temporary accommodation in another borough which the Family Support Worker could not travel to. The children were placed in foster care with two different carers, one of whom failed to address basic issues about one of the children's personal care. Children's Services then offered the mother the 'choice' of keeping either the eldest child, or the two youngest – an impossible dilemma for a mother who loves her children and wants to do her best. We supported the mother and her solicitor to address the discrimination she was facing. The case went to care proceedings, and the children were placed together with a long-term foster carer. Their mother has contact six times a year. We continue to work with her to address the trauma she has experienced.

Psychological or parenting assessments by statutory services conducted via WhatsApp video on someone's phone proved challenging for our clients. Technology would break down, the client would not understand the questions or would disengage, and our advocates could not physically be with the client due to Covid. We have attended court hearings where the client was only on their phone. Parenting assessments were delayed, causing mothers caught up proceedings additional anxiety and trauma. Social services were also doing fewer home visits to mothers living in their own home, and may therefore have been making decisions on the basis of sometimes incomplete information. Stay Safe East does not view this as genuine justice for disabled mothers.

In spite of the barriers, we did have a small number of successes.

Stay Safe East supported a client with mental health issues through care proceedings for her child. she had been abused by the father of her youngest child. She was living in a Mother and Baby foster placement outside of London. Initially it appeared that her child would be placed for adoption however with the support of her IDDVA, she was able to start engaging better with agencies and professionals involved in the care proceedings. The IDDVA helped her understand the importance of attending meetings and helped professionals understand more about her needs in order for her to engage consistently.

The client has now moved back in with the non-abusive father of her eldest child who is supporting her to manage her mental health and she

has been able to keep her youngest child in her care under a care order. The IDDVA has also facilitated a care needs assessment to make sure our client's care needs are being met whilst she cares for her child. We will continue to support her. We hope the care proceedings will soon be finished and she will maintain permanent care of her daughter.

### 3. Hate crime and cuckooing

Our hate crime service has two strands:

- An established local service in Waltham Forest and Newham with a part-time advocate who supported 33 disabled victims, of whom 22 were new clients:
  - 25 victims of disablist, homophobic or racist hate crime
  - 2 victims of cuckooing (we referred another victim of cuckooing to our sister organisation Choice in Hackney
  - 5 victims of anti-social behaviour
  - 1 victim of institutional abuse.
- A small London wide service as part of the London wide CATCH partnership which has been operating since early 2019. This year, the part-time CATCH advocate supported 23 disabled victims of hate crime across 11 London boroughs (with Hillingdon making the most referrals). 21 of these were new clients. Stay Safe East works with two other disabled people's organisations to cover the growing numbers of CATCH referrals.

#### Who we worked with

The hate crime advocates worked with x men and x women during the year.

Sex	CATCH	Waltham Forest and Newham
Female	16 ( 70%)	18 (54.5%)
Male	7 ( 30%)	15 (45.5%)
Sexuality	CATCH	Waltham Forest and Newham
Bisexual	1	1
Gay man	-	3
Lesbian	-	0
Heterosexual	13	21
Prefer not to say	9	8

Ethnicity	Hate crime	
	CATCH	WF & Newham

Asian British	2	1
Asian Indian	0	0
Asian Pakistani	0	1
Asian Bangladeshi	0	0
Asian Sri Lankan	0	0
East Asian	0	0
Asian other	1	0
Black British	2	0
Black African	0	3
Black Caribbean	1	1
Black other	0	1
Mixed heritage	2	
White British	7	11
White European	2	1
White Other	2	1
European other	0	0
Mixed Other	2	0
Arab Middle Eastern	0	0
Other	0	2
Not disclosed	1	11

Impairment	Hate Crime			
	CATCH		Waltham Forest and Newham	
Physical impairment	9	40%	15	45%
Deaf BSL user	1	5%	0	0%
Hearing Impairment	0	0%	1	3%
Visual impairment	0	0%	3	9%
Learning disability	0	0%	6	18%
Long-term mental health	3	15%	13	40%
Long term condition	5	21%	5	3%
Neurological impairment	1	5%	0	-
Neuro-diverse	3	15%	3	9%
Terminal condition	0	0	0	-

Our data supports the national evidence that hate crimes against people with learning disabilities are very unlikely to be dealt with as such by the police and is more likely to be referred to social services as abuse against a 'vulnerable adult'. We can use this data to focus our outreach in future years.

A proportion of hate crime clients will stay with the service for a shorter period than domestic abuse survivors - except for disabled victims of neighbour related hate crime and harassment which may take several years to resolve – these are the majority of our local cases in East London. Clients who stay with us for a longer time tend also to be those who are profoundly traumatised by prolonged hate crime and by historical abuse, for example domestic abuse or childhood sexual abuse, and to need ongoing emotional support to rebuild their lives. We offer regular phone checks to keep in contact with them. We also offer a benefits and entitlement check to all hate crime clients, and help with referrals for a social care package or to mental health services.

Lockdown meant more sustained anti-social behaviour and harassment of disabled people by neighbours and people feeling isolated, with less general support networks available, and struggling to access services.

Disabled people trying to go about their lives during lockdown sometimes faced hostility from members of the public. One of our staff was spat at on the street by a group of schoolchildren. In the early months of the pandemic, people who were unable to wear a mask for physical or mental health reasons were being challenged by shopkeepers and bus drivers – a legitimate action but how this was done was not always appropriate.

*“One driver said the bus would not move unless the passengers made our client leave the bus - this was incitement to hate (which currently if the victim is disabled is not part of hate crime law) – such behaviour normalises the idea not just the idea of disabled people as ‘virus spreaders’, but that disabled people are legitimate targets for abuse and hate.*

*Stay Safe East Hate Crime Advocate*

The pandemic exacerbated the already poor police responses to disabled victims of hate crime: dismissing the client’s report or questioning their credibility (particularly if the client was a woman), failure to investigate even where there was video and other evidence. A client wanted help with making a right to review to the police, but this was refused. The client was so exhausted by the process that they did not want us to take this further. One client wanted support to report to the police being thrown out of a shop - we made a complaint about the way the police had investigated this crime – it is still open a year later. This was not a single incident – it happened on buses, in shops, in the street.

Housing related hate crime remains the most difficult part of our work. Most clients face multiple issues.

A woman and her teenage daughter were referred to Stay Safe East in January 2020. They requested our support after the teenager was bullied at school and had been subjected to distressing online racist and homophobic memes which were later flagged by the police as hate crimes. We supported the young woman with reporting and following up the case with the police and school. The mother then reported that her son had recently targeted due his disability and perceived to be “acting strangely” when in a local supermarket; he was held and searched. This was an upsetting experience for him and he is now afraid to go back to the store.

The family live in inaccessible housing, with large parts of the home being out of bounds to the mother who is a wheelchair user. This has forced her to sleep uncomfortably downstairs in the living room as she cannot access the bedrooms upstairs. She managed not to let this affect her parenting, but she was struggling more and more and needs to move. The family had also experienced unfair treatment by the school staff and struggled with accessing shopping during the pandemic.

We did extensive work to support this disabled family. We supported the daughter in her transition to college, contacted the school to ensure she had resources for home schooling, ensured a referral for neuro-developmental assessment was made, persuaded the school to arrange an escort for the daughter after school. We also helped the family regarding a dispute with a neighbour which was eventually resolved. The client now has her neuro-development appointment booked and is attending college. The abuse has now stopped, our client did not want to pursue it and has since become friends with the girl who has been harassing her, with no sense of there being any more abuse. The family are still waiting to be moved, but are very grateful for the support they have received and they mentioned that they felt very strong knowing there is an organisation who is on their side and supporting them.

This case demonstrates the complexity of the types of assistance and the long term commitment needed by people who contact Stay Safe East. The CATCH advocate supported the daughter, while our Independent Victim’s Advocate supported the mother.

#### **4. Independent Victims Advocate/General crime**

Our Independent Victim’s Advocate (IVA) is the only specialist IVA we are aware of. She is also the Manager of the Hate Crime Advocates. Her role is to

support disabled victims of a wide range of crimes that are neither domestic/sexual abuse or hate crime: financial abuse, institutional abuse, assault, harassment etc. The IVA also takes on a small number of complex hate crime cases where there are other issues relating to past abuse, housing issues, school bullying etc. This is the second year of the service.

The IVA supported 20 clients across 9 London boroughs in 2020-21, of whom 11 were new referrals. 65% were rated high to medium risk. 90% of the IVA's clients are women, reflecting a greater incident of disabled women being targeted for abuse and other crimes. Ages of clients ranged from 19 to 70.

<b>Sexuality</b>			
Bisexual	5%	Heterosexual	80%
Gay man	0%	Prefer not to say	10%
Lesbian	5%		

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
Asian – British	2	10%
Black – British	1	5%
Black African	1	5%
Black Caribbean	0	-
Black other	4	20%
White – British	9	45%
White – European	0	-
White – Other	1	5%
Mixed heritage	2	10%
<b>Primary impairment</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
Deaf	0	
Physical impairment	9	45%
Visual impairment	0	
Hearing impairment	3	15%
Learning disability	1	5%
Mental health	6	30%
Long term condition	0	-
Neuro-diversity	0	-
Neurological Impairment	1	5%
Long-term health condition		

*Stay Safe East prides itself on providing holistic wrap-around support to victims facing complex barriers to safety and well-being, enabling them to achieve as optimum a quality of life as is possible. My role is crucial in helping clients navigate what some describe as feeling like an*

*“impenetrable maze” in which they feel confused, ignored and forgotten and which they become too exhausted to traverse on their own. I am there for them, I help them to be safe and to get things done.*

*Independent Victim’s Advocate (IVA)*

Our Independent Victims’ Advocate has acted on victims’ behalf, contacting councils, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), landlords, the police, Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), landlords, HM Courts, lawyers/solicitors, Mental Health services, private sector businesses and voluntary organisations in order to help people receive necessary and needed services.

A young woman self-referred to us – she has learning difficulties and mental health issues arising from the trauma experienced as a child and a young person brought up within the care system, as a result of abuse and neglect by her parents.

At the time of referral to IVA, the young woman was being targeted by individuals who were involved in criminal activity, who were trying to coerce her into partaking in drugs and alcohol, with threats of violence threatening to ‘get her’ if she reported them to the police. The perpetrators repeatedly caused damage to her property. The perpetrators’ incessant noise and anti-social behaviour has put the victim’s tenancy in jeopardy, with neighbours associating the continuous noise disturbance to her address and reporting this to the council, who in turn began the process that could lead to her eventual eviction.

The IVA was able to advocate on the victim’s behalf to in order to halt any progress towards an eviction, and for her to be recognised as the victim who needed support. Our IVA was able to support the victim to secure the necessary repairs to her property and alerted the safer neighbourhood team as someone at risk and have the incidents recorded. Our IVA also provided advocacy support to advise around safety planning to reduce her risk.

The client told her advocate:

*“I’m very grateful for what you do for me, I know that I sometimes get stressed and go off and take it out on you, but I really appreciate everything and I’m thankful that you still help me because if it was anyone else they wouldn’t, so I just want to say thank you.”*

A physically disabled woman was being subjected to sustained incidents of harassment by a neighbour and their family. The perpetrators mocked, laughed and ridiculed her in relation to her mobility difficulties as she went towards her vehicle, and stating that she would not be able

to drive. The victim was so distraught by the incidents that it led to her frequently feeling forced to abandon plans to go out to buy essential items.

Having reported the matter to her housing officer on a number of occasions and then to the police, with no apparent action being taken, the issue began to have a devastating effect on her mental health leading to severe anxiety, depression and feelings of worthlessness.

When the case was brought to our IVA's attention, we were able to take the case on and advocate on the victim's behalf, raising the matter formally with the Housing Association who then took note of the issue and stated that they had issued a warning to the perpetrator.

There have been no recent incidents reported however the mental health impact has persisted with the client continuing to be afraid to go out past the neighbours' house. The issue has led to the client suffering a serious mental health crisis. Our IVA was able to provide support to the police and paramedics, to help the client keep calm as they transported her for medical attention.

Along with other support needs which are being pursued, the IVA arranged for the client to receive weekly counselling funded by Stay Safe East while she awaits further support through her GP and Mental Health Services.

We have also been able to provide support to other organisations and providers by giving advice and guidance on matters such as how to proceed in dealing with certain agencies on behalf of clients, identifying suitable support for clients, obtaining information in accessible format for clients.

With the project being the first of its kind, we find that where professionals may be more aware of Stay Safe East's role in supporting disabled victims of hate crime or domestic abuse, many are less aware that we provide support to disabled people who are victims of other types of crime or as we refer to it, victims of 'general crime'. We would like to increase the number of referrals of disabled people who are victims of any types of crime, e.g. common assault, financial abuse, robberies, other abuse, etc. All are issues which people find extremely difficult to deal with and require further help and support to get their lives back on track. We will be seeking further resources for this work.

##### **5. General advocacy and client safety checks**

We matched the funding from the Ministry of Justice Covid Fund with some funds from reserves and were able to employ a part-time general advocate to support the casework advocates and our volunteer. Her role was three-fold

- General advocacy and tasks such as emergency food packages or shopping, obtaining a direct payment for client's care package, completing forms, arranging appointments, chasing actions on behalf of the advocates
- Regular weekly emotional support and safety calls to clients at high risk of suicide or in poor health. Our volunteer continued with calls to clients at lower risk who are isolated or need emotional support, including some long-term clients to whom we provided the only social contact during the pandemic. The advocate and the volunteer provided information about Covid safety, dispelling myths and helping clients stick to lockdown rules and put them in touch with volunteers. The lack of home visits by mental health professionals for clients in mental distress meant we had to make frequent calls to clients and in effect became their main source of support.
- The advocate is also processing referrals and enquiries.

*"Stay Safe East has saved my life. She [the general advocate], she has been really brilliant and really helped me when I needed it and stays in touch with me and I know I can call her too."*

We are indebted to our long-term volunteer who continued to contact clients right through the pandemic. She is known and trusted by clients. Her commitment is appreciated by staff and the Board.

## **6. Benefits and Entitlements Advocate**

In July 2020, after two attempts at recruitment after the previous worker left, we successfully recruited a Benefits Advocate to support our Waltham Forest and Newham clients to apply for welfare benefits and entitlements. Clients in other boroughs are supported over these issues by the IDDVA's or hate crime advocates, if needed with advice from the Benefits Advocate. Often obtaining benefits or sorting out a Freedom Pass is the key to getting the client's trust and minimising dependency on the abuser. The new worker started in late June. Her skilled input has enabled us to maximise client's income and to ensure they access essential entitlements which improve their quality of life. The Benefits Advocate supported 36 Stay Safe East clients during the year with the following:

- Emergency food provision (food banks, NHS responders)
- New clients received a benefits check to assess if they were missing out on any benefit

- Assisting clients to gather medical evidence, fit notes and other evidence for benefits claims
- Personal Independence Payment (PIP) applications, Mandatory reconsiderations, SSCS1s, and Tribunal Appeals, advice on existing Disability Living Allowance claims
- Attendance allowance claim
- Claims for Universal credit
- Help to complete and evidence Limited Capability for Work forms (disability element) and support at assessments
- Ensuring that errors in Employment Support Allowance, Universal Credit and other benefits were corrected by the DWP
- Help to sort out Pension credit payments
- Support to claim additional nursery hours for the client's child
- Health support and advocacy
- Application for Special Guardianship (SGO) allowance
- Child benefit claims/reviews, child tax credits claims/complaints to HMRC
- Support in benefit fraud investigation
- Housing benefit claims/support, Council tax reduction claims
- Housing repairs issues
- negotiating over water bills arrears
- Applying to grant giving trusts for grants for furniture, white goods, clothing and other essentials
- Support to move house
- Challenging financial assessments for community care charges
- Referrals for qualified free debt advice and management; help with basic budgeting
- Applying for Blue Badges, Motability, Freedom Pass, Taxicard and other entitlements
- Small grants for essential equipment, white goods, clothes, furniture and furnishings etc.

Like all our advocates, the Benefits Advocate provided emotional support to her clients. She also stepped in to support a client at child protection hearing, and supported a client with divorce proceedings, putting together legal documents and securing an adjournment to find the client legal

representation. she made referrals for occupational therapy (OT) and adult social care assessments and to community/mental health support.

The benefits advocate worked in partnership with her colleagues, helped take some of the strain off the domestic abuse or hate crime advocates, and provided a second point of contact which helped keep clients safe. We hope to expand this service in future years to all our clients, particular those in boroughs where there is no disabled people's organisation providing benefit and other help- survivors struggle to deal with multiple agencies or long waiting times.

## **7. Counselling service**

Stay Safe East has been offering holistic counselling to a small number of clients since 2019. Emergency COVID funding enabled us to increase the number of clients we could offer this service to. During the year, we made 22 referrals to the counsellor. 19 took up the service. We offered clients an initial 12 sessions (up to 24 for some clients) from a counsellor with considerable experience of working with disabled clients, who is flexible about attendance and knows how to make the process accessible. The Counsellor provided weekly and fortnightly counselling sessions in a variety of formats: face to face, telephone and video online appointments to accommodate clients' individual needs. Our counsellor provided the following report.

My way of working is based on the person-centred humanistic therapeutic approach where the core conditions of empathy, unconditional positive regard and congruence are present, enabling a strong therapeutic alliance where clients can explore and process emotions and difficulties in a safe environment. As a person-centred counsellor I offer a non-judgemental and compassionate space for clients to work through their challenges and understand who they are as individuals.

When accessing counselling with me, clients are seen as individuals with their unique life experiences and challenges regardless of race, gender, gender identity, sexuality, disability, age, religion or culture. In order to build rapport, trust and openness which are essential for developing a strong therapeutic relationship, I avoid long questionnaires or assessment forms. Many Stay Safe East clients report feeling misunderstood and judged at previous attempts of accessing statutory services regarding psychological and emotional support. They report completing long questionnaires and/or answering intrusive questions

that left them feeling unheard and judged. In order to avoid their previously lived experiences in accessing mental health support, counselling contracting with Stay Safe East clients is carried out verbally on the initial appointment and risk assessments form part of the ongoing counselling journey at clients' own pace and as the need arises.

Each individual's communication and access needs are taken into consideration and reasonable adjustments are made to support them in their therapeutic journeys. Most of Stay Safe East's counselling appointments are late morning or PM appointments. Clients' report that in the past, they have been offered early morning appointments when they have specifically stated that early mornings are difficult for them. This has led them to miss appointments and the support provision being denied or removed due to the perceived non- engagement of individuals by professionals. As part of Stay Safe East's counselling provision, I offer an inclusive and accessible service that caters for each person's unique needs with flexible appointment days and times. Allowance for late cancellations or missed appointments has enabled clients to continue receiving much needed support without the fear of the service being stopped. I make reasonable adjustments to meet each individual's specific needs and use simple language, avoiding jargon and check for understanding often. I am currently working with a client on Zoom where a palantypist provided by Stay Safe East transcribes the sessions live, enabling the client who has a hearing impairment to read the typed conversation live as we speak.

During our counselling sessions, clients have expressed feeling heard, understood, validated, empowered and able to talk about events from their life that they have previously not been able to share with anyone else. I believe that this is due to the strength of our therapeutic relationship based on empathy, openness and trust, allowing clients to feel safe enough to access difficult experiences and make self-directed changes.

Due to funding, Stay Safe East's counselling provision is limited to 12 appointments with an extension to up to 24 if the client needs it. Endings are part of our therapeutic journey from the initial session due to the time limited nature of the provision. I have signposted clients to NHS talking therapy services and other agencies in order to access longer term support which most Stay Safe East clients could benefit from but unfortunately accessing long term statutory humanistic counselling/

psychotherapy is difficult. Overall, I believe that clients are benefitting from receiving counselling sessions funded by Stay Safe East.

Our aim is to expand this service into a full counselling service with in-house supervision, and offer much longer term therapeutic support to our clients, whose needs are not always met by mainstream services.

## 8. Challenges of casework during the pandemic

*Working from home with a toddler in the room – you can't control when they need you, you might be on a call to a client in crisis. It's been a mental struggle hard to find the space to deal with the clients – I was supporting a client when he was in the ambulance and had Covid while my child was playing in the background. I had no choice as my client trusts me, but luckily my child is young enough not to understand what I was saying to the client.*

*Stay Safe East advocate*

*Main barrier for me has been lack of face to face work; where possible I have done WhatsApp, with some clients I use Zoom. Remote working has made me more anxious. If you are in the office, if you have a tough phone call, there is someone there to say 'I know'; you can make a cup of tea; my cat is lovely but she doesn't really understand! The benefits are I can start work an hour after I get up, I have access to my own bathroom and kitchen*

*Stay Safe East advocate*

All our clients have experienced a negative impact from Covid 19, whether because they are trapped at home with the perpetrator or because they are self-isolating or shielding, or have been in lockdown. It has required our Advocates to be incredibly resourceful in navigating the varying and differing routes of entry for different boroughs in a bid to find and coordinate solutions for clients who were left at risk without even the most basic of necessities vital to their health and wellbeing. As an organisation Stay Safe East has been able to be flexible and add to the support that we offer in order to meet and accommodate the changed needs of our clients arising from the national crisis.

Part of the advocates' work during the pandemic has had of necessity to focus on ensuring that clients had access to food, medicines, benefits and heat and that for example housing repairs have been carried out. All clients received weekly phone check-ins. Stay Safe East put several clients in touch with the volunteer support groups that were running across London. One client found these schemes particularly helpful and had them delivering everything from bottled water to prescription medication.

Communication with clients has been more difficult. we were not able to attend meetings in person for a large part of the year

When you are explaining legal issues to the client, it is going to be complicated. We don't assume they will understand, or understand the way others do. Solicitors continue to use legal jargon and legal concepts and the client doesn't understand. Solicitors take it for granted that the client understands; we have to explain but the solicitor should do that as well. My legal training made clear legal practitioners should make sure the client understands. But we have to do the explaining, ofgten more than once.

*Domestic abuse advocate*

A domestic abuse client repeatedly received letters that she did not understand. In 'normal' times, we would have met with her, read and explained the letters to her. She did not have a smart phone, so was not able to take pictures on their phone and send them to her advocate which resulted in increased distress for the client.

Her advocate managed to get a copy of the letters via a neighbour sending a picture on WhatsApp. we were then able to explain the letters to her and help deal with them.

Funding from the Ministry of Justice and other sources has enabled us to provide emergency food packages to clients and top up their phone data so they could speak to us via Zoom.

*We already work holistically with clients, so dealing with the challenges of helping the client access a range of services was already part of our work. However, Covid and working remotely have proved challenging, as Stay Safe East's usual practice is to work face-to-face with clients, meeting women at home (if safe) and if not in our office or in the community, and developing trust and understanding between client and advocate. This is much more difficult over the phone – the nuances of body language, voice etc. are often lost, especially with clients who do not have the digital skills to use What's app or technology to use Zoom.*

*Domestic Abuse Service Manager*

This proved especially difficult over the winter for our clients whose mental health had deteriorated, and some have become angry with us because could not get the resolution they wanted quickly enough.

Some clients attempted suicide when previously they had self-harmed. For many clients, lockdown was challenging – loneliness and isolation led to mental health crises and situations of risk.

A client who had previously been targeted by drug dealers had been safe for quite a while but because he was more isolated during lockdown, we realised that he was being targeted again, even though he had regular contact with his support worker. The police's 'problem solver' referred the client back to the local ASBRAC multi agency panel. The Safer Neighbourhood Team visited our client but he was not at home when they visited. We kept in regular contact with the client and his mother but it was difficult as we could not visit the client at home and the client was less open on the phone. Nevertheless, this was an example of agencies working together to safeguard a client.

Women have had flashbacks during lockdown to their experiences of being locked in their home by an abuser, or being institutionalised – this has especially hard for women with learning disabilities or cognitive issues who struggle to grasp the need for staying at home and socially distancing: one client with learning disabilities was arrested for assault after months of lockdown which she could not cope with.

Stay Safe East supported a client who had experienced abuse from an adult male family member; the case was dropped by the CPS. As a result of the abuse and the unsuccessful action to prosecute the abuser, the client experienced a mental health crisis. The client rang her IDDVA stating she was going to commit suicide as she "could not cope anymore". With the support of other team members, the IDDVA was able to stay on the phone with the client whilst the ambulance was called. She was in hospital for a week, then received mental health support and is slowly improving. The client is being support holistically around other areas of her life such as understanding safe and respectful relationships, applying for benefits to increase income and support to manage physical health struggles.

Obtaining mental health support or OT assessment or a care package from adult social care (essential to reducing dependency on the abuser if he/she is also the disabled person's carer) has involved substantial work by the advocates, particularly due to the suspension of the Care Act, which has left local authorities failing to meet their duty of care to survivors of abuse.

Contacting police officers, housing officers or social workers proved challenging- everyone working at home relied on mobiles, messages were not passed on. Housing officers would not show the client the temporary accommodation. A client would have to check the property themselves to see if it met their access needs, thus increasing the risk from Covid 19.

We asked the advocates for their comments on working with clients during the pandemic.

*The police did not appear to be seeing our cases as significant. They regularly failed to take a statement from the client or to investigate cases of hate crime or sexual violence fully, even when evidence was supplied. In a few cases, the police did visit the client at home but were dismissive of our clients – one officer said “this stuff happens” – yet the client was terrified of a stalker who was known to be dangerous. In one case, the officer was present when the client received three threatening calls, the officer eventually took the phone and warned off the perpetrator, but nothing further was done. The client continued to receive further calls after that.*

*Hate crime advocate*

*We have gone backwards. The Police are no longer using the Protection from Harassment Act as a tool to give first or second instance warnings. They argue there is no evidence, and take no action to safeguard the victim, they just tell them to call if it happens again - usually they tell clients to contact us. There is no understanding of patterns of incident.*

*We had to use the police complaints system more often, but it is profoundly flawed. Complaints take too long, the same thing we have complained about happens time and time again, we constantly have to clarify complaints, and there is pressure not to complain – “we have arrested him, are you sure you still want to complain”.*

*Hate crime advocate*

*Usually, we manage to get some people moved; this year it didn't happen. A lot of the hate crime has developed from anti-social behaviour; some clients want to move because they no longer feel safe. It is very hard to get them any kind of priority - even if there is threat to kill, there is no recognition of the impact on the victims.*

*'It's been easy for people not to respond to e-mails during lockdown – it is hard if someone is at risk. When we make a referral, we need to work with social services to support the client - but they don't call us back.*

*We have been 'accidentally excluded' from professionals' meetings. The client may agree to things when we are not there that they would not have done if we had been there to support them.*

*Domestic abuse advocate*

*The legal system has been kicked and dragged into the 21st century. They had been using bundles tied up with ribbon. The pandemic made the court system realise they can do things on line. For disabled survivors it means there are no restriction on how many people can support them at a court hearing – if you are at home, you can have your family, your pets, you can mute and take time out. If you do this in court the attention is drawn to you and everyone sees you leave. It is not as hard in the family court where you get five days hearing or more.*

### **What are our advocates most proud of that you achieved during 2020-21?**

*I am proud to have kept my clients safe.*

*The emotional support we have provided to clients right through the pandemic.*

*Really proud of helping my clients become more independent; some of have gone from me having to contact every professional to them speaking to them direct; increased confidence; one client specifically named me who has helped her learn how to put her point of view across to professionals.*

*Supporting my team to do their job*

*Working right through in spite of all the challenges, the losses we suffered and being told we were expendable.*

*The way we have pulled together as a team and been able to include new staff who joined us during the pandemic*

## Projects: consultancy and training work

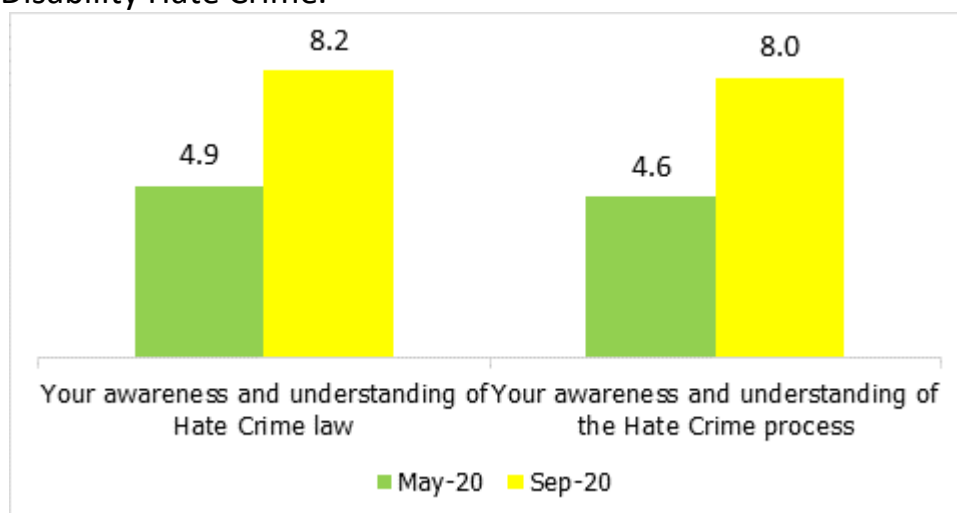
### 1. Secondment: capacity building disabled people's organisations to advocate for victims of hate crime

As part of the London Deaf and Disabled People's Hate Crime Partnership, our experienced hate crime advocate is seconded every year to two different Deaf or Disabled people's organisations (DDPOs). This year he worked with:

- Action and Disability Kensington and Chelsea (ADKC), an established local user-led organisation with a long track record of advocating for disabled people.
- Transport for All, a London-wide disabled people's campaigning organisation which provides information and advice to disabled people on using public transport and door-to-door transport.

Working remotely with two very different organisations proved a challenge – it was more difficult to build up relationships with the staff teams remotely. The secondee found there were limited opportunities for responding in the moment, for example if a member of staff had taken a call. Nevertheless, our secondee successfully ensured that both organisations acquired a broad knowledge of hate crime and how to advocate for disabled crime victims.

The ADKC team were asked to complete a questionnaire at the beginning and end of the secondment to determine the level of awareness of Disability Hate Crime.



On a scale of 1-10

This chart makes clear the impact of the secondment in increasing awareness and understanding of hate crime amongst ADKC staff.

*"The training is down to earth and practical"*

*Staff member, ADKC*

*'It is lovely and such a great pleasure for me to work with T (Hate Crime Advocate and secondee) and I have been very impressed at the level of professionalism exhibited by him and the tremendous standard of information and care he provides. I have learnt a lot from him about this so very important for all disabled people issue – the Hate Crime, by his wonderful training and extremely useful presentations. T is a perfect tutor and a magnificent supporter, the very best one!*

*Action on Disability Kensington and Chelsea Advocate*

The project is growing in confidence and developing materials which can be adapted to each project:

- We have developed new ways of measuring the knowledge of the people our secondee is training e.g. by doing a Zoom poll at the beginning, middle and end of the secondment
- We help each organisation set up protocols for casework with clients
- We help the organisation go through recent casework to identify cases which involve hate crime, and work with them to understand what actions they could take to support the client. Over the year, we have developed a risk assessment for disabled victims of hate crime. This was adapted for the work with Transport for All as hate crime on public transport present very different risks to that originating with neighbours for example.
- We have worked with both organisations to put information on their website about what to do about hate crime
- They have our training materials and tools to refer back.
- We have created a flow chart about what to do if a person disclosed a hate crime

Working with Transport for All was very different as they are transport specialists who don't currently do advocacy. Our role was to raise the awareness of staff about hate crime so they could respond to callers to their information and advice line who might be disclosing hate crime on public transport, and know where to refer people, for example the BTP or MPS transport team. As a result, staff acquired a better understanding of hate crime and the impact it has on disabled people, where it could occur on public transport and what to do.

## **2. Training work: sharing good practice**      [enquiries@staysafe-east.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@staysafe-east.org.uk)

For the previous 18 months, we had been delivering a two-day Domestic Abuse and Disability Equality training course to Victim Support staff around the country, as part of the Home Office funded joint project with Victim Support. Training was suspended when lockdown started. We refocused our energies on working with consultant Dr Susie Balderston to refresh and restructure the course so it could be delivered remotely. Dr Balderston is a disabled woman and an expert trainer and researcher on abuse against disabled women with experience of developing online training and teaching packages. She presented a section of the draft training package to the Advisory Group who offered comments. The package is now complete. We started delivering the training later in 2021.

The training course consists of 2 training modules, a total of 10 hours learning. Each module includes

- Pre-course learning using animations, interviews and guidance, for example on how to make processes accessible to disabled clients
- A 2.5 hour face to face session with the trainer using a presentation, discussion/question and answer sessions and case studies
- Post course quiz and reflective practice
- Resources (including contact details for local Deaf and disabled people's organisations) and further reading

The course covers the following:

- 1) Introduction to the course. Guiding principles: social model of disability and intersectionality and implications for working with disabled survivors
- 2) Disabling risks and barriers in domestic abuse; understanding domestic abuse in the context of wider violence against disabled women and girls
- 3) Meeting the needs of disabled survivors: access, communication and support needs; disability and domestic abuse risk assessment
- 4) Legal rights of disabled survivors: 2020 Victims' Code, Care Act, Mental Capacity Act, ADASS Safeguarding Guidance
- 5) Working in partnership: MARACs, safeguarding enquiries, working with local Deaf and disabled people's organisations and with specialist providers

The finished product was piloted in March 2021 to a small group of Victim Support managers and then revised following their comments. The programme was rolled out from October 2021 to IDVAs across England, including those in

the North West, the Midlands and Bedfordshire who missed the face to face training, and newly recruited Victim Support IDVAs in London and Brighton.

We also delivered three training sessions to partner agencies in the Ascent Violence against Women and Girls Partnership, including a session on how to use the Stay Safe East disability domestic abuse risk assessment.

Developing these online packages of training will allow Stay Safe East to offer on-line training to other organisations. The package is designed so that it can eventually be accredited. We will also be training some of our staff to deliver part or all of the training.

Once the pandemic is under control, our two priorities for projects remain

- Setting up a counselling service for our clients
- Developing a holistic project to support disabled mothers at risk of losing their children through care proceedings or private proceedings

**Disability and domestic abuse/Violence against disabled women helpline:** in summer 2020, we submitted an outline bid to the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) for a pilot for a specialist helpline for disabled survivors of domestic abuse, modelled on the national LGBT domestic abuse helpline. This bid was unsuccessful as the MoJ was only funding additional capacity for existing helplines but we hope that either the Home Office or the MoJ will consider supporting this project in the long term, which would enable Stay Safe East to reach a wider range of disabled survivors, initially in London and ultimately across England.

## Policy work

[policy@staysafe-east.org.uk](mailto:policy@staysafe-east.org.uk)

The Black Lives Matter movement which rose again<sup>2</sup> from late spring 2020<sup>3</sup>, the murders in June 2020 of Nicole Smallman and Bibba Henry, and in March 2021 of Sarah Everard have once again highlighted police violence against Black communities, the violence against women and girls, racism and misogyny the consequences of which all staff in the sector deal with daily. Though Black and other disabled women for example took part in the protests following the murders, violence against disabled women remains hidden and unacknowledged. Stay Safe East has been working with other women's organisations and organisations of disabled people, including those led by disabled women, to highlight the structural changes needed to address violence against disabled women and girls, hate crime and forms of violence which are only experienced by disabled people such as abuse in institutions, abuse by people who provide us with care, and restraint of people with mental health issues.

Our focus in 2020-21 moved to trying to influence legislation and government strategies. This proved to be a difficult task in the context of multiple draft laws and the Covid pandemic, but we are confident that we have made inroads into issues which hitherto had ignored the reality for disabled victims of abuse.

### **The Domestic Abuse Bill**

As members of the national COVID sector network on Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG), we contributed to developing a set of joint recommendations for the Domestic Abuse Bill<sup>4</sup> which included recommendations on meeting the needs of disabled survivors. This is a step forward to the VAWG sector which had previously not fully acknowledged the issues.

In an effort to bring to the fore the rights of disabled survivors to politicians and the Government, Stay Safe East produced a briefing<sup>5</sup> on our four proposed amendments to the Domestic Abuse Bill and the reasoning behind them and

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<sup>2</sup> <https://theconversation.com/black-lives-matter-how-the-uk-movement-struggled-to-be-heard-in-the-2010s-161763>

<sup>3</sup> See our statement at <https://staysafe-east.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Stay-Safe-East-re-Black-Lives-Matter-220620-final-converted.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Joint-Recommendations-on-the-Domestic-Abuse-Bill-.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://staysafe-east.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Stay-Safe-East-Domestic-Abuse-Bill-Amendments-Updated-for-House-of-Lords-January-2021-converted.pdf>

obtained support for our two key amendments from women’s organisations. Some MPs supported our amendments in the Commons, but it was Baronesses Jane Campbell of Surbiton and Tanni Grey-Thompson and who led on our two key amendments throughout Committee Stage and Report Stage in the House of Lords and scored a success - our amendment on the inclusion of abuse or non-family paid and unpaid carers in the definition of domestic abuse received widespread cross-party support in the House of Lords and was passed by 318 votes for the amendment to 234 against<sup>6</sup>. However political manoeuvring meant the amendment was withdrawn by the time it came back to the House of Commons – the Government argued that this was broadening the definition too much; our argument was that it reflected the reality of disabled people’s lives. Nevertheless by July 2021 the then Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Safeguarding Victoria Atkins MP had promised a review of abuse of disabled people by paid and unpaid carers. The review will start later in 2021.

We commented on the initial draft guidance on the Bill, and the guidance now includes examples of the experiences of disabled survivors. We have advised the Home Office on making their engagement and consultation processes accessible to Deaf and disabled survivors and their organisations, as these had failed us and our sister organisation SignHealth at all stages of the consultation process.

### **Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy**

In March 2021, we responded to the Home Office Call for Evidence on the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy 2021-2024. Our response<sup>7</sup> included details about what an inclusive VAWG strategy would look like for disabled survivors, as well as data on violence against disabled women and supporting evidence from our casework. Alongside many other headings, we also discussed how we have been advising the Home Office on the accessibility of their engagement methods.

### **Law Commission Consultation on Hate Crime law reform**

In January 2021, Stay Safe East prepared a detailed response<sup>8</sup> to the Law Commission’s initial consultation on changing hate crime law. Alongside many other disabled people’s organisations, we argued for parity across all equality strands, and for the law to recognise the specific forms of hate crime which are targeted at disabled people because we are disabled, and the intersectional

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.disabilityrightsuk.org/news/2021/march/house-lords-vote-criminalise-domestic-abuse-carers>

<sup>7</sup> <http://staysafe-east.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Stay-Safe-East-response-to-the-Home-Office-VAWG-Strategy-2021-25-14-pt.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> <https://staysafe-east.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Stay-Safe-East-response-to-Law-Commission-Consultation-on-Hate-Crime-Laws-final.pdf>

nature of hate crime. We evidenced our arguments from our casework and also argued that incitement to hate against disabled people should be included in a new law. We hope to see a change in the law soon, this will greatly help our work supporting disabled victims of any form of hate crime.

### **Covid Policy and Practice Briefing**

In April 2020, we published our COVID-19 briefing<sup>9</sup> on the impact of the early stages of the pandemic on disabled people. Even at this early stage, we could see that the pandemic would heighten existing inequalities and create new ones, and that the lives of disabled people carried little value.

### **Victim's Code Consultation**

We responded to the Ministry of Justice consultation on Improving the Victim's Code in May 2020. Our response can be found on the Stay Safe East website under the 'policy work' page<sup>10</sup>. The response includes answers to set questions regarding the restructuring of the Code and the rights of victims to have an advocate or other supporter by their side at all stages of the criminal justice process, which we are pleased to see has been adopted. We will be making further contribution to any future Victims Bill which will help improve the rights of domestic abuse survivors seeking justice.

### **Stay Safe East Advisory Group on Violence Against Disabled Women and Girls (previously Disability and Domestic Abuse)**

We have held 11 meetings during the year. The group is made up of Deaf and disabled women's organisations, disabled survivors and academics and representatives from a range of organisations working on domestic violence and violence against women. During the year, we increased representation from organisations outside of London. The group acts as a sounding board for our work and allows members to learn from each other. The group shared evidence for our work on the Domestic Abuse Bill and has discussed topics ranging from the experiences of disabled mothers after domestic abuse to the consultation on the Victim's Code and of course, the impact of Covid on disabled survivors.

### **Ask for ANI**

We have also been instrumental in advising on the campaign materials, accessibility and implementation of the 'Ask for ANI' domestic abuse codeword scheme. As the campaign evolved, we commented on each aspect of the initiative, from draft materials to the practicalities of where and how to roll out

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<sup>9</sup> <http://staysafe-east.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Stay-Safe-East-Response-to-Consultation-Equality-Impact-of-Covid-19-final.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> <http://staysafe-east.org.uk/index.php/policy/>

the scheme effectively. We are also members of the Ask for ANI Advisory Group.

### **#YouAreNotAlone Home Office campaign**

We were instrumental in the development and implementation of the #YouAreNotAlone government domestic abuse campaign. We liaised with the Domestic Abuse team at the Home Office to advise on the content and accessibility of campaign materials, social media messages and practicalities of rolling out the scheme. We were influential in the process of ensuring that these materials are accessible in terms of format and content, and advised on the Easy Read format<sup>11</sup>.

### **External partnerships**

The unprecedented circumstances of this year have enabled us to forge connections and relationships that would not have happened had it not been for the COVID-19 pandemic. We have been attending the weekly (now fortnightly) COVID Violence against Women and Girls sector call hosted by Women's Aid and End Violence Against Women (EVAW). In September our CEO was invited to join the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's call which includes the major national domestic abuse organisations, the Home Office and key government departments.

Our cross-sector open letter to the Prime Minister in early April<sup>12</sup>, listing recommendations for responding to an increase in violence against women and girls during the pandemic, exemplifies the beginning of our COVID-related collaborative working as a sector. In early September the Domestic Abuse Commissioner, Nicole Jacobs brokered a meeting with the Chief Social Worker for England and Wales, Fran Leddra, and we discussed not only our work but specifically the role of adult safeguarding and adult social care in relation to domestic abuse. We have agreed to work on a checklist for social work and other social care staff on ensuring the safety of disabled survivors of domestic abuse.

In January 2021, the CEO gave a presentation at the Women's Aid Winter Conference on Exploring the mental health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on disabled survivors and the staff who support them. This can be found on our website under 'policy work'<sup>13</sup>. The CEO also spoke at the Crown Prosecution Service Community Engagement Forum on addressing the needs

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<sup>11</sup> <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/For-Survivors-COVID-19-Advice-SCREEN-READER.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/An-open-letter-to-the-prime-minister.pdf>

<sup>13</sup> <http://staysafe-east.org.uk/index.php/policy/>

of disabled survivors post Covid, and at the Ministry of Justice Covid 19 Victim and Witness Silver Command Group. On 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021, we met with Minister for Safeguarding Victoria Atkins MP, to discuss the experiences of disabled survivors under Covid and talk about our work- the Minister was particularly interested to hear our account of victim-blaming of disabled women. She listened to our concerns and stated her intention to reach out to the other departments who have responsibility in this area, especially with regards to awareness around the suspension of The Care Act during the pandemic.

Charity registration number: 1153615

Stay Safe East  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
31 March 2021

## Stay Safe East

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## Stay Safe East

### Contact Information

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The trustees present their report (contained in a separate document) and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021

#### Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Stay Safe East
Charity Registration Number	1153615
Principle office	90 Crownfield Road London E15 2BG
The Trustees	Savitri Hensman Paul Dowling Kirsten Hearn Bennett Obong S, service user representative S, service user representative

*With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the names of the two service user representatives are withheld to protect their safety.*

Independent examiner	Carbon Accountancy Limited 80-83 Long Lane London EC1A 9ET
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## Stay Safe East

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2021

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Stay Safe East ("the charity") for the year ended 31 March 2021.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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

Since the charity'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 the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do 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.

 *John Leyden*  
Countersigned on 27/01/22 @ 14:32

John Leyden FCA  
Carbon Accountancy Limited  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

26 January 2022

Stay Safe East

**Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 March 2021**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2020 Total Funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
<u>Grants and donations</u>					
Grants		111,225	227,192	338,417	185,181
Other donations		550	-	550	5,152
	<b>4</b>	<u>111,775</u>	<u>227,192</u>	<u>338,967</u>	<u>190,333</u>
<u>Charitable activities</u>					
Contracts		126,316	-	126,316	105,693
Other charitable activities		8,000	-	8,000	7,540
	<b>5</b>	<u>134,316</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>134,316</u>	<u>113,233</u>
Other income	<b>6</b>	<u>4,954</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,954</u>	<u>11,726</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<u>251,045</u>	<u>227,192</u>	<u>478,237</u>	<u>315,292</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	<b>7</b>	158	58	216	216
Expenditure on charitable activities	<b>8,9</b>	206,480	207,227	413,707	281,193
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>206,638</u>	<u>207,285</u>	<u>413,923</u>	<u>281,409</u>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<u>44,407</u>	<u>19,907</u>	<u>64,314</u>	<u>33,883</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		47,548	77,834	125,382	91,499
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>91,955</u>	<u>97,741</u>	<u>189,696</u>	<u>125,382</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.


**The notes on pages 6 to 20 form part of these financial statements**

Stay Safe East


**Statement of Financial Position  
For the year ended 31 March 2021**

		2021	2020
	Note	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	16	2,872	4,308
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	17	146,492	137,744
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>97,875</u>	<u>10,799</u>
		<u>244,367</u>	<u>148,543</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	18	<u>(57,543)</u>	<u>(27,469)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>186,824</u>	<u>121,074</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>189,696</u>	<u>125,382</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>189,696</u>	<u>125,382</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		97,741	77,834
Unrestricted funds		<u>91,955</u>	<u>47,548</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	21	<u>189,696</u>	<u>125,382</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 25 January 2022, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

 *Savitri Hensman*  
Signed on 26/01/22 @ 21:35

Savitri Hensman  
Trustee

 *P J Dowling*  
Signed on 27/01/22 @ 14:22

Paul Dowling  
Trustee

**The notes on pages 6 to 20 form part of these financial statements.**

**Stay Safe East**

**Statement of Cash Flows**

**For the year ended 31 March 2021**

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	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	64,314	33,883
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,436	1,436
Accrued expenses/(income)	14,067	(9,333)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	(8,748)	(41,846)
Trade and other creditors	16,007	(10,811)
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	<u>87,076</u>	<u>(26,671)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of tangible assets	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,744)</u>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	87,076	(32,415)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<u>10,799</u>	<u>43,214</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<u>97,875</u>	<u>10,799</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 March 2021**

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**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The address of the principal office is 90 Crownfield Road, London E15 2BG.

**2. Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from January 2019.

**3. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared using the historic cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

The trustees have considered the impact of COVID-19 on the charities activities and have concluded there is no long-term impact on the Organisation. As a result, it is considered that the going concern status remains intact.

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are no judgements nor any key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of material misstatement to the carry amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the trustees' discretion to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

#### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

#### **Tangible assets**

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The costs of minor additions or those costing below £1,000 are not capitalised.

#### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 25% straight line basis

#### **Impairment of fixed assets**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

**3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

**Financial instruments**

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

**Defined contribution pension plans**

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 4. Grants and Donations – 2021

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	8,450	23,081	31,531
MOPAC (London Community Foundation)	-	7,500	7,500
Trust for London	-	35,796	35,796
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	22,204	22,204
Home Office	-	75,000	75,000
Three Guineas Trust	102,775	-	102,775
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	33,992	33,992
London Community Response Fund	-	29,619	29,619
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	111,225	227,192	338,417
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	550	-	550
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 4. Grants and Donations – 2020

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2020 £</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	33,852	33,852
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation)	-	30,000	30,000
Trust for London	-	20,000	20,000
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	18,834	18,834
MOPAC (DV Training)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	82,495	82,495
	<u>-</u>	<u>185,181</u>	<u>185,181</u>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2020 £</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	<u>5,152</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,152</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
<u>Contracts</u>				
Inclusion London	18,002	18,002	19,228	19,228
“ask me” (Women’s Aid)	-	-	3,650	3,650
Victim Support (LVWS)	88,314	88,314	82,815	82,815
Ascent Plus	20,000	20,000	-	-
	<u>126,316</u>	<u>126,316</u>	<u>105,693</u>	<u>105,693</u>
<u>Other charitable activities</u>				
Training and consultancy	8,000	8,000	2,060	2,060
Advocacy	-	-	5,000	5,000
Other income	-	-	480	480
	<u>8,000</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>7,540</u>	<u>7,540</u>

#### 6. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Access to work claim	2,974	2,974	11,726	11,726
Grants for beneficiaries	1,980	1,980	-	-
	<u>4,954</u>	<u>4,954</u>	<u>11,726</u>	<u>11,726</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*  
For the year ended 31 March 2021

**7. Costs of raising donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	158	58	216

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	54	162	216

**8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	179,084	181,000	360,084
Support costs (including governance costs)	27,396	26,227	53,623
	<u>206,480</u>	<u>207,227</u>	<u>413,707</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	104,250	131,861	236,111
Support costs (including governance costs)	14,306	30,776	45,082
	<u>118,556</u>	<u>162,637</u>	<u>281,193</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	<b>Total 2021 £</b>	Total 2020 £
Promote the human rights of disabled people	360,084	50,946	411,030	278,650
Governance costs	-	2,677	2,677	2,543
	<u>360,084</u>	<u>53,623</u>	<u>413,707</u>	<u>281,193</u>

#### 10. Analysis of support costs

	<b>Promote the Human Rights of disabled people</b> £	<b>Total 2021 £</b>	Total 2020 £
Rent	15,500	15,500	15,500
Telephone	11,104	11,104	10,942
Postage, printing & stationery	1,108	1,108	2,747
Payroll admin fee	1,952	1,952	1,230
Bookkeeping	3,583	3,583	3,021
Insurance	2,705	2,705	1,249
Recruitment	2,910	2,910	395
Equipment	5,940	5,940	2,282
I.T costs	4,058	4,058	3,300
Depreciation	1,436	1,436	1,436
Miscellaneous	650	650	437
	<u>50,946</u>	<u>50,946</u>	<u>42,539</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

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#### 11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£</b>	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>1,436</u>	<u>1,436</u>

#### 12. Independent examination fees

	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£</b>	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>2,677</u>	<u>2,468</u>

#### 13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	279,679	179,306
Social security costs	18,335	11,350
Employer contributions to pension plans	<u>5,125</u>	<u>3,095</u>
	<u>303,139</u>	<u>193,751</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 14 (2020: 9).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2020: Nil).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

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#### 14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

- No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees; or
- None of the trustees has been paid remuneration or received other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity.
- No trustee expenses have been incurred.

#### 15. Transfers between funds

Transfers from unrestricted funds to restricted funds are to make good funding shortfalls and eliminate negative fund balances.

#### 16. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures, fittings and equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2020	5,744
Additions	-
<b>At 31 March 2021</b>	<u>5,744</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2020	1,436
Charge for the year	1,436
<b>At 31 March 2021</b>	<u>2,872</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2021</b>	<u>2,872</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>4,308</u>

#### 17. Debtors

	<b>2021 £</b>	<b>2020 £</b>
Trade debtors	143,570	118,925
Prepayments and accrued income	2,922	18,819
	<u>146,492</u>	<u>137,744</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	6,372	3,308
Accruals and deferred income	43,688	12,593
Social security and other taxes	5,381	9,758
Other creditors	2,102	1,810
	<u>57,543</u>	<u>27,469</u>

There is no other pension liability other than those disclosed in other creditors.

#### 19. Deferred income

Included in accruals and deferred income in note 18 is the following deferred income:

	2021	2020
	£	£
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	2,805	-
Trust for London	3,654	-
London Community Response Fund	10,571	-
	<u>17,030</u>	<u>-</u>

#### 20. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

##### Defined contribution pension plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £5,125 (2020: £3,095)

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>47,548</u>	<u>251,045</u>	<u>(206,638)</u>	<u>91,955</u>

	At 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2020
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>36,047</u>	<u>130,111</u>	<u>(118,610)</u>	<u>47,548</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2021 £
City Bridge Trust	135	23,081	(22,162)	1,054
MOPAC (London Community Foundation)	10,196	7,500	(8,159)	9,537
CATCH HC	10,791	22,204	(19,429)	13,566
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	9,284
Home Office	46,147	75,000	(59,771)	61,376
Trust for London	1,281	35,796	(35,772)	1,305
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	33,992	(33,987)	5
London Community Response Fund	-	29,619	(28,005)	1,614
	<u>77,834</u>	<u>227,192</u>	<u>(207,285)</u>	<u>97,741</u>

	At 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2020 £
City Bridge Trust	760	33,852	(34,477)	135
Lloyds Bank	-	-	-	-
MOPAC	8,471	30,000	(28,275)	10,196
CATCH HC	1,372	18,834	(9,415)	10,791
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	9,284
Home Office	35,565	82,495	(71,913)	46,147
Trust for London	-	20,000	(18,719)	1,281
	<u>55,452</u>	<u>185,181</u>	<u>(162,799)</u>	<u>77,834</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,872	-	2,872
Current assets	146,626	97,741	244,367
Creditors less than one year	<u>(40,513)</u>	<u>(17,030)</u>	<u>(57,543)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>108,985</u>	<u>80,711</u>	<u>189,696</u>

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2020</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	4,308	-	4,308
Current assets	70,709	77,834	148,543
Creditors less than one year	<u>(27,469)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(27,469)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>47,548</u>	<u>77,834</u>	<u>125,382</u>

#### 23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	<b>At 1 April 2020</b>	<b>Cash flows</b>	<b>At 31 March 2021</b>
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>10,799</u>	<u>87,076</u>	<u>97,875</u>

#### 24. Related parties

There have not been any related party transactions during this or the previous year.

**25. Going Concern (COVID-19)**

The trustees have been carrying out a continuous assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on operations of the charity, and considered the impact, risks and threats posed.

The trustees are satisfied that to date, the threat to operations has been minimal, and whilst working arrangements have had to be adapted, this has not significantly reduced the effectiveness of the organisation.

The trustees continue to monitor events in the country as a whole, and have a protocol in place, to provide a quick response to any changes in the operating environment, but currently do not anticipate any circumstances that significantly curtail the ability of the charity to function.

The trustees have also considered the non-COVID-19 related circumstances of the charity, and are satisfied, that the going concern basis, is appropriate for these financial statements.

Charity registration number: 1153615

Stay Safe East  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
31 March 2021

## Stay Safe East

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## Stay Safe East

### Contact Information

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The trustees present their report (contained in a separate document) and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021

#### Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Stay Safe East
Charity Registration Number	1153615
Principle office	90 Crownfield Road London E15 2BG
The Trustees	Savitri Hensman Paul Dowling Kirsten Hearn Bennett Obong S, service user representative S, service user representative

*With the agreement of the Charity Commission, the names of the two service user representatives are withheld to protect their safety.*

Independent examiner	Carbon Accountancy Limited 80-83 Long Lane London EC1A 9ET
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## Stay Safe East

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stay Safe East For the year ended 31 March 2021

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Stay Safe East ("the charity") for the year ended 31 March 2021.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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

Since the charity'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 the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do 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.

 *John Leyden*  
Countersigned on 27/01/22 @ 14:32

John Leyden FCA  
Carbon Accountancy Limited  
80-83 Long Lane  
London EC1A 9ET

26 January 2022

Stay Safe East

**Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 March 2021**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2020 Total Funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
<u>Grants and donations</u>					
Grants		111,225	227,192	338,417	185,181
Other donations		550	-	550	5,152
	<b>4</b>	<u>111,775</u>	<u>227,192</u>	<u>338,967</u>	<u>190,333</u>
<u>Charitable activities</u>					
Contracts		126,316	-	126,316	105,693
Other charitable activities		8,000	-	8,000	7,540
	<b>5</b>	<u>134,316</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>134,316</u>	<u>113,233</u>
Other income	<b>6</b>	<u>4,954</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,954</u>	<u>11,726</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<u>251,045</u>	<u>227,192</u>	<u>478,237</u>	<u>315,292</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	<b>7</b>	158	58	216	216
Expenditure on charitable activities	<b>8,9</b>	206,480	207,227	413,707	281,193
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>206,638</u>	<u>207,285</u>	<u>413,923</u>	<u>281,409</u>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<u>44,407</u>	<u>19,907</u>	<u>64,314</u>	<u>33,883</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		47,548	77,834	125,382	91,499
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>91,955</u>	<u>97,741</u>	<u>189,696</u>	<u>125,382</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.


**The notes on pages 6 to 20 form part of these financial statements**

Stay Safe East


**Statement of Financial Position  
For the year ended 31 March 2021**

		2021	2020
	Note	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	16	2,872	4,308
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	17	146,492	137,744
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>97,875</u>	<u>10,799</u>
		<u>244,367</u>	<u>148,543</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	18	<u>(57,543)</u>	<u>(27,469)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>186,824</u>	<u>121,074</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>189,696</u>	<u>125,382</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>189,696</u>	<u>125,382</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		97,741	77,834
Unrestricted funds		<u>91,955</u>	<u>47,548</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	21	<u>189,696</u>	<u>125,382</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 25 January 2022, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

 *Savitri Hensman*  
Signed on 26/01/22 @ 21:35

Savitri Hensman  
Trustee

 *P J Dowling*  
Signed on 27/01/22 @ 14:22

Paul Dowling  
Trustee

**The notes on pages 6 to 20 form part of these financial statements.**

**Stay Safe East**

**Statement of Cash Flows**

**For the year ended 31 March 2021**

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	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	64,314	33,883
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,436	1,436
Accrued expenses/(income)	14,067	(9,333)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	(8,748)	(41,846)
Trade and other creditors	16,007	(10,811)
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	<u>87,076</u>	<u>(26,671)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of tangible assets	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,744)</u>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	87,076	(32,415)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<u>10,799</u>	<u>43,214</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<u>97,875</u>	<u>10,799</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 March 2021**

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**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The address of the principal office is 90 Crownfield Road, London E15 2BG.

**2. Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from January 2019.

**3. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared using the historic cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

The trustees have considered the impact of COVID-19 on the charities activities and have concluded there is no long-term impact on the Organisation. As a result, it is considered that the going concern status remains intact.

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are no judgements nor any key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of material misstatement to the carry amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the trustees' discretion to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

#### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

### **3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

#### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

#### **Tangible assets**

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The costs of minor additions or those costing below £1,000 are not capitalised.

#### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 25% straight line basis

#### **Impairment of fixed assets**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

**3. Accounting policies** *(continued)*

**Financial instruments**

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

**Defined contribution pension plans**

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 4. Grants and Donations – 2021

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	8,450	23,081	31,531
MOPAC (London Community Foundation)	-	7,500	7,500
Trust for London	-	35,796	35,796
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	22,204	22,204
Home Office	-	75,000	75,000
Three Guineas Trust	102,775	-	102,775
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	33,992	33,992
London Community Response Fund	-	29,619	29,619
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	111,225	227,192	338,417
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	550	-	550
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 4. Grants and Donations – 2020

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2020 £</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Grants</b>			
City Bridge Trust (CBT)	-	33,852	33,852
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	-	-
MOPAC (London Community Foundation)	-	30,000	30,000
Trust for London	-	20,000	20,000
Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH)	-	18,834	18,834
MOPAC (DV Training)	-	-	-
Home Office	-	82,495	82,495
	<u>-</u>	<u>185,181</u>	<u>185,181</u>
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2020 £</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Donations</b>			
Donations	<u>5,152</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,152</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
<u>Contracts</u>				
Inclusion London	18,002	18,002	19,228	19,228
“ask me” (Women’s Aid)	-	-	3,650	3,650
Victim Support (LVWS)	88,314	88,314	82,815	82,815
Ascent Plus	20,000	20,000	-	-
	<u>126,316</u>	<u>126,316</u>	<u>105,693</u>	<u>105,693</u>
<u>Other charitable activities</u>				
Training and consultancy	8,000	8,000	2,060	2,060
Advocacy	-	-	5,000	5,000
Other income	-	-	480	480
	<u>8,000</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>7,540</u>	<u>7,540</u>

#### 6. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Access to work claim	2,974	2,974	11,726	11,726
Grants for beneficiaries	1,980	1,980	-	-
	<u>4,954</u>	<u>4,954</u>	<u>11,726</u>	<u>11,726</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*  
For the year ended 31 March 2021

**7. Costs of raising donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	158	58	216

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Costs of raising donations and legacies			
Subscriptions	54	162	216

**8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	179,084	181,000	360,084
Support costs (including governance costs)	27,396	26,227	53,623
	<u>206,480</u>	<u>207,227</u>	<u>413,707</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Promote the human rights of disabled people	104,250	131,861	236,111
Support costs (including governance costs)	14,306	30,776	45,082
	<u>118,556</u>	<u>162,637</u>	<u>281,193</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	<b>Total 2021 £</b>	Total 2020 £
Promote the human rights of disabled people	360,084	50,946	411,030	278,650
Governance costs	-	2,677	2,677	2,543
	<u>360,084</u>	<u>53,623</u>	<u>413,707</u>	<u>281,193</u>

#### 10. Analysis of support costs

	<b>Promote the Human Rights of disabled people</b> £	<b>Total 2021 £</b>	Total 2020 £
Rent	15,500	15,500	15,500
Telephone	11,104	11,104	10,942
Postage, printing & stationery	1,108	1,108	2,747
Payroll admin fee	1,952	1,952	1,230
Bookkeeping	3,583	3,583	3,021
Insurance	2,705	2,705	1,249
Recruitment	2,910	2,910	395
Equipment	5,940	5,940	2,282
I.T costs	4,058	4,058	3,300
Depreciation	1,436	1,436	1,436
Miscellaneous	650	650	437
	<u>50,946</u>	<u>50,946</u>	<u>42,539</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

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#### 11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£</b>	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>1,436</u>	<u>1,436</u>

#### 12. Independent examination fees

	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£</b>	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>2,677</u>	<u>2,468</u>

#### 13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	279,679	179,306
Social security costs	18,335	11,350
Employer contributions to pension plans	<u>5,125</u>	<u>3,095</u>
	<u>303,139</u>	<u>193,751</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 14 (2020: 9).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2020: Nil).

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

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#### 14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

- No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees; or
- None of the trustees has been paid remuneration or received other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity.
- No trustee expenses have been incurred.

#### 15. Transfers between funds

Transfers from unrestricted funds to restricted funds are to make good funding shortfalls and eliminate negative fund balances.

#### 16. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures, fittings and equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2020	5,744
Additions	-
<b>At 31 March 2021</b>	<u>5,744</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2020	1,436
Charge for the year	1,436
<b>At 31 March 2021</b>	<u>2,872</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2021</b>	<u>2,872</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>4,308</u>

#### 17. Debtors

	<b>2021 £</b>	<b>2020 £</b>
Trade debtors	143,570	118,925
Prepayments and accrued income	2,922	18,819
	<u>146,492</u>	<u>137,744</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	6,372	3,308
Accruals and deferred income	43,688	12,593
Social security and other taxes	5,381	9,758
Other creditors	<u>2,102</u>	<u>1,810</u>
	<u>57,543</u>	<u>27,469</u>

There is no other pension liability other than those disclosed in other creditors.

#### 19. Deferred income

Included in accruals and deferred income in note 18 is the following deferred income:

	2021	2020
	£	£
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	2,805	-
Trust for London	3,654	-
London Community Response Fund	<u>10,571</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>17,030</u>	<u>-</u>

#### 20. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

##### Defined contribution pension plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £5,125 (2020: £3,095)

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>47,548</u>	<u>251,045</u>	<u>(206,638)</u>	<u>91,955</u>

	At 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2020
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>36,047</u>	<u>130,111</u>	<u>(118,610)</u>	<u>47,548</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

##### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2021 £
City Bridge Trust	135	23,081	(22,162)	1,054
MOPAC (London Community Foundation)	10,196	7,500	(8,159)	9,537
CATCH HC	10,791	22,204	(19,429)	13,566
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	9,284
Home Office	46,147	75,000	(59,771)	61,376
Trust for London	1,281	35,796	(35,772)	1,305
MOJ Covid Extraordinary Fund	-	33,992	(33,987)	5
London Community Response Fund	-	29,619	(28,005)	1,614
	<u>77,834</u>	<u>227,192</u>	<u>(207,285)</u>	<u>97,741</u>
	At 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2020 £
City Bridge Trust	760	33,852	(34,477)	135
Lloyds Bank	-	-	-	-
MOPAC	8,471	30,000	(28,275)	10,196
CATCH HC	1,372	18,834	(9,415)	10,791
MOPAC (DV Training)	9,284	-	-	9,284
Home Office	35,565	82,495	(71,913)	46,147
Trust for London	-	20,000	(18,719)	1,281
	<u>55,452</u>	<u>185,181</u>	<u>(162,799)</u>	<u>77,834</u>

## Stay Safe East

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)* For the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2021</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,872	-	2,872
Current assets	146,626	97,741	244,367
Creditors less than one year	<u>(40,513)</u>	<u>(17,030)</u>	<u>(57,543)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>108,985</u>	<u>80,711</u>	<u>189,696</u>

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds 2020</b>
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	4,308	-	4,308
Current assets	70,709	77,834	148,543
Creditors less than one year	<u>(27,469)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(27,469)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>47,548</u>	<u>77,834</u>	<u>125,382</u>

#### 23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	<b>At 1 April 2020</b>	<b>Cash flows</b>	<b>At 31 March 2021</b>
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>10,799</u>	<u>87,076</u>	<u>97,875</u>

#### 24. Related parties

There have not been any related party transactions during this or the previous year.

**25. Going Concern (COVID-19)**

The trustees have been carrying out a continuous assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on operations of the charity, and considered the impact, risks and threats posed.

The trustees are satisfied that to date, the threat to operations has been minimal, and whilst working arrangements have had to be adapted, this has not significantly reduced the effectiveness of the organisation.

The trustees continue to monitor events in the country as a whole, and have a protocol in place, to provide a quick response to any changes in the operating environment, but currently do not anticipate any circumstances that significantly curtail the ability of the charity to function.

The trustees have also considered the non-COVID-19 related circumstances of the charity, and are satisfied, that the going concern basis, is appropriate for these financial statements.